

News Article for Week of: July 1, 2010

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Recycling – Value for All!

Why take the time to recycle? What's in it for you? It's all about value to our community! Recycling can bring value in terms of dollars saved in waste transfer for the county– keeping taxes as low as possible – and value to our environment with alternatives to littering and dump removal. Recycling could also bring extra household dollars, if you collect metals for re-sale.

How do I start?

Recycling starts at home. You will need to look at your most common recyclable items and decide how far you want to go to get started. Maybe you simply start with aluminum cans – or maybe just newspapers. The true savings to the county will come from heavy weight items found in the list below. But it must work for YOU first. Start slow and work your way into more items as you have time and space. Here are easy steps:

1. DECIDE WHAT TO RECYCLE

Currently you can recycle the following items at the Allen County Recycling Center.

CARDBOARD – Cardboard is hard to compact and expensive to transport to the landfill. Brown corrugated cardboard boxes can be recycled. DO NOT include waxed or plastic coated cardboard products.

NEWSPAPER – Newsprint products are also heavy and expensive to transport. Inserts that feel like newsprint can be included. Slick paper inserts should be removed and placed with magazines.

MAGAZINES – Slick finish magazines of all sizes are accepted.

WHITE OFFICE PAPER – Can be computer printout paper of any color. It must be ground wood free. Cannot be previously recycled paper.

STEEL CANS – Rinse containers thoroughly. You do not have to remove labels. Examples are: fruit, vegetable, soup and pet cans.

ALUMINUM – Use a magnet to identify aluminum from steel. Examples include soft drink cans, aluminum foil, siding, window frames, etc.

GLASS – All clear and colored glass. It is necessary to rinse or remove labels. Please do not include soft drinks bottles. These are not recyclable.

YARD WASTE – The Transfer Station will accept, at no charge, leaves, branches, limbs and grass clippings for non-commercial businesses. City residents may call 237-4402 for pick up service.

PLASTIC – The plastic must be graded #1 and #2. Labels must be removed and containers rinsed.

2. GET BAGS AND CONTAINERS

Pick up the free blue bags at the Allen County Transfer Station, the Judge Executive's Office in the City/County Building of the **Cooperative Extension Service on East Main Street**. Also consider getting a couple dedicated, inexpensive trash containers for your pantry, garage, basement or under the cabinet – as many for each frequent recyclable – for the blue bags. This helps with separation.

3. DECIDE on YOUR BEST COLLECTION OPTION

To avoid clutter, take a bag of recyclables to the drop-off centers, currently at the Transfer Station and Recyclable trailer at Food Lion, as you come to Scottsville for work or errands. If you live in the City of Scottsville, set all recyclables out on Recycling Pickup Day, the 2nd Monday of each month – a great collection option! Large quantities of recyclables can also be taken to county fire

departments for drop-off on a rotating basis. Call the County Judge's office 237-3631 - for a current schedule.

4. START PULLING OUT RECYCABLES DAILY

Recycling may seem like extra effort at first, but it becomes easier with practice! Just do a little each day, and you will be surprised how simple it becomes. AND you set a good example for generations to come as far as not being wasteful. The best thing besides recycling? REUSE! Finding multiple options for containers keeps the item out of the waste stream that much longer!

For more information regarding unacceptable recyclables, waste rates and other options as far as waste disposal, pick up the latest Recycling brochure at the Allen County Cooperative Extension Service, County Judge Executive's Office or Allen County Transfer Station.

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