

Trash Talk!

A Quarterly Newsletter of



Hendricks County
Solid Waste Management District

NEW-2-U

Winter 2015

Who doesn't want MORE for the holiday? But more of what?

Have you ever found yourself in the midst of wrapping paper, boxes, bows, and lots and lots of leftovers feeling a little less than satisfied? You can have more of the things that really matter to you and be good to the Earth at the same time by SIMPLIFYING this holiday season.

Here's a challenge: Sit down with your family and have each person write down five of their favorite holiday memories. Maybe your favorite memories involve holiday baking, decorating the house, sledding, taking a hike, or sitting down to a movie with popcorn and hot cocoa. Or maybe your favorite memory is a cool gift that you gave to someone special. Chances are, your favorite memories don't have a lot to do with getting more "stuff." Think about it, how many times do your holiday stories start, "Remember that time I got..."? No, we bet they start, "Remember that time we did..."

So how can you make more wonderful memories and not fill your life and the landfill with more "stuff"? Here are some easy ideas to help get you started:

- Donate your time by volunteering at a local senior center, reading to younger children at the library, or cleaning up trails and playgrounds at a local park.
- Do some Random Acts of Kindness in honor of a loved one throughout the year. Then write a letter about what you did and present it at your holiday celebration.
- Make a "time together" kit. Pick your favorite activities and turn them into a kit. For example, if you love movies, get a big popcorn bowl and fill it with favorite movie snacks, pop, and a used DVD, a coupon to watch a movie together at home, or tickets to a movie.
- Give your talents! Maybe you are really good at woodworking, writing, singing, cooking, or fixing things. Do you know someone who would like to learn any of these? Set aside some time to teach them your skills.
- An old German tradition included going from house to house of friends and enjoying holiday treats and decorations. Try it!
- Create your very own holiday game, like the "Smith Family" Trivia game. Include lots of fun trivia about each member of your family. Each category could have questions about that certain



- family member. Half of the fun would be creating the questions!
- Reuse items to wrap gifts. For example, the Sunday Comics, magazine pages, wallpaper scraps, chip bags cleaned and turned inside out, clothing scraps, and fabric could become wrapping "paper," and neckties and scarves could be used to make bows. You

could also use cloth gift bags that can be reused over and over. Learn how to turn fabric into reusable wrap and bows with the age-old Japanese art of "furoshiki," which is a little like origami with fabric. Find directions at <http://furoshiki.com/>



- techniques. For even more ideas, look for the District's "Holiday Green-ery" gift wrapping displays at your local library.
- Decorate a tree in your yard for the birds. Hang seed bells, suet blocks, and pine cones covered in peanut butter and bird seed. Be sure to use a variety of wild bird seed, black oil sunflower seeds, and thistle.
- Take a crisp winter hike.
- Carry reusable shopping bags when you head to stores. You can even turn old T-shirts into awesome reusable bags. Check YouTube for how-to videos.
- Set out marked recycling containers next to trash cans at your parties.
- Recycle your Christmas tree at one of our District Yard Waste Recycling Centers. Real Christmas trees will be accepted between December 18 and January 18. Centers are located at 90 Mardale Drive in Brownsburg and 7020 S. CR 875 E in Plainfield. Be sure to remove all decorations, lights, tinsel, and garland, as well as the stand. Greencycle McCarty in Danville will also accept cut, real Christmas trees.
- Stop unwanted mailings after the holidays. Learn how at these websites: www.dmachoice.org, www.41pounds.org, and www.optoutprescreen.com.



Do you want to learn more about celebrating greener and more satisfying holidays? We have a brochure, "Get MORE out of the Holidays: Simplify"; call 858-6070 to ask for a copy. We can also visit classrooms with the "Get MORE out of the Holidays" and "Trash to Treasure Crafts" presentations, which are perfect for this time of year. Ask your teacher to contact Amy Sieferman at asieferman@HendricksSolidWaste.com to learn more.

Puzzling Clues

Emily and her sisters used construction paper to make cards for their parents. Each girl used a different number of sheets of paper. Use the clues below to figure out how many sheets of construction paper each sister used.

- A. Emily used three sheets more than Zara.
- B. Zara used one sheet less than Annie.
- C. Shelby used twice as many sheets as Annie.
- D. Annie used three sheets.

Questions:

1. Which clue did you use first?

2. Which clue did you use last?

3. Who used the least amount of paper?

4. Who used the most paper?

5. How much paper did each sister use?



Everything in its Place

Instructions: Read the numbers below and put the numerals into the correct boxes to find the answers to these questions:

1. How many cell phones are discarded each day of the year in the United States?

eight ones	four hundred thousands
four hundreds	one ten thousand
six thousands	three tens

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2. Of those, how many cell phones are recycled each day?

seven thousands	seven tens
two ones	six hundreds
four ten thousands	

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Bonus:

What percentage of discarded cell phones are recycled each day?

From TRASH to TREASURE BOX

You know what is even better than recycling? Reuse! Here is a fun way to reuse old pop bottles and turn them into a treasure box. For this craft, you will need two 2-liter bottles, duct tape, glue, scissors, a bead, string or yarn, and paint, stickers, markers, or other items to decorate the box.

