



Blue Bin News St. Louis City Residential Recycling Newsletter

Please
visit our website
www.stlouis-mo.gov/recycle

Printed on post consumer recycled paper

"We have forgotten how to be good guest, how to walk lightly on earth as its other creatures do"
Barbara Ward

March 2012

Issue #46



What is Single Stream Recycling?

We have gotten several inquiries from our City residents in regards to Single Stream Recycling and decided that it was about time that we dedicate an article to help inform you about how single stream actually works.

In the past when recycling, one might have had to separate their plastics, paper, glass etc. With the system that the City has implemented our residents are able to place all of their recyclables in one container making it more convenient for them. The separation of the different items happens once they arrive at the Material Recovery Facility that handles the recyclables for the City of St. Louis. Once at the facility it is separated, each group of items is bound together so that they can be shipped out for processing and manufacturing.

The single stream process is much more convenient for the residents of St. Louis City and we are hopeful that this encourages you all to participate more in recycling in general. With your participation we are able to reduce the landfill fees that we have to pay. Additionally this helps with the City's initiative to become a more sustainable city.

Please see the link below as it shows what happens after items arrive at a Material Recovery Facility.

http://youtu.be/Ls_Y7cadlSc



Hazardous Waste

If you are anything like me, then I know you too sometimes wonder what alternatives can be used for your everyday cleaning products. Some of the products I use in my home have very harsh smells that can make one lightheaded if used excessively. I have listed some alternatives below. If you can think of any others that we don't have listed please email them to us so that we can share the knowledge!!

Ammonia Based Cleaners: Sprinkle baking soda on a damp sponge. When cleaning windows, put 2 Tbs. of white vinegar for each QT. of water.

Bleach (Laundry): Use borax for all colors. To brighten dark clothing use one half cup of white vinegar.

Carpet/Upholstery Cleaners: Sprinkle dry cornstarch or baking soda and then vacuum. For tough stains blot with white vinegar in soapy water.

Drain Cleaners: Pour one cup of baking soda down the drain, then one half cup of white vinegar, wait a minute then flush with hot water.

Floor and Furniture Polish: To clean use oil soap and warm water then dry. To polish use on part lemon juice and 2 parts beeswax, lemon/mineral/olive oil.

Hazardous Waste Cont'd

Metal Cleaners: Scrub brass and copper with half a lemon dipped in salt. Use a scouring pad and soapy water on stainless steel or clean stainless steel sinks with baking soda and salt. Use toothpaste and a soft wet cloth to clean silver.

Oven Cleaners: Sprinkle salt on drips and then scrub. Use baking soda and a scouring pad on older spills.

Toilet Cleaners: Sprinkle on baking soda then scrub with a toilet brush.

Recycled Product of the Month

No matter your age or gender I think everyone will get a kick out of this month's featured product. This cute little salt and pepper holder is made from utensils that were headed to the trash bin. This product also comes with a bonus which is the salt and pepper shakers!!!! Visit www.eco-artware.com to find this and other great post consumer recycled products.



Lets Get Mad for March

Alright all you sports fanatics, March Madness is right around the corner and with its arrival comes the picking of the teams you think have what it takes to make it to the Final Four and ultimately win it all.

What does this have to do with recycling you ask???? Well those infamous brackets that we use to make wagers on who we think will be reigning champion is what links March Madness to recycling. Year after year we print out our brackets and as soon as the tournament is over that paper is going in the waste bucket.

This year let's change things up a bit. Let's say we do electronic brackets to reduce our paper usage, and if one of you just has to print your bracket try to use recycled papers. The goal of the City is to get our residents to reduce the amount of waste produced as well as to reduce the amount of specific items used (e.g. plastic, paper).

Here are a few links for the electronic brackets.

www.bracketchallenge.ncaa.com

www.mayhem.cbssports.com/splash/mayhem/spln/opm

www.bracketgame.si.com/login

Happy picking and may the best team win!!!!

Resident Recommendations

What innovative ways do you reuse household items (e.g., turning coffee cans into planters)? Have any upcoming events to share or something else related to residential waste management? If so please feel free to email us at the email address listed in the lower left hand box. We welcome any and all comments and suggestions.

City of St. Louis Refuse Division's Recycling Program

Reader Submissions Welcome
E-mail Submissions to
recycle@stlouiscity.com

To Subscribe

Would you or anyone you know
like to receive *Blue Bin News*?
Contact us at
recycle@stlouiscity.com
to be added to our e-mailing list

Upcoming March 2012 Events

March 3, 2012 (Saturday) 9:30am-12:30pm: Eco-Friendly Furniture
Facelift www.perennialstl.org

March 7, 2012 (Wednesday) 6:00pm: Home Composting presented by the
City of St. Louis Recycling Program

March 10, 2012 (Saturday) 10:00am-5:00pm: Green With Indie Craft
Show www.greenwithindiecraftshow.com

For more events visit: [www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/
street/refuse/recycle/calendar.cfm](http://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/street/refuse/recycle/calendar.cfm)