

TRASH TALK!

A Quarterly Newsletter of



Spring 2023



LIZTON DROP-OFF IS MOVING

Many of you have probably used the Recycling Drop-Off Center in Lizton at the intersection of U.S. 136 and State Road 39. That site will be closing, and we will hold the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Lizton recycling site, located on State Road 39 north of the Interstate 74 overpass, this spring.

Why are we moving this recycling center? If you have used the old site, you may have noticed its popularity and how much material is dropped off there for recycling. This is great! But sometimes people drop off items that cannot be recycled or leave things on the ground. We want to avoid litter, reduce contamination (dirty items and things that don't belong in the bins), and keep recyclable material from being ruined.

To keep materials clean and recyclable, we will have an attendant at the new site to help people sort out what can and can't be recycled and ensure that things stay tidy. We will also have hours of operation and bins for different kinds of materials so that we can better monitor what is dropped off and make things run more smoothly. If you are unsure of what goes where, be sure to ask our friendly attendant.

DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY! Be a smart recycler.

"Getting carried away" is a term we use for losing control and taking something too far — even if it's a good thing. We all have learned that recycling is good for the planet. But did you know that some people get carried away when they recycle?

They want to do the right thing and recycle, so sometimes they toss things into the recycling bin that cannot be recycled, hoping that they will get recycled. (They won't!) Other times, people leave a lot of food or liquid in the recyclable bottles or cans that they place into the bin. This makes a big mess! In both cases, the icky mix of recycling and garbage takes hard work, time, and money to separate. Sometimes the mess is impossible to sort out. Then the recyclables are ruined and may have to be sent to a landfill.

This is why it is important to know what to recycle and how to prepare it before placing anything into the recycling bins at your home, in your school, and at a drop-off center.

Be a smart recycler. Don't get carried away by tossing everything into the recycling bin, whether it is recyclable or not. While you are at it, help your family members, classmates, and friends learn to be smart recyclers, too!



What should I recycle?

- Aluminum cans, such as pop and juice cans
- Steel cans, including food, soup, pet food, and "tin" cans
- Plastic bottles, jugs, jars, and containers (NO Styrofoam or plastic bags or film)
- Glass bottles and jars
- Newspapers
- Magazines and catalogs
- School papers, printer and copier paper, and mail
- Paperboard, such as empty cereal and gift boxes
- Corrugated cardboard, such as shipping boxes

How should I prepare my recycling?

- Empty and rinse food and drink containers. Turn containers upside down and let them drip-dry.
- Break down and flatten boxes.
- Leave labels and lids on empty bottles, jars,

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DARE TO COMPARE

Instructions: Use the clues to find the correct answers. Show your work.

The letter **L** stands for the number of old light bulbs that Amy's family replaced with energy-efficient LED bulbs.

Clues:

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| A. $L < 70$ | C. L is an even number. |
| B. $L + L > 120$ | D. 8 is a factor of L. |

1. Based on the first two clues, list all possible answers. _____

2. Using the third clue, list the possible answers. _____
3. What is L? _____
4. Did you need to use all four clues? _____

The letter **T** stands for the number of trees that Anthony and his garden club planted to celebrate Arbor Day and Earth Day.

Clues:

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| A. $T > 7 \times 6$ | D. 5 is not a factor of T. |
| B. $T \neq 21$ | E. 14 is a factor of T. |
| C. $T + T < 115$ | |

1. To find T, which clue would you use first? _____
2. Which clue would you use second? _____
3. What is T? _____
4. Did you need to use all of the clues to find the answer? _____



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LOSE THE LITTER

Have you ever noticed one small piece of litter on the ground? While it may not seem like much, that one small piece can lead to a big problem. According to Keep America Beautiful, people are much more likely to litter if they see other trash on the ground. So once an area has a little bit of litter, more and more litter piles up until there is a nasty mess.

Litter doesn't just look messy; it can actually harm animals, people, and our planet. Too much litter leads to flooding and water pollution and costs a lot of money to clean up. So that one candy wrapper on the playground can become one big problem!

Here are some ways to prevent litter:

- Don't litter! Avoid throwing gum, candy wrappers, drink cups, plastic bottles, and other items onto the ground. Look for trash and recycling bins. If you don't see them, carry your trash and recycling with you. When you get
- home, you can put it in the right place — the trash can or recycling bin.
- Pick up litter. If your friends are playing basketball in the driveway, be sure that all trash and recyclables end up where they belong. Pick up litter that others drop on your lawn. At parks and sporting events, be sure that your sports teams and friends leave the area at least as clean as you found it — if not cleaner.
- When you take your trash or recyclables to the curb, make sure the lids are closed on the containers or carts. If your containers don't have lids, be sure to put lightweight items underneath heavier things so nothing blows out.
- Organize a litter cleanup at school, at a park, or in your neighborhood. Ask an adult to help you plan and run the cleanup. Pick a day and



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invite your friends, classmates, teammates, and relatives. Remind everyone to bring gloves so their hands don't get cut or dirty. If you'll be near a road or parking lot, make sure adults are nearby, and wear bright or light colors or safety vests so drivers will be able to see and avoid you. Provide bags for trash and recyclables. Remember to properly recycle or dispose of everything when you are done. And thank everyone for helping!

