



Actual News  
You Can  
USE!



## New Solid Waste Educator joins TCR&WMC Team!



"I was extremely fascinated with the whole recycling process, including the sorting, baling, and manufacturing of recyclable material."

-Bert Russell

Bert Russell is the latest addition to the Western Illinois Regional Council staff. He is replacing Elisha Szyjka, as the new part-time Solid Waste Educator for the Tri-County Resource & Waste Management Council. Bert received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Western Illinois University in December of 2001, with its emphasis on

Geography, Sociology, and Management. Bert spent the spring semester substituting for schools in Macomb and Colchester, working with students ranging from Pre-K to High School age.

Bert has always participated in curbside recycling, but he never quite understood what happened to the separate recyclables after the recycler put the materials into the truck. "I was extremely fascinated with the whole recycling process, including the sorting, baling, and manufacturing of each recyclable material. I had no idea that recyclables such as shirts, carpet, Beanie Babies, paintbrushes, benches, etc. were being produced directly from recycled materials."

Bert is enjoying his training with Pam Miner, Chad Braatz, and Anne Lobdell. He will be working closely with Lobdell by assisting her with presentations for classrooms and the public. Bert is enthusiastic about presenting solid waste information to the Tri-County classrooms, and contributes energy and creativity, making each project and presentation educational, and most of all...FUN.

## Welcome to TCR&WMC

### The TCR&WMC Takes Flight Into Cyberspace!

The TCR&WMC is officially on the web! Just type in:  
<http://www.tricountryresource.org> and welcome to the land of info! The latest news from McDonough, Mercer and Warren counties will be posted on solid waste and education related events, communities, recycling information, educational resources, educational links, and of course, the latest Talkin' Trash newsletter! It just doesn't get any better than this!

## Colchester and Tennessee Conduct 5th Annual Clean Up



At the end of September, Colchester and Tennessee Townships held their 5th annual clean up. The 70 cubic yards of over-sized items (mattresses, chairs, etc.) went to the landfill. Sixty cubic yards of white goods (refrigerators, air conditioners, water heaters and washers) were recycled. The TCR&WMC applauds these townships and their continued efforts towards solid waste management.

## Must Do...Dates

### TCR&WMC

Nov.25

Warren County Courthouse  
7:00 pm

**McDonough County**  
Environmental Comm.

Nov. 12, Dec. 10

McDonough County Courthouse  
7:00 pm

**Mercer County**

Board Meeting

Nov. 5, Dec. 3

Mercer County Courthouse  
7:00 pm

Mercer County Recycling Board  
TBA

CES Office, Aledo  
7:00 pm

**Warren County**

Board Meeting

Nov. 13, Dec. 18

Warren County Courthouse  
9:30 am

### Special Events

**ILCSWMA**

Nov. 22

Jumer's in Bloomington  
11:30 am

### Swan Lake Township Clean Up

Nov. 2

8:00 am to noon  
Swan Lake

### SWANA Board Meeting

Nov. 19

11:30 am

### America Recycles Day

**November 15**

- ★ Instead of throwing things away, recycle or compost whenever possible.
- ★ Purchase items that are recyclable, or are made from recycled materials.
- ★ Reuse or repair items instead of immediately replacing them.
- ★ Purchase items with less packaging and in larger "economy" sizes.
- ★ Donate unwanted items to charitable organizations.

Have you changed your mower, car, truck or recreational vehicles' oil recently? Now the question is, what to do with the old lubricant? WELL, look no further! Dumpster Dan has the solution for our tri-county neighbors!

**MERCER COUNTY**  
**Automotive Disposal**  
 Used anti-freeze, batteries, oil and tires

Business	Phone	Anti-Freeze	Batteries	Oil	Tires
<b>Aledo Radiator &amp; Auto Repair, Inc.</b> 222 West Main Aledo, IL 61231	582-7641	N/A	Exchange Only	N/A	\$2.00/Car \$4.00/Trk.
<b>Alexis Tire Service</b> 119 North Main Alexis, IL 61412	667-2413	N/A	YES	N/A	\$2.50/Car \$3.00/Trk.
<b>Allen Oil Company</b> Box 247 New Windsor, IL 61465	667-2413	N/A	YES	YES	\$2.00/Tire
<b>Barry's Standard Service</b> Keithsburg, IL 61442	374-2229	N/A	YES	\$0.10 Gal.	N/A
<b>MER-ROC FS, Inc./ Goodyear</b> Route 17 East Aledo, IL 61231	582-7271	N/A	YES	NO	\$3.00/Car \$4.00/Ltr.*

