

Ottumwa Recycles! Recycling Center Expands Outreach Programs

The Ottumwa/Wapello Recycling Center has continued its Community Outreach Program by offering new ways to help us recycle everything from paint to tires.

PUT A LID ON IT

Ottumwans have paint on their minds. About 70% of the calls to the recycling center are questions about what to do with old paint. It's important that it not be sent to the landfill in liquid form, it could contaminate the ground water. So the recycling center has helped in two ways.

The first was a very successful Paint Bulking Day September 18. More than 560 gallons of leftover latex paint were turned in.

The unusable paint was "bulked", dried out and sent to the landfill.

The usable paint, that's latex paint in quantities of 1/2 gallon or more, that hasn't been frozen or separated, was added to the recycling center's Paint Exchange Program. The center gives the paint away to folks who can use it.

The second way the recycling center is helping is with a new Paint Education Program. You'll now find information at paint retailers with tips on safe disposal of the leftovers.

In addition, the center is giving away reusable paint can lids that seal the can more tightly and make it easier to pour the paint. Watch GOTV to see an updated list of the types and quantities of paint available. ~



Latex Paint Disposal Tips

Small quantities: just remove the lid and let it air dry. Store away from children and pets.

Large quantities: mix it with kitty litter to harden, or pour it on a piece of old carpet to dry, or pour it on a trash bag lined cardboard box, letting it dry between layers.

SURVEY SAYS...

A new survey shows that more than 60% of Ottumwans are recycling. Center workers surveyed over five thousand homes in 12 neighborhoods last summer. The survey found that 60% of those studied are putting recyclables out for collection. The neighborhood that recycled the most? 84% of the residents in the Kenwood, Meadowdale and Northview area faithfully put their recycling bins out each week.

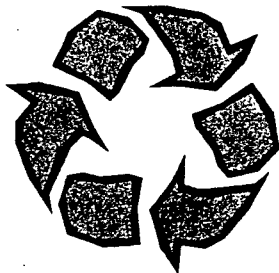
AND THE WINNERS ARE...

Surveyors not only looked at how many people were recycling, but how well they were recycling. As a result, 24 citizens received "Excellence in Recycling Awards" for consistently recycling

and properly filling their bins. The recycling center gave each champion recycler a brand spanking new bin filled with products made from recycled materials.

The winners are: John Duncan, Kameron Reeves, Greg Panosh, Robert Paulos, Ronald Guthrie, Clara Weimer, Robert Fort, Ralph Kister, Richard Walden, Doug Brandon, John Watts, Ruth King, Larry Coble, Steve Banyas, Max Hill, Galen Cook, Judith Clements, Patrick Kelleher, Richard Vandello, James Handling, Sylvia Heston, Jim Randall, Clifford Foster, and Ralph Ansley.

Congratulations and thanks for REUSING, REDUCING AND RECYCLING! ~



Ottumwa/Wapello
Recycling Center
683-0685

Open 7am to 4pm
Monday to Friday
7am to Noon Saturday

RISING TO MEET THE CHALLENGE

Some apartment dwellers are also earning praise from the recycling center. Residents of the Ottumwa Housing Authority's three high-rise apartment buildings began recycling one year ago.

They've taken to it so well that they are recycling upwards of TWO TONS of trash each month. That's TWO TONS of trash that doesn't go to the landfill, saving the Housing Authority money and saving the land. Congratulations to residents at Camelot, Southoak and Westgate Towers.

The success at the senior citizen high rises helped the Housing Authority receive a grant from the Department of Natural Resources to expand the

recycling program to two of its family sites; Jay & Fellows and Elmcourt.

The special challenge of recycling in apartment buildings and other "multi-family" housing is featured in a special video produced by GOTV. GOTV has also produced a video called "Home is Where the Hazards Are" that deals with disposing of household hazardous waste. Those are two of five videos on recycling sponsored by a grant from the DNR. You can watch these and other locally produced videos on GOTV during Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon programming. ~



TIRE AMNESTY 2000

The Ottumwa/Wapello Recycling Center will once again take in old tires during Tire Amnesty Day April 15, 2000.

Watch GOTV for more details closer to the date!

Y2K: City Is Ready

(Continued from page 2)

The Water Pollution Control Facility was made completely Y2K compliant during its recent remodeling and new construction. If there is a power failure, back-up generators will keep the plant and its sanitary treatment pumping stations up and running.