If you and your group are interested in doing some litter cleanups, we can help you find the materials you need to keep you safe. Contact Amy Siefertman at asiefertman@recyclehc.org for more information.

LEARN WITH US!

At the Hendricks County Recycling District, there are plenty of ways to learn, so we've got you covered with outdoor, in-person, and online options. Please ask your teacher, scout leader, or club sponsor to contact us to discuss or schedule a visit. We offer fun activities about reducing waste and litter, recycling, composting, and more. Teachers and leaders can learn more at www.recyclehendrickscounty.org/education/school-youth-education.

We also offer great educational videos on our YouTube channel. On YouTube, look for "Hendricks County Recycling District" and then look for our Environmental Education playlist.

For more fun games and learning activities that will give you ideas to improve our planet, visit:

- National Ocean Service for Kids: <https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/kids>
- National Geographic Kids: <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/games>

Don't Get Carried Away! continued from page 1

- and containers.
- Recycle only clean paper products. Remember — paper and boxes soaked with grease or covered in sticky, spilled food should go into the trash.
- Don't bag your recycling. Put clean recyclables loose into the cart or bin.

Why should I recycle?

- Recycling keeps usable resources out of landfills.
- Making new products from recyclables uses less energy and creates less pollution.
- Recycling helps create jobs.

Where should I recycle?

The Hendricks County Recycling District has three Recycling Drop-Off Centers. Place recyclables LOOSE into the drop-off bins. NO plastic bags, please.

- Coatesville Recycling Drop-Off Center: 5040 Mill Street
- Lizton Recycling Drop-Off Center: 177 W. Main Street (through mid-April) / 8976 N. State Road 39 (beginning mid-April)
- North Salem Recycling Drop-Off Center: 5 W. Pearl Street

Curbside recycling service is

provided by subscription through WM (formerly Ray's Recycling) or Republic Services in Avon, Brownsburg, Danville, Plainfield, and Pittsboro. Visit your hauler's website for information on what is accepted curbside.

For more information about where to recycle things like plastic bags and film, Styrofoam, and other items not accepted curbside or at our Drop-Off Centers, check our online Recycle Guide at www.RecycleHendricksCounty.org/online-directory.

WHERE IN THE WORLD?

Instructions: Steel is one of the most recycled materials around the world, yet crude steel, or steel that is not made from recycled materials, is still made every year. Using the clues below, figure out which country produced the most crude steel in 2021 at 1 billion metric tons and then circle it on this map.

1. Though not an island, I touch the Pacific Ocean.
2. In land area, I am one of the largest countries in all of Asia.
3. You might recognize my flag, which is red and has one large and four small gold stars.
4. I am south of Mongolia and east of Afghanistan.

Answer: _____



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GO GREEN WITH YOUR LAWN CARE

Who is the “lawn mower” in your family? Maybe it’s your mom, your sister, or even you! When you mow the lawn, the grass that has been chopped off by the mower has to go somewhere. Some families use the bag attachment to collect these grass clippings, which then go into a trash can. Did you know that letting clippings drop back onto the grass is better for your lawn, reduces your waste, and is easier? Grass clippings can provide your lawn with moisture, as well as the plant food “nitrogen.”








If your family owns a mulching mower, the mower is designed to chop the grass blades into tiny pieces

and then drop them onto the mown grass. If you don’t have a mulching mower, an adult can simply remove the bag attachment from your mower and insert the “chute cover.” This is a safety device that covers the hole where the bag is normally attached. Then all you need to do is mow as usual and let the grass clippings do their job naturally!

We call this “grasscycling,” and it also saves time, leaving more time to be with your friends. Not only will your lawn be healthier, but your family will also spend less time mowing. That’s a great deal!

SIGN SENSE

Instructions: The new signs for the recycling center make no sense! All of the vowels are wrong. Read each line carefully to figure out what the sign should say. Then, in the box below, print the corrected sign message. Be prepared — the vowel mistakes are different on each sign. We’ve done the first one for you.

