

Over & Over Again...

A newsletter about **RECYCLING & WASTE REDUCTION** for residents of Davis & Wapello Counties

Volume 1, Issue 1

The Ottumwa/Wapello Recycling Center Receives Tire Grant

SWAP CONTRACT #:
00-G550-13

The Ottumwa/Wapello Recycling Center is *keeping things rolling*! A new tire grant was recently approved by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. The grant, which will fund a variety of tire related programs, is the second grant of this type received recently. This grant will serve citizens from Wapello, Davis and Van Buren Counties according to Jane Mild, Recycling Coordinator. The state of Iowa estimates that 3 million tires end up as waste tires each year with about one third of those dumped or disposed of illegally.

Tires that have been abandoned and small tire piles will be the target of the clean-up efforts. "Tires that are just thrown into ditches not only are an eyesore but also cause a variety of other problems," states Mild. Tires that have been dumped



provide the perfect breeding area for mosquitoes and other disease carrying insects. Animals such as skunks, raccoons, rodents and snakes also use tires as a habitat. This can potentially cause problems. Tires are also a fire hazard. Fires that are fueled by tires create numerous environmental hazards. Run-off of the water used to fight the fire can pollute streams, rivers and groundwater. The smoke from this type of fire will cause air pollution and can cause many problems for people with asthma or other breathing problems.

"The solution to these problems is to properly dispose of tires as you replace them," offers Mild. Leave your tires at the tire dealer, even if there is a cost. In the long run it costs less to take care of the tires up front. The state of Iowa spends about 3 million dollars each year taking care of illegally dumped tires. This money comes from road use taxes.

Look for ways to increase the life of your tires on page 3 of the newsletter. Not only will this help with the waste tire problem in Iowa, but it will save you money too!

Inside this issue:

Welcome!	2
Paint Tips	2
Making a difference?	2
Why recycle your bottle?	3
Kid's Corner	3
Area Highlights	4

TIRED OF DEALING WITH YOUR OLD TIRES?

The Ottumwa/Wapello Recycling Center and Van Buren County will be hosting a Tire Amnesty Day! Citizens of Davis, Van Buren and Wapello Counties will be able to dispose of up to 10 tires at no cost. Tires **MUST NOT** be from hobbies, like racing or off any vehicles used for business. Other restrictions will apply. Look for more information in your local paper.

Each participating county will have several collection sites. For more information in Wapello County, call 683-0685; in Davis County, call 664-3803 and for information about Van Buren County, call (319) 293-3431. **THIS PROGRAM IS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.** If you have more than 10 tires to dispose of contact your county, at the number above.

TIRE AMNESTY DAY
APRIL 15, 2000
8 AM - Noon
Up to 10 non-business
tires **ONLY**
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

This program is made possible with a grant from the IDNR.

Special points of interest:

Contact the Recycling Center	2
Recycling Reminders	2
Prolong your tire's life	3
Questions & Answers	4
Current publications	4



Need to contact the
Ottumwa/Wapello
Recycling Center?

Phone: 683-0685
Fax: 683-0691
Email: mildj@ci.ottumwa.ia.us

Welcome to Over & Over Again!

The Ottumwa/Wapello Recycling Center, with help from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, is bringing you *Over & Over Again*, a newsletter to keep you in the know about recycling and waste reduction issues for area residents. We'll be sending it to you once each quarter. The newsletter will offer you updated information about recycling in Davis and Wapello counties; news about special programs and helpful hints about other related issues. "There was no easy way to deliver up-to-date information to everyone in our planning area," says Jane Mild, Recycling Coordinator, "that's why we wanted to publish this newsletter." The newsletter will highlight a different communities' recycling program each issue, a special column for children called "Kids Corner", helpful "Recycling Reminders," and answer your questions about recycling. If you have a question about recycling or your recycling program, send it, fax it or email it to us! We'd be happy to respond

RECYCLING REMINDERS!

