

# THE THREE R'S: REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

Resources for Educators



Spring, 2016

## Keeping It Clean and Green



The 2016 Great American Cleanup begins taking registrations on Feb. 22. School groups, 4-H clubs, Boy Scout troops, and other volunteers are needed to help with this effort to improve our community. The Great American Cleanup is the nation's largest annual litter pickup, beautification, and community improvement program.

During the 2015 Great American Cleanup, volunteers picked up enough litter from public places in Clark County to fill 826 trash bags. We hope this year's Cleanup will remove even more litter from our roadways, parks, and other spots and make Clark County truly clean and green.

In 2015, the Great American Cleanup enlisted 1,790 volunteers in Clark County. Those people – both children and adults – gave more than 2,500 hours of their time.

School groups play a major role in the Great American Cleanup. Participating in the Cleanup can be an extension of classroom lessons about community service, nature, and the environment.

Keep Clark County Beautiful, the local affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, sponsors the Great American Cleanup in Clark County.



**Hundreds of Hooves 4-H Club joined the Great American Cleanup by picking up litter near George Rogers Clark Park in April 2015.**

### How to Get Involved

- Organize a group of volunteers, then pick a public place and a date (from March 1 through May 31) to clean it up.
- KCCB will provide each group with trash bags and gloves, a token prize for each volunteer, and help with pickup of collected litter, if needed.
- Register by filling out the form on page 2. You can also go to [www.32TRASH.org](http://www.32TRASH.org) or call 521-2023.

**The Clark County Solid Waste District** is dedicated to providing resources and learning opportunities to promote waste reduction practices.

**For information** about the programs in this newsletter, contact Steve Schlather at 521-2022, or by mail at 1602 W. Main St., Springfield, OH 45504 or e-mail at [sschlather@clarkcountyohio.gov](mailto:sschlather@clarkcountyohio.gov).

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Register any time from February 22nd through May 27th, 2016.

Complete this form and return it to :

Keep Clark County Beautiful, 1602 W. Main St., Springfield, Ohio 45504

You can also fax to (937) 327-6648, or scan & email to lmittchell@clarkcountyohio.gov

Contact Name

Group name (if any)

Address

City / Zip

Phone

Email

Number of adult volunteers: \_\_\_\_\_ number of children: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of your cleanup: \_\_\_\_\_  
(must be during March 1-May31)

Location of your cleanup (public places only): \_\_\_\_\_

Date you will pick up supplies:  
(must be during Feb. 22-May 27) \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle the location where your group will pick up supplies:

Pickups are Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

1. Clark Co. Solid Waste District  
1602 W. Main St.  
Springfield  
(937) 521-2023

2. City of New Carlisle  
331 S. Church St.  
New Carlisle  
(937) 845-9492

3. Village of Enon  
363 E. Main St.  
Enon  
(937) 864-7870

Questions? Call (937) 521-2023

# Decorate grocery bags for Earth Day

## Meijer stores will distribute the paper sacks to shoppers the week of April 17-23

A paper grocery bag can become a medium for a young person's environmental message in the Earth Day Groceries Project. The Clark County Solid Waste District works with Meijer to provide the bags.

To participate in this free activity, a school or other organization should designate a coordinator and fill out the form below. Requests should be made **no later than Feb. 23**. Call Linda Mitchell at 521-2023, or email to [lmitchell@clarkcountyohio.gov](mailto:lmitchell@clarkcountyohio.gov).

The paper grocery bags will be delivered to your school the week of March 7-11. Once the bags are decorated, someone from your school should take them to the Meijer store during the week of April 11-15. The store will distribute the bags to shoppers during the week of Earth Day, April 17-23.

The Solid Waste District distributed 4,560 bags to 21 Clark County schools in 2014. Thousands more participated in this project nationwide.

Students can be as creative as they want in sharing their thoughts on how to respect the Earth. We do ask that teachers review what students create to be sure the message is a positive one. For ideas, check out [www.earthdaybags.org](http://www.earthdaybags.org).

