



# Blue Bin News

## St. Louis City Residential Recycling Newsletter

### The Day of Earth Is Upon Us

April 22 celebrates the 39th Anniversary of Earth Day, which marks the first nationwide protest to bring environmental issues to the national agenda. Twenty million people from over ten thousand educational institutions across the country demonstrated for a healthy, sustainable environment on the first Earth Day in 1970. Earth Day was a catalyst for the formation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, as well as many environmental laws that have greatly improved our health and environment over the last 39 years. This month, there will be many events held to celebrate Earth Day. A great deal of information will be available to help you learn how to implement sustainable practices into your everyday life. One topic that might be familiar to you is REDUCING, REUSING, and RECYCLING. A part of that equation that often gets overlooked is BUYING REUSED and RECYCLED. Buying recycled products ensures that there is a market for the materials you place in your recycling bin. Aside from recycling your items, such as bottles, cans, paper, and cardboard, you might ask what else you can do.



Our lawns, landscaping, and gardens can take up a large portion of our free time from now until Fall. In that time, a variety of wastes will be produced. So, how can you minimize your waste?

- \* Reduce use of fertilizers and pesticides by planting native vegetation.
- \* When splitting or replacing healthy plants, consider donating them to community gardens, schools, neighbors, friends, family, etc.
- \* Rent or borrow lawn and garden equipment.
- \* Buy recycled content gardening equipment and tools, such as rubber hoses, glass stepping stones, metal or plastic hand tools, and plastic lumber.
- \* Compost food scraps and yard trimmings to use as a rich soil amendment.
- \* Use paper egg cartons as seed starters.

### City of St. Louis Refuse Division's Recycling Program

Archived issues available at

<http://stlouis.missouri.org/citygov/recycle/residentialnewsletter.html>

#### Reader Submissions Welcome

Feel free 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](mailto: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](mailto:recycle@stlouis.missouri.org) to be added to our e-mailing list for this free publication.



### Upcoming Events

Details available at

<http://stlouis.missouri.org/citygov/recycle/calendar.html>

**Thursday, April 9, 2009**, Native Plant School, [www.shawnature.org/nativeland/NativePlantSchool.aspx](http://www.shawnature.org/nativeland/NativePlantSchool.aspx)

**Saturday, April 11, 2009**, Composting Completely, [www.earthwayscenter.org/calendar.html](http://www.earthwayscenter.org/calendar.html)

**Tuesday, April 14, 2009**, Four Seasons of Color with Shade Natives, [www.mobot.org](http://www.mobot.org)

**Thursday, April 16, 2009**, Home Composting Made Easy Class. To sign up call 314.353.1034

**Thursday, April 16, 2009**, Landscape & Garden with Native Plants Class. To sign up call 314.353.1034

**Thursday, April 16, 2009**, Native Plant School, [www.shawnature.org/nativeland/NativePlantSchool.aspx](http://www.shawnature.org/nativeland/NativePlantSchool.aspx)

**Saturday, April 18, 2009**, Eco-Art Festival, [www.stlcc.edu/ww](http://www.stlcc.edu/ww)

**Saturday, April 25, 2009**, Organic Gardening Basics, [www.mobot.org](http://www.mobot.org)

**Sunday, April 26, 2009**, St. Louis Earth Day Festival, [www.stlouisearthday.org](http://www.stlouisearthday.org)

**Thursday, April 30, 2009**, Home Composting Made Easy Class. To sign up, call 314.352.1163

**Thursday, April 30, 2009**, Landscape & Garden with Native Plants Class. To sign up, call 314.352.1163

