



Blue Bin News St. Louis City Residential Recycling Newsletter



Celebrate Earth Day Every Day!!!

The idea of Earth Day was ignited by Senator Gaylord Nelson in 1962; however it was not implemented until Spring of 1970. The Senator was in disarray of the Nations environmental state and how there were not any initiatives being started to fix the problems that were going on. The first Earth Day was a huge success and opened the government's eyes to the people's concerns over the increasing air and water pollution and to growing environmental issues; so much so that seven months later the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) was formed.

This April 22nd will be the 42nd anniversary of Earth Day, and people all over the world will come together to show their support for keeping people, animals, and plants alike safe and healthy and to clean up the world we live in. Though Earth Day is usually celebrated once a year and sometimes one week out of the year in April, why not do something to celebrate the beautiful earth we live on everyday? It could be as simple as recycling or even educating others about the importance of doing their part to keep us all safe and healthy, every little effort counts!!!!

There will be a huge extravaganza here in St. Louis at Forest Park on Sunday, April 22nd to celebrate Earth Day and the City of St. Louis invites you all to come out to join the fun. Visit www.stlouisearthday.org for more information

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

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*"The fate of the living planet is the most important issue facing mankind."
Gaylord Nelson*

April 2012

Issue #47

Hazardous Waste

Last month we touched on alternatives for some of the harsh chemicals you may use around your home. This month I wanted to reiterate why it is so important for us to make time to find and use cleaning alternatives that are natural and non-toxic.

The health of your children and pets are just a few reasons as to why one should not be using toxic chemicals in the home. Those harsh products are not only unsafe to inhale, but they are also potentially deadly if they get into the hands of little ones we may have at home. Each day 374 children are hospitalized for the ingestion of everyday chemical products that may be sitting around the home, in addition 2 children die everyday from those same products.

Please help keep your family and our environment safe by using natural cleaning products.



Hazardous Waste Cont'd

Here are just a few reminders below:

*Floor Cleaner: Use 1 cup (about 250 ml) white vinegar in 1 gallon (about 4 liters) of water. Some people add 6-12 drops of peppermint oil as a freshener.

*Toilet bowl cleaner: Who needs "scrubbing bubbles" when you've got baking soda and vinegar? Wet the sides of your bowl with a toilet brush. Liberally sprinkle the sides with baking soda, then splash on some vinegar. Instant foam! Scrub clean. The baking soda is also a terrific deodorizer.

Recycled Product of the Month

This month's recycled product of the month is not something you buy, but something you can make with products that you more than likely already have lying around the house. For example ever wonder what to do with your old silverware once you are ready for an upgrade? Simple!!! Turn them into cabinet door handles in your kitchen. Check out www.countryliving.com/crafts/projects/green-crafts-0309#slide-4 for the scoop on this project and about 30 others.



Easter Fun

Easter is always a fun time for children as they get to enjoy Easter Egg baskets, egg hunts, chocolate bunnies and much more; however the tab for these items could get pretty expensive especially if you are purchasing items for more than one child. So being the great Recycling Program that we are here in St. Louis City we want to give you a few ideas and resources to ensure that you can make your own gifts with reused or recovered materials.

www.parenting.com/gallery/easy-easter-crafts-for-kids

You are very welcome in advance!!

*You Need:

Container: oatmeal box, milk carton, or other square or round box that can be cut down.

Craft foam or construction paper

Glue stick and scissors

What To Do:

Cut off the top part of the container (we used bottom section of an oatmeal container) so that you will have sides & bottom for your basket.

Cut a piece of foam or paper to fit around your sides of basket.

Using glue stick, attach foam/paper to sides and let dry.

Cut a strip for a handle and attach at sides (on inside of container).

Let dry and then fill for a fun Easter basket.



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 April 2012 Events

April 3, 2012 (Tuesday) 7:00pm: Landscaping and Gardening with Native Plants presented by the City of St. Louis Recycling Program

April 10, 2012 (Tuesday) 6:00pm-8:00pm: Seven Shades of Green: Healthy Home <http://extension.missouri.edu/stlbuis/greenseries>

April 17, 2012 (Tuesday) 6:00pm-8:00pm: Seven Shades of Green: Renewable Energy <http://extension.missouri.edu/stlouis/greenseries>

April 22, 2012 (Sunday) 9:00am-6:00pm: Earth Day Festival and Recycling Extravaganza www.stlouisearthday.org

For more events visit: www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/street/refuse/recycle/calendar.cfm

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