



RECYCLING DIVISION OF  
MAHONING COUNTY

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# The Green Scene

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## An Ounce of Prevention

“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” This famous quote, attributed to Benjamin Franklin, has been applied in many areas but is especially important in the field of waste management. Waste prevention is essential to improving the environment.

There are many simple strategies to reduce waste. These strategies include:

- Shopping with a reusable tote bag: It is estimated that Americans use 60,000 plastic bags every five seconds! Most of these bags are discarded where they break down into small pieces that contaminate soil and water. Even worse, they end up as harmful litter and

cause injury to wildlife.

- Taking back the tap: Each year, making plastic water bottles used in the US takes enough oil and energy to fuel a million cars. Using a refillable bottle is always the best choice.
- Stopping junk mail: Junk mail costs 100 million trees per year. Request to have your name removed from junk mailing lists by visiting [http://directmail.com/directory/mail\\_preference/](http://directmail.com/directory/mail_preference/)
- Hanging up the foam: Polystyrene is considered non-sustainable, an air pollutant, and food contaminant. Use a travel mug for drinks and take reusable containers to restaurants

for leftovers.

- Ditching the K-Cup: 9 billion k-cups ended up in landfills last year. Always use a conventional drip brewer and return nutrients to the soil by composting the grounds.
- Using a sports drink mix: More than 60 million plastic bottles end up in landfills and incinerators every day. Make a dent in this waste by mixing sports drinks from powders and pouring into reusable containers.

Preventing waste is easy when you apply these simple strategies. By doing so, you'll reduce waste at the source and make the world a better place.

~ Kim Lewis



## School Recycling Opportunities



Mahoning County schools do a wonderful job of recycling paper in the classrooms and many schools go a step further by collecting food and beverage containers too. However, did you know there are special recycling programs available

to schools for unique materials? Items like old crayons, cell phones, inkjet cartridges, empty glue sticks, highlighters, permanent markers, ink pens, and scotch tape dispensers can be upcycled through one of Terracycle's brigade programs. Through

Terracycle and its partners, these items that were once destined for landfills can be fashioned into a variety of useful new products.

To learn more about these recycling opportunities, visit the Terracycle website at [www.teracycle.com](http://www.teracycle.com).



## Welcome Back Jack!



**Above:** Mrs. Lewis poses with a group of students at Springfield Elem. School.

**Below:** Mr. DeMart poses with students at Dobbins Preschool.



If you've noticed more pumpkins than usual growing in the Mahoning Valley, please be advised that this is no accident. Each year during October, Green Team educators visit Mahoning County schools with an exciting presentation about backyard composting that includes an interactive story, colorful costumes, and - you guessed it - pumpkins! The story, titled Pumpkin Jack is a heart-warming tale about a boy named Tim who creates a friendly jack-o-lantern affectionately named "Jack." After Halloween passes and Jack begins to rot, instead of

throwing Jack in the trash, Tim places him in the garden and waits for the magic to begin. Throughout the seasons, Tim experiences the wonder of nature's recycling by observing Jack's transformation from jack-o-lantern to seed to pumpkin again. After Tim harvests his new pumpkin, he carves a face and welcomes back his old friend.

After reading Pumpkin Jack students each receive a mini pumpkin to decorate and take home and are instructed to allow nature to recycle their old pumpkins into new pumpkins for next Hal-

loween. In 2021, the education department distributed nearly 1,400 pumpkins and 2022 promises to be even bigger. By all calculations, the valley should soon be swimming in a sea of orange.

If you're one of the parents whose child brings home a mini-pumpkin from the Green Team, please support this environmental lesson by following through with the pumpkin activity. Remember: You're children are counting on you.



## Fall Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The Green Team is once again providing an opportunity for collecting household hazardous material. On Saturday, Oct. 1, The Household Hazardous Waste Collection will be held at the Canfield Fairgrounds from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm. The collection hours listed below are designated by last name:

A-F 9:00 am-11:00 pm      G-N 11:00 am-1:00 pm      O-Z 1:00 pm-3:00 pm

The following **HOUSEHOLD** items will be accepted:

Thinners	Automotive Fluids	Pool & Photo Chemicals	Bleach
Antifreeze	Used Motor Oil	Solvents	Poisons
Aerosol Cans	Propane Cylinders	Acids	Stains
Lighter Fluid	Adhesive/Glue	Mercury	Greases
Roof Coatings	Car Batteries	Household Cleaners	Pesticides
Varnish	Gasoline	Oil Based Paint	Herbicides
Caulks	Cylinder Fluorescent Lights		

Latex paint will not be accepted. Dispose of Latex paint by hardening with sand or kitty litter and placing with regular household waste. Also, please note that compact fluorescent light bulbs may be recycled at Home Depot or Lowes. If you have any questions regarding this special collection, please contact the Green Team.

**Attention Fall Planters:** Take used nursery pots & flats to VanPelts, Bending Oak Permaculture Farm or River's Bend Farm. The pots will be sterilized for re-use.



Congratulations are extended to one lucky winner who stopped by our Canfield Fair booth and played: "Recycle & Win." Valley resident David Boulton won a \$100.00 Visa gift card after his name was selected from over 200 entries as part of this educational activity. I think that David & everyone can agree that this is really something to crow about!



## America Recycles Day

America Recycles Day (ARD) is observed on November 15 and is the only nationally recognized day dedicated to encouraging Americans to recycle and buy recycled products.

