



Blue Bin News

St. Louis City Residential Recycling Newsletter

“Flip Flotsam”

Flip flops free our phalanges from fitted footwear. But discarded flip flops fill our oceans with floating foam fragments. How, you might ask, do flips become flotsam? It all begins at the flip flop factory. All colors and sizes of the foam foot protection are manufactured and distributed to people across the globe. Most flip flops spend their lives walking in warm weather, though, on occasion you might catch a glimpse of bare toes protruding from flip flops wading through the snow. Wherever they are worn, it's inevitable that they will someday reach the end of their life as a flip flop. But, then what?

Some end their journey in a landfill or an incinerator. Others are flushed down rivers and streams into the ocean where they become flotsam, floating refuse or debris. Drifting many miles, flip flops may give free rides to barnacles, give a small bird a place to rest its wings, or become ingested by a marine animal. For lucky flip flops, the journey continues when the tides wash them up on shore. Men, women, and children from local towns and villages gather up the beaten and battered shoes, clean them and transform them into jewelry, toys, games, sculptures, clocks, bowls, etc.

Trash cleared from littered shorelines is turned into profitable treasures. At <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YYh268HRgXM> you can view “Flip Flotsam” and watch the entire journey of a flip flop. This short film is a well made, informative piece that will inspire us all to think about what we can do to give new life to our waste.

Quote of the Month

We never know the worth of water till the well is dry. ~Eric Hoffer

Buy Recycled at UniquEco

They turn flip flops into toys, games, sculptures, household products, fashion accessories, and much more.

www.uniqueco-designs.com



Check out this month's featured products at <http://stlouis.missouri.org/citygov/recycle/buyreusedrecycled.htm>

City of St. Louis Refuse Division's Recycling Program

Website: <http://stlouis.missouri.org/citygov/recycle>

Email: recycle@stlouis.missouri.org

Phone: 353.7176 (direct) or 353.8877 (switchboard)

Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 19, 2008

Celebrate Carondelet Park Day

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Boathouse - Just North of Loughborough Avenue

Sunday, April 20, 2008

St. Louis Earth Day at Forest Park

11:00 am - 6:00 pm

Muny Grounds

www.stlouisearthday.org

Monday, April 21, 2008

Recycled Art: Plastic Bag Craft

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Carpenter Branch Library

3309 South Grand Boulevard

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Home Composting Made Easy Class

6:00 pm - 6:50 pm

Landscape & Garden with Native Plants Class

7:00 pm - 7:50 pm

Both classes will be held at the

Bevo-Long Middle Community Education Center

To sign up, call 314.353.1034

Tire Dumps Getting Cleaned Up

Missouri residents generate approximately five million scrap tires annually. Unfortunately, some end up in illegal tire dumps, which pose serious environmental and health threats. For example, insects and rodents that grow and breed in these dumps can transmit diseases. Additionally, tire dumps that catch on fire can release hazardous substances into the air, soil and water. In an effort to clean up the State, 1990 Missouri legislation established the Scrap Tire Fee, a 50-cent-per-tire charge on every new tire purchase. Over the last 18 years, the fee has funded the clean up of over 14 million tires at 749 illegal dump sites. It is important that we clean up existing sites and prevent new sites from developing by ensuring that our tires are disposed of properly.

In November 2006, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) began accepting enrollment in their Tire Dump Roundup Program, which has removed 262,164 tires from Missouri properties. MDNR's program is open to private property owners who self-report 500 - 10,000 tires on their property. The tires are cleaned up at no cost to the owner and are then recycled into playground surfaces, running tracks, asphalt, and other products or are used in power plants as fuel. In addition to large dump sites, MDNR continues to work with Missouri's solid waste management districts and nonprofit citizens groups in cleaning up sites that contain fewer than 500 tires. For more information about tire cleanup, contact MDNR's Scrap Tire Unit at 1-800-361-4827 or visit them online at www.dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/tires/tirelist.htm.



As a reminder, St. Louis City residents can recycle up to 3 tires per month by placing them out during their Bulky/B.O.A.T collection week. Once-per-month (with proof of residency) citizens may also drop off up to 3 tires at the North Transfer Station (201 North Humboldt) or South Transfer Station (4100 South First Street) from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday (except for holidays). For more information visit <http://stlouis.missouri.org/citygov/refuse/boatbulky.html>.

Connect the Words

Connect the word "Office" to the word "Time" by finding the common words in between.

Answers at the bottom of page 1.

Office	_____	_____	1
	_____	_____	2
	_____	_____	3
	_____	_____	4
	_____	_____	5
	_____	_____	Time

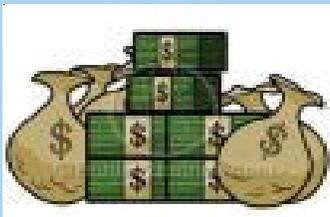
Reader Submissions Welcome

The Recycling Program invites you to submit material for this monthly newsletter. Would you like to share your "how to" tips, upcoming events, or something else related to residential waste management? E-mail us at recycle@stlouis.missouri.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

To Subscribe

Would you or anyone you know (e.g., family, friends, community leaders) like to receive Blue Bin News? Contact us at recycle@stlouis.missouri.org or 353.7176 to be added to our e-mailing list for this free publication.

Reverend Billy & the Church of Stop Shopping Gospel Choir



In the film "What Would Jesus Buy?," the end of mankind from consumerism, over-consumption, and eternal debt is on the horizon. This "serious docu-comedy" follows Reverend Billy and the Church of Stop Shopping Gospel Choir cross-country while they conduct retail interventions, lead corporate exorcisms, and preach about the coming Shopocalypse. Producer Morgan Spurlock (also producer of "Super Size Me"), and Director Rob VanAlkemede bring light to the commercialization of Christmas.

While we have put the winter holidays behind us in exchange for budding trees and blooming flowers, the lessons of this film can be translated into any time of year. "What Would Jesus Buy?" will be released on DVD in May. However, you can see it before then at the Webster University Film Series on April 11, 12, and 13 at 8:00pm in the Moore Auditorium. Admission is \$6 for the general public, \$5 for seniors, Webster alumni and students from other schools, \$4 for Webster University faculty and staff, and Free for Webster students with proper I.D. Visit www.webster.edu/filmseries/current.html to learn more.