1. Clean both 2-liter bottles thoroughly with dish soap and water. Dry the outside and turn them upside-down to allow the inside to dry out. Let them sit for a day or two.
2. Have an adult cut about 3 inches above the bottom of a bottle in a full circle to separate the top and the bottom. Do the same on the other bottle. Recycle the tops of the bottles and keep the bottoms. Trim to make sure there are no sharp edges.
3. Put the bottom parts of each bottle together so that the cut edges are touching each other.
4. Cut a piece of duct tape about 1 inch square. Place it on the outside of the bottles where the openings touch.
5. Cut another piece of duct tape about 1 inch square. Lift the top bottle, using the tape you placed on the outside as a hinge. Place the second piece of duct tape inside the bottles over the same area as the first piece.
6. Close the bottles together again.
7. On the side opposite from the tape, glue a bead to the bottom bottle about half an inch below the opening.
8. Cut a piece of yarn or string long enough to loop from half an inch above the opening down and around the bead. Glue the two ends of the string or yarn half an inch above the opening. This will serve as a latch to seal the box.
9. Leave the glue to dry for about a day.
10. Decorate the inside and outside of the box however you like! Use paint, stickers, markers, colorful duct tape, or other items to make it unique.
11. Put treasures in your box or give it as a gift!



TIME after TIME

A time capsule is a container that holds articles from a certain place and time. Time capsules are usually buried or built into a sealed place and meant to be opened much later. They show people in the future what life was like at the time they were hidden.

A time capsule was found in Martha's backyard. It was buried the same year that Matthias Koops, who lived in England, built the first mill that used waste paper, straw, and wood pulp to make paper, rather than using old rags and cloth. Add the number of articles found to discover what year Koops built his factory and the capsule was buried.

254 candle holders	45 old shirts
842 pennies	660 pamphlets

What was the year?

Why was Koops' new paper mill important?

Runaway Run-Ons

Read each run-on sentence. Fix it in two ways: write two simple sentences, and write one compound sentence using either a comma and coordinating conjunction or a semi-colon.

1. Layla got a second copy of the book she gave it to Lucy.

2. Gavin offered to trade his skate ramp for a soccer goal, Drew turned him down.

3. Mend the tear in your jacket, cover it with a patch.

4. You can borrow that book from the library take your library card.

5. Refill your water bottle, get in the van.

6. Kaylee found the game at the secondhand store she didn't buy it.

7. Dominic donated his old bike, Evan gave away his baseball glove.

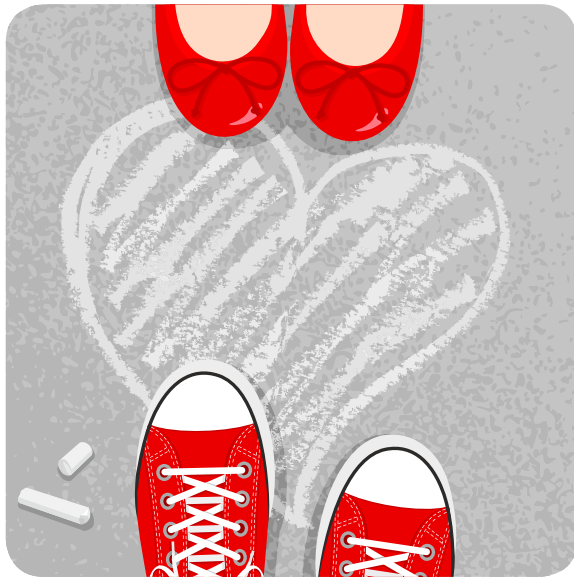
8. Recycling is good reusing is better.

9. Makayla loaned her guitar to Cameron he played it at Scouts on Monday.

10. I want to repair my cell phone, I don't know how.

Heart and Sole

When old shoes are thrown away, they can spend more than 200 years in a landfill before decomposing. Meanwhile, in poor and developing countries around the world, people need shoes. Rather than putting old shoes in landfills, we want to get them onto people's feet. That's why we're holding another Recycle: Heart and Sole shoe collection in early 2016. So start gathering your unwanted or worn-out shoes now!



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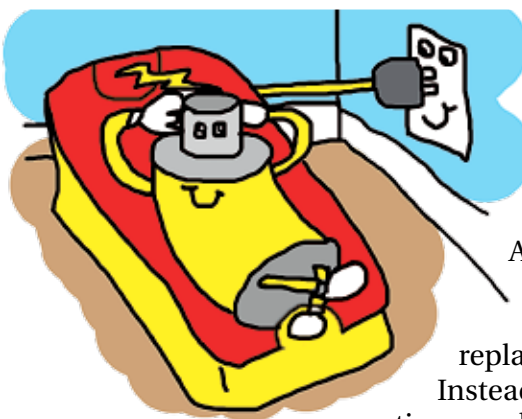
From Monday, February 8, through Friday, February 12, participating Hendricks County schools and the Hendricks County Solid Waste Management District office will be accepting used pairs of shoes. You and your family will be able to donate sports, casual, dressy, and work shoes made from leather, canvas, and other materials. We will accept children's, men's, and women's shoes in all sizes. We will NOT accept: shoes with heels more than two inches high, ice skates, roller and in-line skates, bedroom slippers, and snow boots.