This activity is also open to organizations other



**Kenwood School students decorated bags for Earth Day in 2014. Pictured are Monica Harshman, sixth-grade teacher, with students from her homeroom, from left, Adriana Diaz, De'Shyla Hinshaw, Chyann Shockey, and, front, A.J. Johnson.**

than schools. Cub Scout packs, 4-H groups, home-schooling groups, after-school programs, and many others can join in. All are welcome!

### Earth Day Grocery Bag Request

School/Group: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Bag Delivery Instructions, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

When is your spring break? \_\_\_\_\_

# of students participating \_\_\_\_\_ # of bags requested \_\_\_\_\_

**Call 521-2023 or email: [lmitchell@clarkcountyohio.gov](mailto:lmitchell@clarkcountyohio.gov) to participate.**

**Please call or email no later than February 23rd.**



**Earth Day is April 22.**



## Presentations for schools

The Clark County Solid Waste District offers presentations on waste reduction, litter prevention, and recycling. Presentations can be geared to different kinds of groups and are free.

The skit "Keep Clark County Beautiful" is geared to first and second grades and teaches about recycling and litter prevention through a fast-paced, entertaining story. District staff will work with teachers to provide programs suited for other grade levels.

To schedule a program, contact Steve Schlather at [sschlather@clarkcountyohio.gov](mailto:sschlather@clarkcountyohio.gov) or at 521-2022. Get more information about the Solid Waste District's programs for schools by clicking on the "Schools" page of [www.32trash.org](http://www.32trash.org).

## EECO will hold conference

**The Environmental Education Council of Ohio will have its winter conference Feb. 5-6 at Camp Nuhop near Perrysville, Ohio.**

**Topics will include creative ideas for teaching environmental subjects and connecting students with nature. Laura Schetter will present about being a teacher fellow on an Arctic expedition.**

**Information is available at <https://eeco.wildapricot.org/>**

# KCCB board seeking youth representative

Keep Clark County Beautiful (KCCB) is seeking a youth representative to serve on its board. Any Clark County high school student with a GPA of at least 3.0 (on a 4-point scale) is eligible to apply.

The youth representative will be a full voting member and will be expected to attend board meetings six times a year, serve on a subcommittee, and volunteer for KCCB events as available. The term would be from July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2017. Two youth representatives currently serve on the board.

KCCB is the local affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, the nation's

largest volunteer-based community action and education organization, that focuses on litter prevention, waste reduction, and community beautification.

Applications for this position are available through high school counselors, at the "Schools" page of [www.32trash.org](http://www.32trash.org), or by calling Steve Schlather at 521-2022.

Candidates should apply by **April 8** to Steve Schlather, Keep Clark County Beautiful, 1602 W. Main St., Springfield, OH 45504. If applying electronically, send your email by 5 p.m. April 8 to [sschlather@clarkcountyohio.gov](mailto:sschlather@clarkcountyohio.gov).

## District can support waste reduction efforts

The Clark County Solid Waste District can provide support up to \$500 for waste reduction programs in schools.

Waste reduction programs can include starting a recycling program, enhancing a current recycling program, or a field trip or other educational program that deals with solid waste issues.

A school can apply for assistance by downloading an application form from the District's web site, [www.32trash.org](http://www.32trash.org). Go to the "Schools" page and click on the link for the application form.

Anyone interested in the program should contact Steve Schlather at 521-2022 to discuss their proposal before submitting an application.

## Montgomery County opens learning center

The Montgomery County Solid Waste District has built an Environmental Learning Center that features hands-on, interactive educational exhibits and a "green" parking lot.

The ELC educates the public about environmental sustainability and conservation in the Miami Valley region – water, recycling, energy,

wastewater, and solid waste. This education is part of an ongoing effort to manage and protect valuable natural resources, and to improve the quality of life for our citizens.

The ELC, located at 2550 Sandridge Drive, Moraine, is available for free tours. For information, call (937) 781-3064.