When material is recycled it becomes new again. Plastic bottles can

become carpet or playground equipment. Glass bottles and jars may be recycled into new containers or glassphalt.

On America Recycles Day, take the pledge. **Learn** - Find out which materials are collected for recycling in your community. **Act** - Re-

duce personal waste by recycling. **Share** - In the next month, encourage one family member or one friend to begin recycling at home or at work.

For more information about this subject, visit [greengeeks.com](http://greengeeks.com).





## Celebrate Green

There is no better time than the holidays to host a zero-waste party. In fact, considering the amount of overconsumption that occurs between Thanksgiving and Christmas, it is the perfect time for this type of event.

You should begin planning your party one month in advance to give yourself ample time for preparations. Once you have chosen a date, send out electronic invitations or post invites on social media. After you have received a head count, buy only the

amount of food that you'll need for the evening. When possible, select locally sourced options and foods that are in season. Once you have determined your food menu, consider drinks. Purchase beverages in Earth-friendly, recyclable containers and always remember to forgo the bottled water. Instead, opt for a carafe of fruit-infused water that will taste as delicious as it looks. Of course you'll want to serve that water in something special. The holidays are an ideal time

to get out the crystal goblets along with your decorative china, cloth napkins, and festive table cloth.

At the end of the evening, ask your spouse or a friend to assist you with the clean-up. Ensuring that everything is in its proper place will give you peace of mind and a feeling of deep satisfaction in knowing that you have done something kind for the Earth.



## Green Holiday Shopping Tips

To make your holidays less stressful and more eco-friendly, consider these "green" shopping tips.

- \* **Start Early:** Complete your shopping before the holiday rush. This will allow you more time to spend with family and friends.
- \* **Shop With A Reusable**

**Tote Bag:** Prevent plastic bags from entering the environment. This gesture will conserve natural resources and prevent pollution.

- \* **Give the Gift of Experience:** Purchase a gift pass for a local museum, zoo, or nature center. These activities

will create memories that last a lifetime.

- \* **Buy Presents that Support Conservation:** Consider a wildlife adoption package, native seeds with gardening tools, or a backyard bird feeder with seed and a field guide.



## Dream In Color for the Holidays

Looking for something unique this holiday season? Look no further than Dream in Color Jewelry. Erica Speer and Sarah Friedenberger are owners of Dream in Color Jewelry and they've been in business for over fifteen years. They specialize in making jewelry, 3D art, shadow boxes, and custom artwork, most of

which is created with recovered materials such as used jewelry, circuit boards, and old keys. Dream In Color Jewelry does not have a storefront, but they can be found on social media and they often attend community events with their colorful display and merchandise. For more information about Dream In Color Jewelry,

follow them on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, or email them directly at [dreamincolorjewelry1021@gmail.com](mailto:dreamincolorjewelry1021@gmail.com).

This year, make your holiday "one of a kind special" with a piece of artwork from Dream in Color Jewelry.

~ Nick DeMart



## Holiday Recycling Drives

Each year during the holiday season, an extra 5 million tons of waste is generated --- 25% more than usual! To address this issue, the Green Team is sponsoring two special recycling drives.

Wrap It Up Again! is the wrapping paper and greeting card drive scheduled for December 26 through January 15 at our recycling drop-off sites. Remember to remove all ribbons and bows and to exclude foil wraps.

The Christmas Tree Recycling Drive will be held December 26 through January 31 at designated recycling drop-off sites. Trees will be donated to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for use as wildlife habitat.

Last year Mahoning County diverted nearly 5,000 pounds of wrapping paper and greeting cards along with 99,200 pounds of Christmas trees from the waste stream. Let's make this year an even bigger success. Remember--- every little bit counts.



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**Be an angel ...**

and recycle your old towels, blankets, and empty feed bags. Angels for Animals is in need of this material for their animal charity. If you would like to donate these items, please drop them off at the shelter located at 4750 State Rt. 165 in Canfield.



## No Drugs Down The Drain

The official DEA Drug Take-Back Day is October 29, but Mahoning County residents can drop off drugs at several locations throughout the area that have permanent sites. These sites, most of which are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, can be found at the following locations:

- Austintown PD            92 Ohltown Rd.            Austintown, 44515
- Beaver Twp. PD           601 W. S. Range Rd.      N. Lima, 44452
- Boardman PD            8299 Market St.           Boardman, 44512
- Canfield PD              104 Lisbon St.              Canfield, 44406
- Goshen PD                14003 W. S. Range Rd.    Salem, 44460
- Lowellville City Hall    140 E. Liberty St.        Lowellville, 44436
- M. C. Sheriff's Office   110 Fifth Ave.              Youngstown, 44503
- Milton Twp. PD           15992 Milton Ave.        Lake Milton, 44429
- New Middletown PD    10711 Main St.            New Middletown, 44442
- Poland Gov't. Center   3339 Dobbins Rd.        Poland, 44514
- Sebring PD                135 E. Ohio Ave.           Sebring, 44672
- Struthers City Hall     6 Elm St.                    Struthers, 44471
- YSU PD                    266 W. Wood St.        Youngstown, 44555
- Springfield PD            3475 E. S. Range Rd.    New Springfield  
44443

[www.greenteam.cc](http://www.greenteam.cc)

Recycling-Green Team

**Go Green**