All shoes collected will be shipped to a textile recycling company where they will be sorted and sent to needy children and adults in developing countries in Africa, South America, and the Middle East.

If your school wants to take part, ask a teacher or principal to contact Amy Sieferman at asieferman@HendricksSolidWaste.com.

Power-packed

What can be as small as a button or as big as a brick and can turn chemicals into electrical energy? Batteries, of course! During gift-giving season, many will receive items that require batteries for power. That new television remote control will need two. Little sister's talking doll has four hidden in her back. When the "low charge" signal pops up on Mom's e-reader, she plugs in to recharge



a battery we don't even see. Some batteries are called "single-use," while others are "rechargeable."

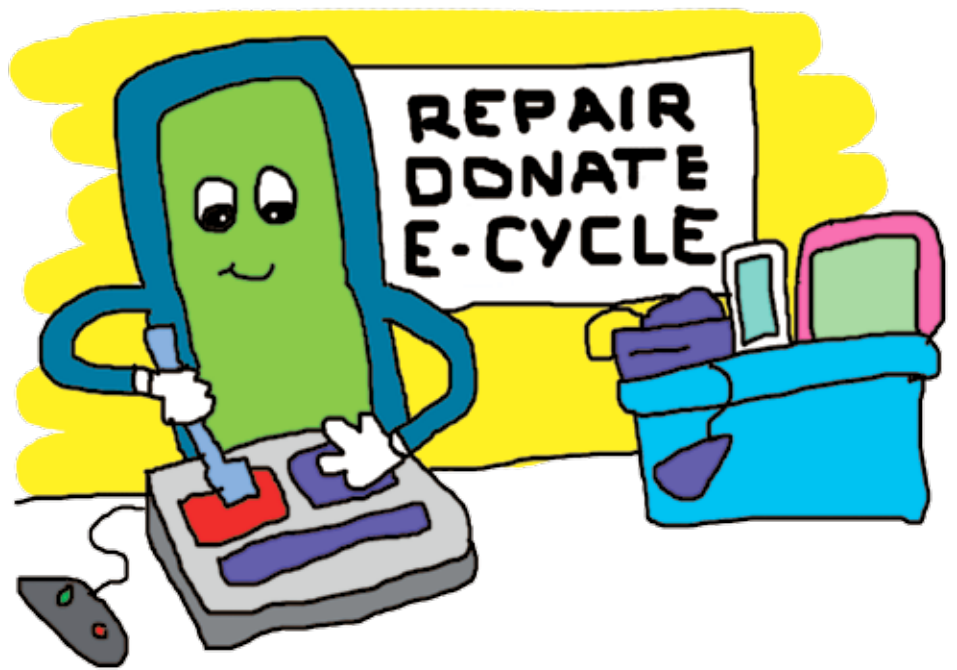
Packaged single-use batteries sold in most stores come in sizes like AA, AAA, C, and D. We put them into our toys and flashlights. When they die, we have to replace them with new batteries.

Instead of buying batteries every time an old set dies, you could buy rechargeable batteries and a charging unit

instead. When these batteries run down, you simply charge them back up in the recharger. They can be used over and over again.

All types of batteries eventually wear out and have to be

replaced. Did you know that according to Earth911.com, Americans throw out almost 180,000 tons of batteries each year? Some batteries are considered hazardous waste because they contain chemicals that can leak into our soil and water supplies, poisoning plants and animals. The chemicals in all batteries can be used to make new batteries. So, don't throw worn-out batteries into the trash. Instead, recycle them. Find recycling locations in the District's online "Guide to Being Green" at www.HendricksSolidWaste.com.



Don't dump e-waste

You may be surprised to learn that the average American home has 24 electronic devices. If you stop and think carefully, you may find that you own at least one of them, and maybe more. What is your favorite? Do you love to listen to your iPod? Do you text your friends and family from a cell phone? Do you and your friends play Xbox? Maybe you like to read on an e-reader.

When these electronic gadgets break or are replaced, be sure to remember that they should never go into the trash. This type of trash is called e-waste. There are dangerous chemicals and metals inside e-waste that can harm our environment. What can you do when it is time to get rid of e-waste?

First, think about whether or not you or someone else could fix a broken device. If you like to try new things, visit www.iFixit.com. This website provides instructions about how to fix things like iPods and Xboxes.

If you can't fix it, be sure to recycle. E-waste can be "e-cycled." Find e-cycling locations in the District's online "Guide to Being Green" at www.HendricksSolidWaste.com.

If you are up for a service project, ask your teacher or principal if you can organize a cell phone drive at your school. Kids can encourage their parents, grandparents, and even neighbors to donate old, unused cell phones to the school. Search online for "cell phone recycling fundraiser" or "cell phone recycling charity" for ways that donations can raise money for school projects or help people in need.

Look around your house and notice how many electronics are in use and how many are sitting in a drawer or closet somewhere. Is it time to recycle that e-waste?

Funded by the Hendricks County Solid Waste Management District

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