

THE THREE R'S: REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

Resources for Educators



Spring, 2015

Make Clark County Litter-Free



During the 2014 Great American Cleanup, volunteers picked up almost 9 tons of bottles, wrappers, paper, and other debris from public places in Clark County. 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.

The 2015 Great American Cleanup begins taking registrations on Feb. 20. 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.

In 2014, the Great American Cleanup enlisted 1,947 volunteers in Clark County. Those people – both children and adults – gave more than 3,400 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.



Boy Scout Troop 316 picked up 14 bags of litter at George Rogers Clark Park in May 2014.

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 or call 521-2025.

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.

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Register any time from February 20th through May 28th, 2015.

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 sschlather@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. 23-May 29) _____

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) 521-2025

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) 521-2025

Presentations for schools

Recycling, waste reduction, litter prevention, safe disposal of hazardous wastes, and other solid waste issues can be covered in presentations by the Clark County Solid Waste District staff.

Presentations are free to schools, home-school groups, and community organizations. Presentations can be geared to different grade levels and settings.

The skit "Keep Clark County Beautiful" is designed for first and second grades and teaches about recycling and litter prevention through a fast-paced, entertaining story. Storyteller Lisa Holmes and Program Coordinator Steve Schlather portray the good, the bad, and the beautiful of litter prevention, waste reduction, and recycling. Since its inception in 2009, the skit has been seen by almost 7,800 students.

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 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.



Lisa Holmes and Steve Schlather lead students in the hand motions to the song "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" during a performance at Reid School in 2012.

Conference offers creative ways to teach STEM subjects

The Environmental Education Council of Ohio is offering a continuing education conference, Winter Snow: Creative Ways to teach STEM, Feb. 6-7 at Camp Nuhop near Perrysville.

The conference will begin on Friday evening with a screening of "Chasing Ice," a 2012 film about photographer James Balog's determined quest to document the effects of climate change on glaciers, icebergs, and other Arctic ice masses. Working in extremely challenging conditions and at risk to his own health, Balog produced dramatic time-lapse images of massive blocks of ice collapsing and receding from the ravages of global warming.

Sessions planned for Saturday include:

- Get Zen with Nature: An introduction to using zentangle art patterns.
- The Genius Challenge: Problem-solving and teamwork exercises designed for grades 5 and 6.
- It's Not Rocket Science ... No, Wait, Maybe It Is:

Design, build, and test a heat shield that will protect an "egg-stronaut" entering the atmosphere (grades 5-8).

- What's All the Buzz: A program about beginning beekeeping and the decline in bee populations. All ages.
- Hands-on Activities for a Very Popular Planet: Interdisciplinary activities to help elementary students understand the human ecological footprint and the challenges of finite resources.

For a complete list of sessions and to register, go to <https://eeco.wildapricot.org/>. For EECO members, registration for the full conference costs \$100; for non-members, \$115. Saturday only and student rates are also available.

EECO brings together partners from schools, informal education, government, and business to promote and facilitate environmental education. Membership is open to any interested person.

OALPRP offers aid for college

The Ohio Association of Litter Prevention and Recycling Professionals offers a \$1,000 scholarship to anyone enrolled or planning to enroll in an Ohio college or university and to major in an environmental field.

Applicants must provide a reference letter, a resume of school and community activities, and a one-page essay about recycling and litter prevention.

Applications are due by April 15. For an application form and more information, go to www.oalprp.org or contact Steve Schlather at 521-2022 or sschlather@clarkcountyohio.gov.

Grants available for schools

The Clark County Solid Waste District provides grants of up to \$500 for waste reduction projects. All Clark County teachers and schools are eligible to apply.

Grants can be used for starting or enhancing a school recycling program or for educational presentations about solid waste issues, such as a field trip.

Applications are available at www.32TRASH.org. Click on the "Schools" link in the menu on the top of the home page. Then click on the "Waste Reduction Grant" link.

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 expected to attend board meetings, serve on a subcommittee, and volunteer at events. The term would be July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016.

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

Candidates should apply by **April 1** to Steve Schlather, Keep Clark County Beautiful, 1602 W. Main St., Springfield, OH 45504. Apply by email by noon April 1 to sschlather@clarkcountyohio.gov.



Teachers acting as prey seek the hoops that mark refuges from a predator in a Project WILD activity "Quick Frozen Critters." The activity was part of a teacher workshop on Nov. 6, 2014, sponsored by Clark County Solid Waste District and Clark County Park District.

Students can enter plastic recycling contest

Students in grades K-12 can enter "Think Outside the Bag," a contest to promote recycling of plastic film products.

Students must create a poster and a presentation to promote recycling of flexible plastics, such as grocery bags, plastic wrap, and dry cleaner bags. The Plastic Industry Trade Association and JASON

Learning, a science education group, sponsor the contest.

Entries will be judged on creativity, persuasiveness, and clarity and cash prizes of up to \$750 will be given.

Entries are due March 1. To enter and for information, go to www.jason.org and click on the link for "Contests."