



TALKIN' TRASH

Actual News
You Can
USE!



Enquiring minds from the Tri-County want to know how you plan to commemorate Earth Day. In fact, we are so curious, we have turned it into a contest.

We are asking for kids and adults to tell us what you are planning for April 22 or the week of Earth Day week, April 21 to the 26. Send in a written description by April 18, outlining the day(s) activities.

We are looking for innovative projects, demonstrations or activities from an individual in the following categories:

Kids (ages 5-12)

Teens (ages 13-18)

Adults (ages 19 and up)

The winners in each category will receive:

A gift certificate from Farm King or Boney's Ace Hardware; recycled plastic flower pot; or a recycled cotton/plastic t-shirt

Entries should be sent to:

TCR&WMC

223 South Randolph

Macomb, IL 61455

or FAX to (309) 836-3640, or email to anne@wirpc.org.

Earth Day



Contest

Celebrate Earth Day and win prizes. Call the Tri-County Resource and Waste Management Council for details at (309) 837-3941.

**March, April, 2003
Volume 7, No.1**

Must Do...Dates

TCR&WMC

March 24

Warren County Courthouse

7:00 pm

McDonough County

Environmental Comm.

March 4, April 1, May 6

McDonough County Courthouse

7:00 pm

Mercer County

Board Meeting

March 4, April 1, May 6

Mercer County Courthouse

7:00 pm

Mercer County Recycling Board

March 27, May 22

CES Office, Aledo

7:00 pm

Warren County

Board Meeting

April 16

Warren County Courthouse

9:30 am

Special Events

ILCSWMA Region 3

March 10

WIRC office

10:30 am

Municipal Clean-Ups

City of Monmouth

April 21-25

Earth Day

April 22

Arbor Day

April 25

2003 Tri-County Board

Chairperson

John Lawson

McDonough County

Vice Chairman

Bart Eshleman

Mercer County

Members

Tom Carper

Mayor of Macomb

Glen Foster

McDonough County

Bob Harwick

McDonough County

Terry Elliot

Mercer County

William Thompson

Warren County

Deborah Moore

Warren County

Earth Day Activities

Make your celebration of Earth Day mean something to you and Mother Earth. You may decide to coordinate a project with others, or make it a solo effort. Here are some ideas.

Recycle Your Cell Phone

Millions of cell phones are discarded each year, and the toxic waste that leaks out of them accumulates in plants, soil and water. Don't let your old phone become part of the problem. Donate it to a program that refurbishes cell phones for use by victims of domestic violence. Go to [CTIA Wireless Foundation](#) on the web for details.

Plant a Tree

Join the Earth Day Network's global tree planting campaign. The current number of trees planted are 20,250,000.

Car Free Day

Organize a car free day and advocate for sustainable transport solutions.

Write a Letter

Japanese automakers are driving circles around the

American automobile industry in the race to build eco-friendly autos. Let U. S. companies know that they're missing out on a real business opportunity. Go to [Clean Car Campaign](#) on the web.

Consume Less

Learn simple steps you can take towards an eco-friendly lifestyle and to calculate the natural resources you save. Go to [Center for a New American Dream](#) on the web.

For more ideas visit: www.earthday.net. It's a great website, with loads of great things to do to commemorate EARTH DAY.

E

ducation

Chocolate Chip Cookies and Recycling...a Tasty Twosome



Carol Anderson's class had hands-on access to TCR&WMC's landfill model and viewed the landfill power point presentation in January. In February, Anne returned to discuss aluminum and recycling and how it prevents excessive open-pit mining. To illustrate the damaging effects of the mining process, students had to dig the chocolate out of chocolate chip cookies with toothpicks!

Westmer Schools Learn about Landfills and "Spaceship Earth"



On January 29, Anne and Bert traveled to Joy and New Boston on a mission--to talk trash! Susan Kenney invited the duo to speak about landfills and disposal alternatives to the Westmer High School Choir. Later, they cruised over to the Westmer Elementary School for the 2nd and 4th grade music classes to do "Spaceship Earth", following a presentation on aluminum.