WATER WORKS READINESS

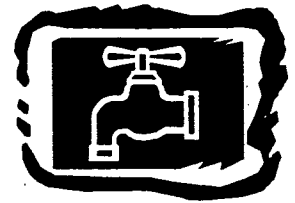
The Ottumwa Water Works has taken several steps to make sure the water keeps

flowing January 1. All the internal equipment has been adjusted to make sure it's Y2K compliant. The Water Works is highly dependent on two outside resources: its electric utility and suppliers of water treatment chemicals.

"We are confident that Alliant Energy will be able to meet our electrical needs on January 1, 2000 and beyond. We've also contacted key water treatment chemical suppliers and are confident they, too, can meet our needs." said

Doug Drummey, General Manager of the Ottumwa Water Works.

If there is a disruption, the Water Works will use its back-up generators and diesel driven pumps to keep the water treatment plant and pump stations up and running. The Water Works will also have 14-million gallons of treated water and a two month supply of treatment chemicals on hand if needed. ~



The Ottumwa Water Works will have 14-million gallons of water in reserve on January 1, 2000.

Y2K: Beware of Scams

Y2K is a con-artist's dream come true. Here are some tips to avoid being taken to the cleaners at the turn of the century.*

- ~ Do not withdraw large amounts of cash from your bank. It makes you a target for burglars.
- ~ Don't be persuaded to move money to a new account. Deposits are backed by federal deposit insurance, regardless of the Y2K problem.
- ~ If someone calls and asks for your credit card number, don't give it to them. It's a scam!
- ~ If someone representing themselves as a banking or government official asks you to withdraw money, don't do it. It's a scam!
- ~ If someone contacts you and you're not sure if their offer is legitimate, ask for their name and number, saying you want to think about it. Ask if they belong to any business associations. If you suspect it's a scam, call the **Ottumwa Police Department at 683-0661.**~

*Sources: Ottumwa Police Department, Iowa Attorney General Consumer Protection Division. (515)281-5926. <http://www.state.ia.us/government/ag>

Y2K Awareness

The City of Ottumwa is committed to keeping you informed about Y2K issues. In September, we hosted "Y2K, A Community Conversation," a town meeting broadcast live over GOTV, cable channel 16. The event was sponsored in part by the President's Council on Y2K with support from the Iowa

Banker's Association and South Ottumwa Savings Bank.

Representatives from 18 essential services explained what their organizations are doing to be ready for Y2K. Electric, gas, telephone, emergency services, health care, small businesses, insurance and banking representatives said

their organizations have invested a great deal of time and resources to make sure their services continue as normal on January 1. If you didn't get to see the program, we are re-airing it on GOTV every Monday night at 6:45 p.m. beginning November 1 through December 27. ~

Don't buy a "Y2K Protection Kit" advertised in Iowa newspapers. They cost about \$40.00. The advice they offer is worthless and could even be harmful.

Iowa Attorney General's Consumer Protection Office

GOTV!
Government Ottumwa TeleVision

EXPANDED SCHEDULE

COUNCIL CANDIDATE FORUM
Tuesday, October 26 7:00 p.m.
to be replayed the following
Wed, Fri and Mon at 1:30 p.m.