\*Indicates light truck

**WARREN COUNTY**  
**Automotive Disposal**  
 Used anti-freeze, batteries, oil and tires

Business	Phone	Anti-Freeze	Batteries	Oil	Tires
<b>Autozone</b> 1007 North Main Monmouth, IL 61462	734-0202	N/A	YES	Limited to 6 quarts	N/A
<b>CMS Tire Service</b> 511 South 3rd Monmouth, IL 61462	734-3697	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$1.25/Car \$8.00/Semi
<b>FTR Tire Service</b> 1135 South Main Monmouth, IL 61462	734-6535	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$2.00/Tire
<b>Keister Tire</b> 1340 South Main Monmouth, IL 61462	734-3218	Limited to 20 gals.	YES	YES	\$1.50/Car \$6.50/Ltr. \$25.00/Tr.
<b>Painter Farm Equip. Ser.</b> 201 West Harlem Monmouth, IL 61462	734-3541	N/A	Exchange Only	YES	N/A
<b>Ryner's Automotive</b> 501 East Broadway Monmouth, IL 61462	734-3434	YES	YES	YES	\$1.50/Car \$2.00/Ltr.

Please call the business prior to taking waste materials for recycling.

McDonough County's automotive disposal list will be featured in the next newsletter.

## Buying an Energy Efficient Fridge Can Mean Cold Cash In Your Pocket!

The Department of Commerce and Community Affairs' Director Pam McDonough recently announced energy efficiency rebates to qualified buyers of Maytag, Jenn-Air and Amana ENERGY STAR labeled refrigerators. Now through December 31, the Department, in cooperation with Maytag Appliances, is offering a \$50 rebate on the purchase of these refrigerators. The offer also includes a \$75 trade-in credit if an older refrigerator is properly disposed of when the new unit is purchased. "The refrigerator is the single biggest power consumer in most households. The older your refrigerator, the more power it consumes. For example, a 10-year old refrigerator uses twice the energy of a new ENERGY STAR labeled refrigerator," said McDonough. "Refrigerators which meet ENERGY STAR efficiency standards incorporate a number of advanced features to save energy while keeping your food fresh."

Rebate and trade-in forms are available from participating retailers. This offer is in addition to manufacturer or store incentives. To qualify, the refrigerator must be purchased from a participating retailer and installed in the State of Illinois.

The rebates are part of DCCA's Residential Energy Efficiency Program. Funding for the program is provided through the Energy Efficiency Trust Fund. The fund, established as a result of electric deregulation in Illinois, is used to support measures to reduce home energy use. Regulated electric utilities in the state contribute money to this fund, which is administered by DCCA.

ENERGY STAR, a partnership between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy, promotes nationwide energy efficiency. It offers businesses and consumers energy-efficient solutions, making it easy to save money while protecting the environment for future generations. The ENERGY STAR label is now on major appliances, office equipment, lighting, consumer electronics, and more. It also has been expanded to cover new homes and commercial and industrial buildings.

For additional information about energy efficient products and energy conservation in the home, visit the ENERGY STAR web site at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).

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## ducation

### Can-Do Contest 2002

Dumpster Dan and the Tri-County staff welcome the following classes who are participating in this year's Can-Do Contest.

#### McDonough County

*Colchester Elementary 4th Grade*

Teachers: Mrs. Kerr & Mrs. Gates

#### Warren County

*Warren Elementary 4th Grade*

Teacher: Mrs. Burke

*Immaculate Conception School 4th Grade*

Teacher: Mrs. Painter



Good luck to all the participants. The winners from each county will get an all-expense paid trip to Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry.

Teachers, if this was not the year for your class to do the Can-Do, it's never too early to sign up for next year. Give Anne or Bert a call at (309) 837-3941. They can explain how the contest works, and the great benefits to your classroom.

### Rain or Shine, Conservation Day Will Prevail!



Educator Anne said it was more like "Splash or Trash" during the fast paced sorting game Dash for Trash.

It was a bit damp (and downright torrential at the end!) but Conservation Day 2002, held at Young's Lake in Monmouth, was a success! About 18 classes from Warren and Henderson counties attended this "all day" event hosted by the Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District and the Warren-Henderson Natural Resource Service. The TCR&WMC staff conducted the popular "Dash for Trash" game which reviews what can and cannot be recycled in our Tri-county area.

