



Sustainable Delaware NEWSLETTER

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Recycling and Job Creation

By Bill Kizer

When we think of recycling, we rarely think of the jobs associated with recycling. According to the Institute of Local Self-Reliance, on a per-ton basis, sorting and processing recyclables alone sustains 10 times more jobs than landfilling or incineration. As stated by the U.S. Recycling Economic Information Study (REI), the U.S. recycling industry employed 1.25 million people whereas the U.S. solid waste industry employed only .25 million.

We are fortunate here in Delaware County to have a network of recycling and reuse businesses and organizations, both public and private, which already employs hundreds of local workers. The metal recyclers we have are Sims Bros. and Friction Metals. Composting facilities are Price Farms Organics and Ohio Mulch. Reuse stores are Goodwill, Re-

store and The Salvation Army. Paper recyclers are Abitibi (newspapers and magazines) and the county drop off bins (Rumpke). This is a sample of what is available in our county.

Because recycling supports local businesses and employees, it can be an important local economic tool. So remember to always recycle your clean materials; it will benefit our local economy, our community and the environment.

RECYCLE
TO
CREATE
JOBS!



Delaware Chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby

By Sheila Fox

The Delaware chapter of Citizens Climate Lobby has been pushing forward in the urgent cause of cutting carbon emissions. We meet on the first Saturday of each month.

In the media and in Congress, CCL advocates for a "revenue neutral carbon fee and dividend" plan. A fee would be assessed when fossil fuel is extracted, and all of the proceeds would be distributed to local households, similar to the way Alaska distributes its oil revenue to its people. No money would go to "grow" government spending.

Households could use their dividends to help with higher energy costs, but clean and renewable energy would soon become cheaper than fossil energy, and the revenue could be used for anything else in households that are carbon-thrifty.

Our CCL chapter has been active; we met with Rep. Pat Tiberi's staff, had a very positive meeting with Michael Williams, content manager of the Gazette, has been writing to

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Delaware CCL — cont'd

Congress, posted comments to the EPA about its carbon reduction regulations, published a letter in the Dispatch, and three CCL members traveled to Illinois in late October for a CCL conference with members from 5 Midwest states.

If you would like to post a comment to the EPA, go to <http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OAR-2013-0602-0001>, and click on "Comment". We ask that you urge the EPA to include putting a price on carbon as one of the methods states can use to meet their carbon emissions reduction.

If you are looking for an opportunity to get involved with a very positive group to address climate change, this group is for you. CCL provides its members with valuable tools for taking action while empowering individuals to find their voice in the climate debate.

For more information, visit <http://citizensclimatelobby.org/about-us/> or email local contact Sheila Fox, at thechange55@hotmail.com

*"They always say
time changes things,
but you actually
have to change them
yourself." - Andy
Warhol*

*After sharing this newsletter,
please recycle it.*

Falling Leaves

By Kristin Piper

This time of year there is an overabundance of fallen leaves in everyone's yard.

What do you do with all of these leaves?

- (A) Throw them in the river or stream behind your house
- (B) Rake them to the curb
- (C) Leave them where they landed
- (D) Mulch them with your lawn mower
- (E) Pack them up as yard waste

Throwing leaves into our waterways can be very harmful to aquatic wildlife. Leaves contain nutrients such as nitrogen; when the leaves decompose the nitrogen acts as a fertilizer and an increase in algal blooms occur in our waterways. The algae uses up dissolved oxygen that aquatic life needs for survival. Think about what just happened in Toledo, Ohio. The same could happen in Central Ohio due to a spike in nitrogen.

Raking the leaves to the curb has the same



effect as throwing them into our waterways. Most curbs have storm drains that transport water to the nearest river, lake or stream. In the country, if you rake your leaves to your roadside ditch, the water that travels through the ditch, picks up some leaves and takes them to the nearest waterway.

Although leaving them on your lawn is not harmful, the leaves can create a mat preventing sunlight and carbon dioxide from getting through to the grass below. Leaving your leaves where they fall could eventually kill spots on your lawn.

Holiday Recycling 101

by Jenifer Way-Young
Keep Delaware County Beautiful Coordinator
Delaware General Health District

Whether you recycle with a curbside program, at the DKMM (Delaware, Knox, Marion, Morrow) recycling drop-off sites, or at Sims Recycling, the list of acceptable items stays the same for the holidays. You will simply have more!

The biggest change comes in the paper fiber we can recycle. Paper in the form of boxes, bags and gift wrap needs to be prepared. Your curbside hauler may ask that boxes made from corrugated cardboard be broken down into smaller pieces. The City of Delaware specifies bundles 2ft. x 2-1/2ft. x 1in. high. At the county drop-off sites, we ask that you flatten all boxes to conserve space in the recycling bins. Do not worry about staples and tape on boxes and bags, the recyclers can handle them. Also, we cannot accept paper plates, napkins or cups.

Expanded polystyrene (EPS) or Styrofoam is not recyclable in Delaware County. In Columbus, Phoenix Recycling accepts certain kinds of EPS. You can find more information at Plasticscrap.us. In addition, check with your neighborhood UPS Store or other local pack and ship stores to see if they will accept EPS peanuts.