The Recycling Center **ONLY** accepts plastic containers with a #1 or #2 on the bottom. This **DOES NOT** include items like plastic bags, plastic pots, styrofoam, plastic toys, cups, plastic hangers or laundry baskets. These items belong in your regular garbage!

Office paper is recyclable at the curb! This includes paper like envelopes, (with or without windows), notebook paper, school papers, bill stubs, junk mail, greeting cards & postcards. Shredded paper is OK!

Please remove all lids from containers and rinse them out before putting them in your recycling bin for collection.

Don't Paint Yourself into a corner!

Unwanted latex paint appears to be a big problem in Wapello and Davis Counties. The Recycling Center gets about 5-6 calls each day from people who want to know how to safely get rid of latex paint. Liquids, like paint, cannot be landfilled. So they must be dried out, first. There are several ways to dry paint out, some are quicker than others.

You can add cat litter or other absorbent product to the paint, and stir until it becomes solid. Another solution is to line a box with a trash bag and pour the paint into the box a little at a time, letting the paint dry between layers. For small quantities, you can simply remove the lid and let the paint dry. Make sure that the can is out of reach for children and pets! The Ottumwa/Wapello Recycling Center has more helpful hints for proper paint disposal. If you would like more information contact us!



Making a Difference for the Future!

Reduce, Reduce!, REDUCE!! That's the goal of the Ottumwa School District. In September, 1999, Ottumwa's school expanded their recycling program and included the OHS cafeteria. Items that were targeted for recycling included newspaper, office paper, corrugated cardboard and steel cans. The program has been very successful; each month the tonnage has grown. But Ottumwa's schools didn't stop there. They have recently begun making plans to separate organic waste from their other trash. According to staff, organics, including food waste accounts for a large percentage of the waste being landfilled each month. The waste will go to Chamness Technologies, in Eddyville and be composted! A pilot program is planned for this spring, and the whole district is slated to start next school year. Hats off to the schools for making the grade!



What Difference does YOUR bottle make?

Polyethylene terephthalate (PET) was first recycled more than 20 years ago. Recycling plastics has come a long way since then. Here are some fun facts about PET recycling....


Eight 2 liter bottles equal about 1 pound of PET

Five bottles have enough fiber for one XL T-shirt

Five bottles makes 1 square foot of carpeting

25 bottles are needed to make a sweater

35 bottles are enough to produce fiberfill for a sleeping bag

This information was provided by the National Association for PET Container Resources 

How do you Prolong the Life of your Tires?

Buy Smart—Choose tires that fit your needs and your car correctly.

Inflate Properly—Underinflation of your tires can result in lost tire life. Overinflation can result in blowouts or uneven wear.

Balance—Keep tires balanced to avoid pulling them out of shape at high speeds.

Rotate—Rotating tires helps to distribute wear evenly. Rear tires wear 30% - 100% faster on rear-wheel drive cars.


Align—Improperly aligned tires can in crease tire wear dramatically.

Avoid Sudden Starts & Stops—Abrupt stops and starts cause rubber to wear off on the road surface. Stop-and-go traffic can wear tire tread seven times faster than steady driving!

Avoid Excess Speeds—Driving at a high rate of speed causes heat to build up in the tire, rapidly deteriorating the rubber.

KIDS CORNER!

EATING YOUR WAY THROUGH THE LANDFILL....

Eat your way through the landfill!?!? OH GROSS!! It doesn't have to be! You've probably heard that the Ottumwa/Wapello County Landfill is putting in a new cell. What's a cell? Well, a cell is a an area where trash is buried. The federal government and the state of Iowa have developed some guidelines to help insure that landfills are as save to the environment as possible. What does that mean? It means that all landfills have to have a liner system. A liner is a system of pipes to collect the garbage juice, (or leachate for you technical folks!), and some protective layers to stop the garbage juice from going into the ground water. It takes a lot of layers AND a lot of money. So, here's where the eating part comes in. To help you understand how landfills are constructed I've found this secret recipe. Each of the ingredients represents one of the layers that goes into creating a new cell at the landfill! 