Pre-School and Day Care Aged Educational Programs Available

Anne and Bert have completed an age appropriate power point presentation on "Our Environment" especially geared for the little ones. They would love to come to your classroom to give a fun presentation and hand out free soybean crayons! Give them a call at (309) 837-3941, or email anne@wirpc.org. Also...check out our website for a complete list of pre-K books & videos in our lending library at: www.tricountyresource.org.

More for the Wee Ones

The educators hope to see many young folks and their families at the annual Kiddie Karnival, Saturday, April 5 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Macomb YMCA. This event is designed with pre-K through 3rd graders in mind. Anne and Bert will be passing out edible worm bins!

...fyi

Bravo to Spartan!

The Spartan Chemical Company has introduced a new line of environmentally safe industrial and commercial cleaning products. It's called **Green Solutions**; a product line which claims to have environmentally preferred products that directly contribute to a cleaner, safer, and healthier environment for workers and building occupants. Even its catalog is printed on very attractive, acid free, elemental chlorine free, recyclable and biodegradable paper. Check it out at www.spartanchemical.com, or call Western Distributing Company at (309) 837-1695 for more information.

Danger, Sharps!

Sharps are items such as needles, lancets and syringes. When improperly placed in residential garbage, these items can seriously injure waste haulers and recyclers.

Waste Management and Sharps Compliance, Inc. have teamed up to provide convenient and responsible disposal of small quantities of residential medical wastes. They offer a variety of sizes of mail-back sharps containers that provide the homeowner and the professional a total system for the safe disposal of sharps waste. Each system includes the sharps container, postage-prepaid return box, tracking form and destruction at a certified medical waste resource recovery facility. There are three container sizes available for the home that meets all local, state and federal requirements.

SIZES:

1 quart holds 50-100 sharps, \$19.55;
4.8 quart holds 100-200 sharps, \$29.95;
2 gallon holds 300-400 sharps, \$39.95.
(Price does not include tax and shipping.)

For more information, check Waste Management's web site: <http://www.wastemd.com/online-store/sctore/>

Business

e-waste

A new term to learn for the 21st Century

It has been projected that in the U. S. alone, between 1997 and 2004, over 315 million obsolete computers will be destined for landfills--so called "e-waste." This waste could contain approximately 600,000 tons of lead, 1,000 tons cadmium, 200 tons of mercury and 600 tons of carcinogenic chrome VI. It is estimated that residents generate 31 pounds of e-waste annually.

The Department of Commerce and Community Affairs--Bureau of Energy and Recycling (DCCA-BEAR) offers the following methods to avoid your computer taking that one-way trip to the landfill.

1. **Donate** your computer to a school or nonprofit group.
2. **Re-purpose** your computer. Downstream the computer to a less critical or demanding application. Examples of this would be to set it up to receive e-mail only, or let children use it to play educational games.
3. **Re-sell** your computer. Some companies sell or offer used computers to employees.
4. **Do not buy**, lease a computer. Original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) offer leasing options.
5. **Take advantage of asset management.** Asset management companies provide a full-service electronic collection, component recovery and refurbishing program for corporations. A list of these companies can be found at: <http://www.remarketing.com/html/user/list-brokers.cgi>
7. **Use a material exchange.** List the items on a material exchange that finds users for surplus materials.
8. **Recycle your computer.** There are a number of recycling centers and electronic de-manufacturers in Illinois. Before choosing a computer recycler, check to make sure the company meets applicable environmental, safety and health programs, and has disposal and recycling outlets for recovered materials.

Let's Hear it for Hewlett-Packard

The Hewlett-Packard Company now pays customers up to \$50 toward the purchase of a new product to encourage the recycling of old computer equipment.

The HP Planet Partner e-Coupon program began February 6 and will run through April 30, allowing U. S. customers buying new products on Hewlett-Packard's website to recycle computer equipment from any manufacturer. Customers receive up to \$50 toward their purchase for recycling equipment.