<p>1</p>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><i>Open Monday-Saturday 8-6</i></p> </div>	<p>2</p>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 40px; margin-top: 10px;"></div>	<p>3</p>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 40px; margin-top: 10px;"></div>
<p>4</p>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 40px; margin-top: 10px;"></div>	<p>5</p>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 40px; margin-top: 10px;"></div>	
<p>6</p>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 40px; margin-top: 10px;"></div>	<p>7</p>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 40px; margin-top: 10px;"></div>	

MAKE A DIFFERENCE THIS EARTH DAY



Credit: FG Trade Latin | E+ | Getty Images

This April, people of all ages in countries around the world will join together to celebrate Earth Day’s 53rd anniversary! Although people may come from different backgrounds and have different beliefs, we all share the same planet. It makes sense to celebrate everything it provides for us and care for it together.

Back in 1970, a United States Senator from Wisconsin named Gaylord Nelson saw that pollution of our air, land, and water was growing and becoming a big problem. He wanted people to understand why we need to take better care of our planet. To help raise awareness, he created the first Earth Day. He made a difference in a big way. Now we celebrate Earth Day all over the world each April 22. Communities do things like plant trees and gardens and have community cleanups to show respect for the planet we all share.

You, too, can care for our planet. Sometimes you might think you are too small or too young to help, but there are plenty of things you can do yourself, with your families, and even in your school and community to make a difference. Remember that small changes made by small people can make a big difference! Here are some ideas:

You can:

- Pick up litter at your school, in a park, along a creek or river, or beside a trail.
- Turn off the lights when you leave a room empty.
- Unplug items that are not in use.
- Make posters for your school or home about where and when to recycle.
- Conserve water by taking shorter showers and turning off the water while you brush your teeth.
- Ride your bike or walk whenever possible.
- Write a play, poem, or song about our planet and perform it on Earth Day.
- Make cards from reused supplies to wish your friends and family members a happy and healthy Earth Day.

You can encourage your family to:

- Start composting.
- Take reusable bags to the store.
- Carpool to school and activities.
- Avoid bottled water and, instead, use washable, refillable bottles. Use a cup or glass when you are at home.
- When shopping, buy recycled-content products, like notebook and printer paper.
- Plant a garden.
- Replace burned-out light bulbs with energy-saving bulbs, such as LEDs.

You can improve your community:

- Ask your teacher about vermicomposting (worm composting) in your classroom.
- With your scout troop or club, tour recycling facilities and find out how recycling works.
- Learn about local trees, plants, and wildlife, and lead nature hikes.
- Help plant and care for school or community gardens.
- Take part in community cleanup days.

Now go out and celebrate Earth Day by making a difference!

INVEST IN OUR PLANET

The Earth Day Network offers many programs and tools to help the one billion people who participate in annual Earth Day activities. These include the Great Global Cleanup to pick up litter and the Canopy Project to plant trees. If you want to get more involved and to learn more about the many ways people around the world plan to celebrate this year, visit www.earthday.org/earth-day-2023.



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IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE ARBOR DAY!

Indiana celebrates Arbor Day on the last Friday in April. On Arbor Day, we plant and care for trees and celebrate everything they do to improve our planet and make it a better place. Trees provide the Earth with oxygen. Their cooling shade keeps you out of the sun's heat. Wild creatures, such as squirrels and birds, make their homes in trees. They also offer us resources, from the paper that you are reading to lumber for our homes, and foods, like walnuts

and apples. Here are just some of the ways you can thank the trees:

- Get a group together to clean up a park or other wooded area in your neighborhood.
- Learn to identify the trees in your neighborhood. If you need a tree identification guide, look in your school's media center, check the local library, or visit the Arbor Day website, www.arborday.org.
- Make your own paper from scrap paper. For instructions, search online for "how to make paper."
- Plant tree seedlings and learn to care for them.

Although we are not hosting special Arbor Day activities, you may be able to find tree giveaways or plantings at local parks, town events, or gardening activities.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Tox-Away Day

Saturday, April 8

8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Brownsburg East Middle School

Gardening for All Ages

Hosted by Purdue Extension Master Gardeners

Saturday, April 29

4-H Fairgrounds Expo Hall



WHAT'S WRONG?

Sasha's class has been studying how natural resources are used to create the products that we use every day. She studied for this quiz, but she forgot to check her work. Now five of the natural resources don't match up with the right products!

Instructions: Look at each line. If the natural resource is not listed with the correct products, cross it out and write the correct term. (Hint: You will use each term only once.)

Manufactured Products

1. plastics, fuel
2. clothing, such as T-shirts or jeans
3. steel cans, cars, bridges
4. aluminum cans, airplanes
5. wires, pipes
6. jewelry, electronics
7. stainless steel
8. jewelry, cutting tools
9. paper, boxes, furniture
10. glass bottles and jars

Natural Resource

- iron ore _____
- cotton plant _____
- trees _____
- bauxite ore _____
- petroleum _____
- gold _____
- chromium _____
- diamonds _____
- sand (silica) _____
- copper _____

Bonus:

1. Name the five countries which mine the most bauxite ore.

2. Name five products made from plastics.



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Funded by the Hendricks County Recycling District

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