



TALKIN' TRASH

Actual News
You Can
USE!



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

3 Tons of Aluminum Recycled By 61 Kids...That's What We Call

CAN DO!

The stats are mind boggling. You've got 61 kids, recycling almost 80,000 cans, equaling 3.15 tons of aluminum, in an eight week period. Some people can barely get a half dozen cans rinsed and in their bin each week. The Can-Do contest has illustrated what education, motivation, and reward can reap. Not only that, we all know this had to be a community effort. Families and friends contributed to the effort. This became a learning opportunity for all. What started as a simple event devised to celebrate America Recycles Day has become an evolving and growing effort towards making things better, and protecting our environment. We congratulate all who participated. Now for the specific kudos!

The winning classroom in McDonough County was Elaine Gate's 4th grade class at Colchester Elementary School collecting 38,780 cans. In Warren County, Laurie Painter's 4th grade class from Immaculate Conception School collected 55,836 cans. Both winning classes are awarded an all expense paid trip to the Museum of Science and Industry's "Reusable City" in Chicago.

The other Can-Do Contest students were from Mrs. Burke's class from Warren Elementary School and Stephanie Kerr's class from Colchester Elementary School. Without their robust participation, this year's contest would not have been so successful!

The Tri-County would also like to thank owners Kevin and Curt Lovdahl, center manager Wendy Lovdahl, and Mark Grover from the Maple City Recycling Center for their assistance during the contest.

If you would like to participate in the Can-Do Contest next year, call the Tri-County Educators Anne Lodell or Bert Russell at (309) 837-3941.



Laurie Painter's class from Warren Elementary with Wendy Lovdahl and Mark Grover of Maple City Recycling.



Tug Thompson, Suzanne Fuhr and Tom Colclasure from Bridgeway are pictured with The combined 4th grade classes from Colchester Elementary.



Mrs. Burke's class from Warren Elementary was joined by Mark Grover and Wendy Lovdahl from the Maple City Recycling Center.

Jan., Feb., 2003
Volume 6, No.6

Must Do...Dates

TCR&WMC

Jan. 27

Warren County Courthouse
7:00 pm

McDonough County

Board Meeting

Jan. 14, Feb. 11

McDonough County Courthouse
7:00 pm

Mercer County

Board Meeting

Jan. 7, Feb. 4

Mercer County Courthouse
7:00 pm

Mercer County Recycling Board
Jan. 23

CES Office, Aledo
7:00 pm

Warren County

Board Meeting

Jan. 15

Warren County Courthouse
9:30 am

Special Events

ILCSWMA

Feb. 28

Location TBA

11:30 am

FACTOIDS FOR THOUGHT



- Americans generate about 200 million megagrams of municipal solid waste per year. (Yikes!)
- The Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio has around 300,000 worms eating about 500 pounds of food waste each day. The castings that the worms produce are used to fertilize the base's 8,000 acres. Vermicomposting saves the Air Force money that would have been spent on waste disposal fees and chemical fertilizers!

Business

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

Automotive Disposal
Used anti-freeze, batteries, oil and tires

Business	Phone	Anti-Freeze	Batteries	Oil	Tires
AutoZone 1723 East Jackson Macomb, IL 61455	836-2007	N/A	YES	Limited to 6 quarts.	N/A
Baker's Garage Sciota, IL 61475	456-3779	N/A	N/A	YES	N/A
Keister Tire 1103 East Jackson Macomb, IL 61455	833-2151	Limited to 20 gallons	YES	YES	\$1.50/car \$6.50/Ltr* \$25.00/tr
K-Mart 1325 East Jackson Macomb, IL 61455	837-3311	N/A	\$1.00/bad \$5.00 good	N/A	N/A
Nickson Tire & Services 120 North Johnson Macomb, IL 61455	833-2713	N/A	YES	N/A	\$1.00/tire
P&M Service Center 233 East Jackson Macomb, IL 61455	836-2526	\$0.10/gallon	N/A	N/A	N/A
Promissions Automotive 211 East Ludwig Bushnell, IL 61422	772-3333	N/A	N/A	YES	\$1.50/car
Speed Lube 1220 East Jackson Macomb, IL 61455	837-1107	N/A	N/A	YES	N/A
Wal-Mart 1730 East Jackson Macomb, IL 61455	836-2544	*N/A	YES	**N/A	*N/A
Western IL Equip., Inc. 2800 East Jackson Macomb, IL 61455	833-4149	YES	YES	YES	N/A

* Light truck

** The store is currently being remodeled. Please call for updated information.

N/A: Not Available

Please call the business before taking waste materials for recycling.

New IEPA Guidelines Proposed for Recycling Facilities

If it is up to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), there may be new regulations for area recycling centers to follow in the future. Recently proposed at an IEPA meeting were two major areas it wishes to address, which entail the issuance of permits and clarifying the definition of a recycling facility from a waste storage facility or transfer station.

Newly established regulations would be specifically designed for facilities termed as the "Post Consumer Recyclable Material Depots" (facilities that only accept material from generators), and the "Post Consumer Recyclable Material Collection Facility" (a recycling facility that accepts material from a third-party, such as a waste hauler, or where material is managed).

The IEPA intention in establishing new regulations is to clearly define what a recycling facility is, and to stop the spread of more problem sites that are currently in existence around the state.

Another meeting is scheduled January 9, 2003 at 11:00 am, at the IEPA offices in Springfield to further discuss the proposed regulations.

TCR WMC

What to do with the
BIG WHITE STUFF!