Hewlett-Packard operates a \$4 million processing facility in Roseville, California, through a partnership with Noranda, Inc. It processes some 3,000,000 pounds of electronics per year. It also operates a similar facility in Nashville, Tennessee.



Keep your eyes peeled for upcoming Clean Your Files Day information in your local papers.

How to Recycle Your Rechargeable Battery

The Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corp. (RBRC) will offer rechargeable battery recycling for public agencies for free. The RBRC announced that any public agency that wishes to participate in its Charge Up to Recycle! battery recycling program may do so free of charge beginning February 2003. In 2001, RBRC omitted fees associated with its community recycling program. As of January 2003, the program became available at no charge to public agencies as well. This includes federal, state, and local governmental agencies, public hospitals, police and fire departments, and military institutions. Highlights of the restructured program include the following: RBRC will handle the collection of all small portable rechargeable batteries, including nickel-cadmium, nickel metal hydride, lithium ion and small sealed lead rechargeable batteries. RBRC will provide two or five box collection kits at no cost. Each box holds approximately 40 pounds of rechargeable batteries and is valued at \$50. RBRC will pay for all the shipping, materials and recycling costs.

For details on the program, call (678) 419-9990, toll free (877) 723-1297 or log on to www.rbrc.org.

Health Risks Caused by Improperly Disposed Batteries

More than 350 million rechargeable batteries are purchased annually in the United States. Rechargeable batteries contain toxic heavy metals such as cadmium, mercury, and lead. These heavy metals present no threat to human health or the environment while the battery is being used. When thrown away, however, these batteries can cause serious harm to human health and the environment if they are discarded with ordinary household or workplace waste.

Community

Colchester and Matherville Prepare for New Waste Contracts

July of 2003 marks Colchester's five-year mark on its waste contract. Matherville's present contract ends in December of 2003. Both cities are conferring with their present service providers to extend the present service levels, which includes citywide clean-ups, curbside waste and recycling collection.

Entering into discussions at this early date, the cities are preparing for any increases that may occur under the new contract. The cities wish to continue the clean-up week option which has been a huge success in helping residents clear out oversized items.

Eagle Enterprises Builds New Facility

The City of Galva's industrial park will be the new site of the Eagle Enterprises Recycling, Inc., facility. The new location is only a few thousand feet west of its present location. The industrial park is located on the east side of Galva and on the south side of Route 34.

An access road will be built this spring, but construction has started on the 2 ½ acre site for the materials recycling facility (MRF) building. There will be a 20,250 square foot MRF building to house the receiving, shipping and processing activities. The office will be contained in a separate 1,600 square foot building.

Eagle Enterprises Recycling, Inc., processes approximately 400 tons of recyclables a month. Eagle's service area includes Henry, Knox, Mercer, Stark, Rock Island and Bureau counties. Eagle Enterprises processes the following recyclable commingled commodities: newspaper, cardboard, chipboard, office paper, magazines, plastic bottles #1 & #2, aluminum, clear/green/brown glass and textiles. It also provides curbside and drop-off recycling programs, and furnishes commercial cardboard recycling to area businesses.

Congratulations to Paul and Jacqueline Jaquet on 10 years of providing services to our area!

McDonough County

Bridgeway

900 Deer Road
Macomb, Illinois 61455
309/837-4876

Waste Management

13988 E. 1400th St.
Macomb, Illinois 61455
Kevin Norville
309/833-4779 or
800/201-1360

Mercer County

Eagle Enterprises Recycling, Inc.

Route 34 East
1325 SE 2nd Street
Galva, Illinois 61434
309/932-2936

Mercer County Recycling Center

700 NE 7th Ave.
c/o Jo Lawson
Aledo, Illinois 61231
309/582-7089

Warren County

Maple City Area Recycling Center

614 South 3rd Street
Monmouth, Illinois 61462
Kevin Lovdahl
309/734-8423

TCR WMC

*c/o The Western Illinois Regional Council
223 South Randolph, Macomb, Illinois 61455
309/837-3941 FAX 309/836-3640
Email - wirc@wirpc.org*

Address corrections requested. Please send corrections with the mailing label to the above address.

