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Coshocton County Recycling & Litter Prevention Newsletter
Funding provided by CFLP Solid Waste District

Fall 2020

Recycling for a Greener Holiday Season

Here come the holidays- and with them more potential for waste. It is estimated that Americans generate about 25% more waste over the holidays! Packages, paper, catalogs, bags, and more- we create about five million pounds more waste material this time of the year. But, just because we create it doesn't mean we have to throw it all away. Take a moment to think about reducing, reusing and recycling this season.

Reduce:

- When able, bring your own reusable shopping bags with you for your holiday shopping. Many shops have colorful and festive reusable bags made of recycled material that could even be used to wrap gifts for others, therefore encouraging others to reduce bag waste.
- Instead of buying "things" consider purchasing tickets to a movie, game, concert, play or other event. Gift cards are another great way of reducing your waste.
- Consider purchasing rechargeable batteries and a battery charger to reduce battery waste.
- Instead of using disposable plates, cups and utensils, consider using washable dishes. Avoid using Styrofoam items as they are not recyclable and last hundreds of years in landfills.
- Send home leftovers with friends and family instead of throwing them away.

Reuse:

- Shred used wrapping paper to use as filler instead of tissue paper and reuse last year's greeting cards as gift tags.
- Whip topping, lunch meat and sour cream containers are great reused as to-go containers.
- New gifts often replace toys, clothes and appliances that still have life. Donate items to local charities, child care centers, church or the Salvation Army.

Recycle:

- Look for recycled-content wrapping paper and cards. Remember that wrapping paper, packing boxes and gift boxes are recyclable and so are envelopes that cards and other mail come in.
- Do you get a cut Christmas tree? After the holidays, move it to the back yard and decorate it with pine cones with peanut butter or suet and bird seed for winter bird watching.
- Holiday baking often leads to more cans, glass, aluminum and plastic items. Food boxes (cereal, cake mix, etc.) and labels from cans are also recyclable paper. Be sure to set these aside for recycling.

So, now that you have all those recyclables, where do you take them? Those in the city limits have access to Kimble's curbside recycling and those within the county have access to 12 drop-off sites located all over Coshocton County. To find a recycling drop-off site near you, visit: www.coshoctoncounty.net/recycle/where-to-recycle

Reducing Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) in Your Home

Consider reducing your purchase of products that contain hazardous ingredients. Learn about the use of alternative methods or products- without hazardous ingredients- for some common household needs. When shopping for items such as multipurpose household cleaners, toilet cleaners, laundry detergent, dish soap, dishwashing machine pods and gels, bug sprays and insect pest control, consider shopping for environmentally friendly, natural products or search online for simple recipes you can use to create your own.

Find products that perform and are safer for human health and the environment at the EPA Safer Choice page at: www.epa.gov/saferchoice

Odds & Ends

I get a lot of questions about, what I call, "odds & ends" recycling and disposal. Here are the top five items and what to do with them.

1. **CFL Bulbs:** free drop-off at Coshocton Co. Health Department, 724 South 7th Street
2. **Computers:** Best Buy and Staples stores (monitor fees may apply)
3. **Paint:** Completely hardened paint may be disposed of in household trash or donate to churches, housing programs or local drama groups
4. **Toner/ Ink cartridges:** free drop-off at Best Buy, OfficeMax and Staples stores
5. **Televisions:** Best Buy stores (fees may apply)

CFLP Recycling Database: www.coshoctoncounty.net/recycle/where-to-recycle

Recycle Broken String Lights

Wait! Stop! Don't throw away throw away those broken strings of holiday lights; turn them in to be recycled! Although string lights should not be placed in the regular recycling bins, there is a solution for this special item. Coshocton County Recycling & Litter Prevention is teaming up with Three Rivers Therapy to provide drop-off boxes for those old lights. **From November 16 - December 11**, bring your broken string lights to Three Rivers Therapy (353 Walnut Street) or inside the front door of the Progress Center (401 Main Street) for collection during business hours.



As you replace your holiday lights, consider purchasing LED lights. According to the US Department of Energy, LEDs use up to 75% less energy and last about 25 times as long as incandescent bulbs. LED bulbs also do not get hot to the touch, so they are safer, too. Questions can be referred to Tammi Rogers, Coshocton County Recycling and Litter Prevention Program Manager, 740.575.4813.

Unsure what can be recycled and where?

Visit coshoctoncounty.net/recycle or call 740.575.4813



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