Plastic packaging is not recyclable unless it is a bottle or jug. Delaware City curbside and Sims Recycling take number 1 and 2 bottles and jugs, while the DKMM drop-off sites take any number as long as it is a bottle or a jug. Please don't forget to rinse. If it is plastic and not a bottle or jug, please do not put it in the bin. That includes all

the formed plastic that encases children's toys.



Other contaminants that show up in the bins are plastic bags. When a package is shipped to our homes, items are regularly bagged. No curbside or drop-off bin in central Ohio can recycle plastic bags. Please secure them in your trash so they do not blow away and become litter. Ribbons and bows are also items that do not belong in the bin. Separate them from the paper and reuse them next year.

Finally, a word about trees. In Delaware, cut trees are put at the curb for pickup following the holidays, but must be in a natural state, meaning no decorations and no plastic bags. The trees go to Price Farms Organics and get shredded and composted. Keep in mind, when you buy a bag of compost or mulch, you do not want to be cut by a glass bulb or have plastic in your mulch.

Artificial trees can also be a problem. These trees are a combination of materials, usually metal and plastic and are not compostable. If they are in good, usable condition they can be donated. Neither kind of tree, real or fake, belongs in a DKMM recycling drop-off bin.

Recycling and properly disposing of those holiday items is a simple and easy step in helping Delaware County remain a beautiful community – and is a great gift to our environment! For any additional questions about recycling, call the Health District at 740-368-1700.

Happy Holidays!

Falling Leaves — cont'd

Mulching the leaves with a lawn mower can be very beneficial for your yard. As mentioned above, the leaves have nutrients, which can act as a fertilizer. They also have organic material that can help your soils become healthier, allowing for healthier plant life. There should be no need to fertilize in the spring if you mulch your leaves in the fall.

Lastly, if you rake the leaves and pack them as yard waste, you are removing the leaves and a large amount of nutrients from a condensed area. If you have yard waste pick up, you do not have to worry about where the leaves go from there. However, if you do not have pick up at your house, you can take them to a local composter.

So, when you are looking out your window wondering what to do with all those leaves, remember whatever you decide can impact our environment either negatively or positively.



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- Bill Kizer
- Jenifer Way-Young
- Kristin Piper
- Sheila Fox

Our Mission: Sustainable Delaware is a nonprofit group of citizens focused on promoting environmental, social and economic sustainability for the Delaware community through awareness, advocacy and action.

Have a comment, idea or article for the newsletter? We would love to hear from you, please email us at: info@sustainabledelawareohio.org

Visit us on the web at www.sustainabledelawareohio.org and our Facebook group: Sustainable Delaware Ohio



Interesting Articles on the Web

Kids be Green

<http://kidsbegreen.org/>

Build a \$300 underground greenhouse for year-round gardening

<http://www.treehugger.com/green-architecture/build-underground-greenhouse-garden-year-round.html>

Game-changer: Rooftop solar will be at grid parity in all 50 U.S. states by 2016

<http://www.treehugger.com/renewable-energy/rooftop-solar-power-will-be-grid-parity-50-us-states-2016-says-deutsche-bank.html>

12 Ways to Prevent Food Waste at Home

<http://www.wholeliving.com/136597/12-ways-prevent-food-waste-home/@center/136755/green-home-guide#25803>

Fracking tracking breakthrough to hold frackers responsible for pollution

<http://www.treehugger.com/fossil-fuels/fracking-tracking-breakthrough-hold-fracking-operators-responsible-pollution.html>

Six Ways to Stay Warm without Central Heating

<http://www.shareable.net/blog/six-ways-to-stay-warm-without-central-heating>

Scared About The Sustainability Crises? How To Relieve Fear and Take Action

<http://greenlivingideas.com/2014/08/11/scared-sustainability-crises-relieve-fear-take-action/>

5 Effective Tips for Hanging Clothes to Dry Inside

<http://greenlivingideas.com/2014/09/01/5-effective-tips-hanging-clothes-dry-inside/>

Upcoming Events

For more upcoming events and details see the SDO calendar on our website at <http://www.sustainabledelawareohio.org/Events.html>

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| 11/05/14 | 7p -9p | Sustainable Delaware Board Meeting; Delaware County Library, Main Branch |
| 11/08/14 | 9:30a -11a | Sustainable Delaware Meeting; Delaware County Library, Main Branch |
| 11/11/14 | 7p | SNC– David Sedlak; OWU, Phillips Auditorium |
| 11/12/14 | 1p | Lecture: Terence Fretheim; MTSO, Alford Centrum |
| 11/15/14 | 8:30a –12p | Gardening for Clean Water; Stratford Ecological Center, Delaware |
| 11/19/14 | 7p | SNC– Robert Jackson; OWU, Benes Room |
| 11/23/14 | 2p | Make It and Take It: Nature's Bounty Wreath; Deer Haven Preserve |
| 12/05/14 | 6p -9p | First Friday; Historic Downtown Delaware |
| 12/05/14 | 7p | SNC– John McNeill; OWU, Benes Room |
| 12/10/14 | 7p -9p | Sustainable Delaware Board Meeting; Delaware County Library, Main Branch |
| 12/10/14 | 7p | SNC– Rita Colwell; OWU, Benes Room |
| 12/13/14 | 9:30a -11a | Sustainable Delaware Meeting; Delaware County Library, Main Branch |
| 12/14/14 | 12p –4p | Second Sunday Open House; Ohio Wildlife Center, Powell |