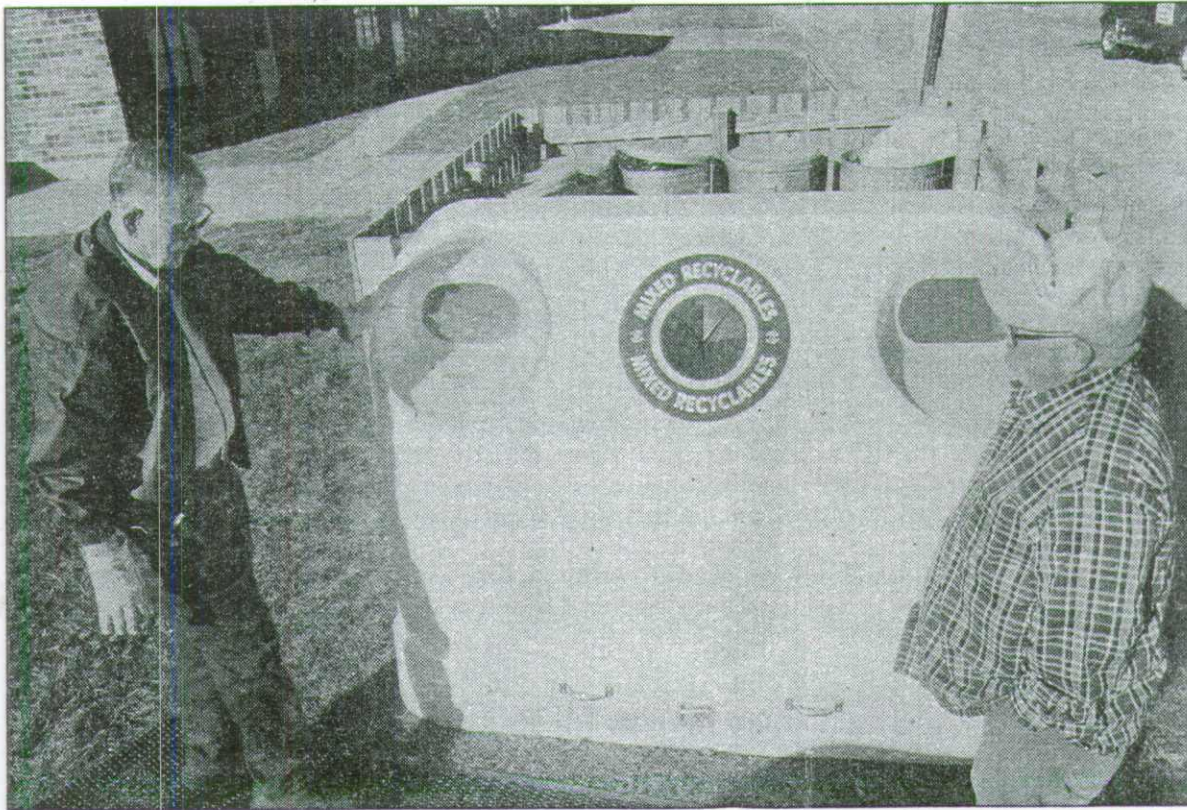
ELECTION RESULTS
Continuous results
Tuesday, November 2,
beginning about 8:15 p.m.

**Y2K, A COMMUNITY
CONVERSATION**
Mondays at 6:45 p.m.
beginning November 1 thru
December 27

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS
First & Third Tuesdays at 7 pm
With rebroadcasts the following
Wed, Fri and Mon at 1:30 p.m.

Authority on recycling

11-17-99



Nirmalendu Majumdar/The Courier

The Ottumwa Housing Authority has teamed with the Wapello/Davis Recycling Center in Ottumwa to place recycling bins at the OHA's apartments on Elm Court. Pete Rich, director of operations for the Ottumwa Housing Authority, said the Ottumwa Housing Authority has been involved in the recycling program for about a year. The group has invested about \$30,000 of its own money, according to Jane Mild, Ottumwa's recycling coordinator. Other funding comes from several Iowa Department of Resources grants.

LOCAL RECYCLING VIDEOS TO AIR ON GOTV!

Videos featuring Ottumwa students and businesses talking about recycling will air on GOTV, Government Ottumwa TeleVision, Cable Channel 6, on Wednesday February 9, Friday February 11 and Monday February 14 at 1:30 p.m. They will be followed by a brief video tribute to City volunteers

The five recycling videos were produced by GOTV and the Ottumwa/Wapello Recycling Center with funding from the Department of Natural Resources. The videos are a series called "Ottumwa Recycles!" Each video covers a different aspect of recycling.

"Recycling & Reducing Waste At Home" features Ottumwa children explaining how to recycle and reduce waste at home. Many students from Horace Mann Elementary are featured in the video.

"The 'Dirt' on Trash: Saving our Landfill" explains what citizens can do to cut down on the amount of waste that goes to the landfill. Indian Hills Community College Horticulturalist, Mike Horan, explains how people can reuse grass clippings and leaves, which are the second largest volume of trash people generate.

"Recycling: It's Everybody's Business" explains the recycling center's Small Business Recycling Program. It features KBIZ radio, Chapters Books & Coffee and the Ottumwa School District as examples of successful business recycling efforts.

"Home is Where the Hazards Are" offers ideas on dealing with hazardous waste