### Learning About Landfills



TCR&WMC's new Solid Waste Educator Bert Russell hits the road running at Colchester Elementary.

In September, Bert and Anne were in educational action in Colchester. The two educators had the opportunity to interact with Mrs. Kerr's and Mrs. Gates' 4th grade science classes at Colchester Elementary School.

The two classes were split into two groups and engaged in different activities concerning a landfill's design and purpose. Students from both classes took turns using squirting devices, which illustrated transferring leachate from the model landfill to the holding tanks.

During the landfill power point presentation, Anne explained how landfills were made and operated. A sample of liner material was passed through the students. The liner examples allowed the students to visualize, as well as feel, the outer membrane of a landfill. Both classes were intrigued by the samples provided and the material presented, prompting great questions and discussions.

### TCR&WMC Staff Expands Knowledge of Solid Waste

Anne Lobdell and Chad Braatz attended Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) classes in June and received certification for Recycling Operations. Both passed the eligibility requirements and comprehensive examination in order to receive the certification. There are only 25 holders of this qualification in the country!

### Bin Briefs



'Tis the Season to Recycle!

The biggest waste issue during the holidays is PAPER! To cut down on the overuse of paper this year, why not...

- \* Send e-cards instead of paper, or send recycled content cards!
- \* Wrap with previously used paper; the weekend comics page, brown postal wrap, used decorative bags, tea towels, t-shirts (a gift within a gift!), or recycled content wrapping paper.
- \* Use old greeting cards; cut them up for gift tags and decorations.
- \* Decorate with natural decorations like strings of berries, popcorn, pine cones, plant cuttings, etc.
- \* REMEMBER, many of us have a limited number of garbage containers we can set out each week - but recycling is UNLIMITED!

### A New Battery For Cars... That's Been Around For Years

Dry cell batteries (DC batteries that have been used in flashlights and portable radios) are now being used in automobiles. Optima Battery, Inc., makes an environmentally friendly car battery. It lasts two to three times longer than a lead-acid (wet cell) battery. The Optima battery is completely sealed. It will not spill, leak, or corrode. This type of battery performs better in all temperature extremes than conventional batteries.

For more information, write to DC Battery Specialists, 160 N.W. 73 Street, Miami, Florida 33150, or go to their website at <http://www.dcbattery.com>.

### Bert's Favorite Recycling Websites!

[www.amazingrecycled.com](http://www.amazingrecycled.com)

[www.hammersplastic.com](http://www.hammersplastic.com)

[www.illinois.biz](http://www.illinois.biz)

[www.ilrecyclingassn.org](http://www.ilrecyclingassn.org)

[www.tricountryresource.org](http://www.tricountryresource.org) (Of course!)

[www.zerowasteamerica.org](http://www.zerowasteamerica.org)

## More news...

### The Great Garbologist Shares the Skinny on Diapers. Cloth or Disposable?

Dr. William L. Rathje, the world renown landfill archeologist and director of "The Garbage Project" has mused about the controversial diaper issue for years. In the latest issue of Municipal Solid Waste he states, "In considering the pluses and minuses...the major bones of contention involve these matters: the relative amount of energy that the use of each type of diaper requires, the relative volume of raw materials that the use of each type of diaper requires, the relative volume of discard, the relative amount of water used, the relative threat of pollution, the relative threat to public health, and the relative cost per diaper."

Rathje believes that when all things are considered, the arguments for or against disposables are pretty even. When it comes to the landfill perspective, Rathje says "The Garbage Project's excavations at 21 U. S. landfills have documented that the volume taken up by

disposable diapers varies from 0.53% to 1.82%. There have even been landfill operators who claim that the absorbency factor in the disposables (which are made from biodegradable, and cellulose fibers, with the plastic outer sheet being only about 8% of the diapers' content) is actually good for a landfill as it may cause the diaper to soak up the excess leachate.

(More information about this issue can be found in the Sept./Oct. 2002 issue of Municipal Solid Waste.)

### New Environmental Outreach Division Established at EPA

A new division with the Environmental Protection Agency called the Division of Environmental Outreach has been established.

The new Division will consist of the Office of Small Business, Agricultural Advisor, Natural Resources Damage Trustee, Federal Liaison, Graphics, Publication Layout and Photo/Video Production. The focus of this new Division will be to work with, and further enhance a positive message to, the units of local government, businesses, and agricultural/commodity groups, and to provide increased services.

#### 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](mailto:wirc@wirpc.org)

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