Materials:

8 oz. plastic cup (the cell)
Oreo cookies
Peanuts
Fruit Roll-ups
Graham crackers
Shoelace licorice
Chocolate pudding
Whipped topping
Trash (M&M's, Skittles, etc...)

Construction Procedure:

1. Crush Oreo cookies without the cream for the bottom layer of soil.
2. Place Oreo cookies with cream side up to represent the clay layer.
3. Cut Fruit Roll-up to fit top of cup and slide it down into place on the Oreos
4. Crush graham crackers to represent sand
5. Place peanuts as the layer of pebbles
6. Place licorice in as the pipes to collect the "garbage juice"
7. Repeat steps in this order: 4,3,4,5,6,5,1
8. Finally, place "trash" in the cell
9. Cover with "soil" & top with whipped topping (the cap to your cell)

MAKE, EAT
& ENJOY!

Ottumwa/Wapello
Recycling Center
Hours:
M-F 7AM - 4PM
Saturday 7AM-Noon
Closed Sundays

Solid Waste Commission

Dale Uehling, Chairperson
Ted Buttel
Curtis Chrystal
Frank Fisher
Frank Flanders
Rhea Huddleston
Jerry Parker
Darlene Peta
Steve Siegel

Ottumwa/Wapello Recycling Center

2415 Emma Street
Ottumwa, Iowa 52501

Phone: 515-683-0685

Fax: 515-683-0691

Email: mildj@ci.ottumwa.ia.us

Jane Mild, Recycling Coordinator
Jody Gates, Solid Waste
Coordinator

This newsletter is funded, in part, by a
grant from the Iowa Department of
Natural Resources

List of Current Publications available from the Recycling Center

- City of Ottumwa Trash & Recycling Handbook
- Household Hazardous Alternatives Handbook
- Proper Paint Disposal
- Ni-Cd Battery Collection Program
- Getting the Point of Sharps Disposal
- Got Tires? Get Help...
- Don't Paint Yourself into a Corner
- Drop-off Materials Accepted

**Also available: Recycling and trash disposal information in Spanish*

To order any of these,
call 683-0685

Questions & Answers

Each newsletter, in this area, I'll answer your questions about recycling and waste reduction in Wapello and Davis Counties. I know that many have you have questions about what can be recycled, how come some items can't be recycled or questions about what the materials collected in this area are actually recycled into. Please contact me with your questions, by mail, phone, fax or email. Then look for the answers in the next newsletter! I'll answer as many questions as I can in each newsletter.

HIGHLIGHT ON BLOOMFIELD

The City of Bloomfield trash is collected by Waste Management. The north side of Bloomfield is collected on Tuesday and the South side on Thursday. Citizens of Bloomfield also have curbside recycling collection on those same days.

There is no limit on the amount of trash or recyclables that are collected from residential customers. Yard waste, bulky items and tires must be transported to the Deposit Station, located at the end of Karr Street. These items are NOT collected at the curb.

Recyclables accepted at the Deposit Station & at the curb include: steel & aluminum cans, container glass, #1 & #2 plastics, newspaper, catalogues & magazines, corrugated cardboard & box board and office paper. **PLEASE REMEMBER TO BAG THE PAPER PRODUCTS SO THAT THEY WILL NOT GET WET DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER!** If you have a large amount of corrugated cardboard - please transport it to the Deposit Station yourself. To contact your collection service provider, call 515-472-2952.



**Davis County
Deposit Station
hours:**
M-W-F 6:30-4:00
Sat. 8:00-Noon
Phone: 664-3803

Watch Ottumwa's Government Access Channel, Cable **CHANNEL 6**, for new information about our recycling and trash collection programs!

GOTV!
Government Ottumwa TeleVision