In most cases regular trash pick up will not take old refrigerators and water heaters. Unfortunately, because of this, many end up in ditches along a country road, or benignly wait in a garage or basement.

Here is some information you might find valuable. The **Monmouth Transfer Station/Compost Site** just off South 11th St. in Monmouth, Illinois, will accept and properly dispose of these types of items. Disposal costs are as follows:

\$15.00 - Refrigerators

\$10.00 - Stoves, washers, dryers

\$5.00 - Water heaters, window air conditioners

\$8.50 - Six bags of household trash

\$20.00 - Level pickup truck load of construction debris (old bricks, lumber, sheet rock, shingles, etc.)

Drive to the site, check in with the office personnel and unload. It's just that easy.

The Transfer Station is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm and Saturday 8:00 am to noon. If you have any questions about other large items that will not go in your regular trash, call

Haulers have until February 1 to post 2003 license decal

All residential waste haulers must be licensed to haul waste in the Tri-County area. The purpose of the license is to collect waste data that is reported annually to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and to insure the proper disposal and handling of residential waste.

All residential waste haulers must display a sticker on the truck windshield in the right hand corner that identifies that they have complied.

All decals must be displayed by February 1, 2003. Violators are subject to a \$500 fine.

E ducation

Hitting the Road to the Museum of Science & Industry



The Fun Factory was just one of the exhibits the students visited during their trip to the Museum.

Some folks may hesitate to plan excursions on Friday the 13th--but not the Colchester 4th graders! At 6 am the kids and chaperones (plus two Tri-County Educators) loaded onto the Burlington Trailways bus and headed to Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry. The travel time passed quickly as kids watched holiday videos and snacked on packed lunches. Shortly after 10 am all arrived at the group entrance, where we found a sea of school kids. Over 6,000 elementary and pre-K students were attending the museum that day!



The McDonough County Can-Do winners were assigned to the small touring groups (2-3 kids per adult chaperone) and then were let loose to freely roam the museum until 2:15 pm. At that time, everyone came together to watch the Omnimax film "Titanica." After the film, the group toured the lovely International Holiday Trees exhibit in the rotunda, stopped in at the gift shop, and then loaded onto the bus for the trip home.

When asked about the favorite exhibits, most of the kids picked the flight simulators, the coal mine, and the German U-505 which will be closed to the public soon until 2004 for repairs and re-positioning of the sub. A new subterranean room is to be established.

Bert and I thank the Colchester kids, Mrs. Kerr and Mrs. Gates for inviting us to tag along!

-Anne Lobdell

Can-Do Feedback

As a teacher you may have considered participating in the America Recycles Day Can-Do Contest. The following are some of the comments we have gotten from the Can-Do evaluation sheets returned by 4th grade teachers. Hope you sign up next year!

When asked, "Why did you decide to do the Can-Do Contest?", these teachers wrote:

"I wanted to make my students aware of the importance of recycling and what a difference just a few people could make. I also wanted them to feel the pride that coincides with helping others." -Debby Burke/2002
Warren Elementary

"I love to teach environmental studies because I feel their importance. Also I love an activity that bonds and 'fires up' a class and/or school community. These are the activities the kids remember." -Laurie Painter/2001
Immaculate Conception

When asked, "What do you think would encourage more teachers to participate?"...

"I can't think of a thing - a free trip to Chicago is big enough. Also the "free" cash for a short term investment should be a reason." -Mrs. Gates/2002
Colchester Elementary

Additional comments...

"Thank you for the opportunity to take part in such a great project. It's true that a great incentive was provided and our class earned a great amount of money, but as a teacher, I saw increased parent and community involvement and environmental awareness. The stumbling blocks I mentioned were actually beneficial since it meant our classes had such results. Thanks so much!"


-Mrs. Kerr/2001
Colchester Elementary


It is certainly true that collecting cans can be (if not rinsed well) a sticky kind of contest. But somehow, when the recycling center writes a check for several hundred dollars, that memory fades and possibilities come to the forefront. Check the sidebar for comments we've received over the last two years from teachers who have chosen to participate in the Can-Do Contest. Maybe 2003 is your year to do the Can-Do.


Hey Teachers...book your Earth Month SW Ed programs early!


More news...

Post Holiday Thoughts and Actions

 Last Christmas, gifts worth approximately \$1 billion were unwanted and relegated to the attic or basement, only to be tossed into the trash later. Why not donate unwanted gifts to charity? If you're unsure of what to buy a friend or coworker, buy gift certificates. Try a "recycled" gift exchange among friends or co-workers, like WIRC employees did this year.

 Children can enjoy the magic of Christmas tree long after it's time to pull off the tinsel and put away the ornaments. If you don't want to put your tree out for curbside pickup right away, then create a sanctuary in your backyard for birds and small animals. The tree will provide animals with hiding places from predators and safe havens during storms. Make your tree a delectable treat by tucking pine cones that have been coated with peanut butter and rolled in bird seed into the branches. While you're at it, add stringed raisins too.

 Get rid of all those gift catalogs you received by putting them in your curbside recycling bin. If there are some you don't want to receive again, call the toll-free phone numbers now and ask to be taken off the mailing list.

 And finally, the fronts of old Christmas cards not only can decorate your packages next year, but also can help a lot of sick children. Kids at the St. Jude's Ranch for Children make and sell new cards from old ones. Cut the fronts off the cards you receive and send them to:

St. Jude's Ranch for Children
100 St. Jude St.
Dept. MN
Boulder City, NV 89005

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.

