

TRASH TALK!

A Quarterly Newsletter of



Summer 2022



JOIN US AT THE 4-H FAIR



Join us at the Hendricks County 4-H Fair this summer! We will be back in the Expo Hall this year on July 19 and 20 for the non-profit days. Come and test your recycling know-how, ask all of your burning recycling questions, and get some ideas for how you can help reduce waste in Hendricks County. And don't forget to bring your own reusable water bottle and refill it at the water bottle refill stations. If you are feeling creative, check out the "I Can – You Can 2!" Reuse Contest sponsored by the Hendricks County Recycling District and Extension Homemakers. Look for upcoming information on the Hendricks County 4-H Fair website to enter.

THAT'S A LOT OF WASTE!

Each person in the United States produces an average of 4 pounds of household hazardous waste (HHW) every year. This means a household with four members creates about 16 pounds per year. HHW includes unwanted household cleaning products, weed and bug killers, fuel and automobile liquids, and lawn and garden chemicals.

Talk to your parents about HHW. Spring is a good time to look around the house and garage. Work together to gather and properly dispose of things you no longer need.

You can dispose of HHW safely at the Tox-Away Day collection events. All collections begin at 8 a.m. and end at 1 p.m. Here are the upcoming event dates:



- May 21 – Hendricks County Fairgrounds, 1900 E. Main Street, Danville (Enter at Gate 5.)
- July 16 – Hickory Elementary School, 907 Avon Avenue, Avon
- August 27 – Hendricks County Fairgrounds, 1900 E. Main Street, Danville (Enter at Gate 5.)
- October 22 – Plainfield Middle School, 985 S. Longfellow Drive

Accepted items include:

- Oil-based paint
- Antifreeze
- Other automotive fluids
- Cleaners and solvents
- Pesticides
- Fertilizers and plant food
- Hobby chemicals

- Pool chemicals
- Fluorescent light tubes
- Mercury-containing items
- Automotive and household batteries
- Unwanted medications
- Electronics
- Tires (Fees apply.)
- TVs (Fees apply.)
- Appliances (Fees apply.)

To learn more about Tox-Away Days, call 317-858-6070 or visit www.RecycleHendricksCounty.org.



TIME AFTER TIME

A time capsule is a container that holds articles from a certain place and time. Time capsules are usually buried or built into a sealed place and are meant to be opened much later. They show people in the future what life was like at the time they were hidden.



Credit: RiniSiok | iStock | Getty Images Plus

At the county recycling office, a time capsule was found. The objects inside were clues to the year the time capsule was buried. Here is what was found inside:

1,019 chopsticks	75 marbles
152 beads	761 pennies

Add the number of objects. The total number of objects will give you the year the time capsule was buried, but not the reason. The time capsule was buried the year an exciting new product was sold. The pocket-sized product was made by Apple so that people could cordlessly communicate with each other, take photos, and listen to music. After that first year, the product – and all similar products – kept changing and improving, so people kept buying new models and discarding the old ones, creating a new kind of electronic waste.

1. What was the year? _____
2. What was the product? _____

DONATE OR DISPOSE OF DATED DEVICES

TVs, computers, DVRs, DVD players, game consoles, cell phones, iPads and tablets, and e-readers — do you have any of these electronic devices at your house? Chances are, your family has several. The average American family has about 24 of these at home. When your family replaces an electronic device, you have a decision to make. What will you do with the old device? Here are our suggestions:

- 1. Keep your electronics in use for a long time. The longer you use the electronics, the more “mileage” you get from the resources and energy required to make the devices. There are some very easy ways to keep electronics working longer. Remove dust from fans and air vents, which are usually found on the back of equipment. Let air circulate around electronics so they don’t overheat. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for recharging batteries.
- 2. Don’t store equipment that you no longer need or use. If you won’t be using the device again, don’t throw it into a drawer or shove it into the back of a closet and forget about it.

Even if you’re done with them, electronics could be useful for someone else, especially if the device is less than five years old.



- 3. Donate or sell working devices that are less than five years old. Used cell phones, computers, TVs, and accessories might be just

what a new owner needs. Be sure to completely remove all your personal data before donating or selling your equipment. You’ll probably need an adult’s help to remove personal data.

- 4. Recycle unusable electronic devices or those that you cannot give away. Nationwide, more than 6.92 million tons of electronics are discarded each year, and less than 20% of that is recycled. In our state, electronics are banned from landfills because they can cause pollution to our water, air, and soil. So, when your electronic devices become electronic waste, or e-waste, don’t put them into the trash. Instead, recycle them at any one of our Tox-Away Days. Most devices are accepted at no charge, but fees do apply for TVs.

Recycling electronics ensures that hazardous materials, such as lead and mercury, are safely managed. It also conserves resources, recaptures useful metals, reduces pollution, saves energy, and helps create jobs.



YOU'LL NEVER GET "TIRED" OF RECYCLING

How many summer days do you spend roaming around the neighborhood on bikes with your friends? Your wheels get you to your friends’ houses, the park, and maybe even the store to buy a candy bar. But eventually you get a flat, and you’re stuck walking until you can replace the tire. Did you ever wonder what happens to the old tire from your bicycle? What about car tires or those huge monster truck tires?

Old tires left lying around collect water, which makes them the perfect place for mosquitoes to lay their eggs. One tire can be a breeding ground for thousands of those pesky, disease-carrying bugs during the warm months, and no one wants to deal with that. Sometimes people choose to burn old tires, or they catch fire accidentally. These rubber fires are very difficult to put out and are terrible for the environment. Burning rubber releases toxic chemicals into the air and leaves behind an oily residue that pollutes streams and groundwater.

Tires don’t need to be left sitting on the ground, nor should they be burned. Instead, tires can be recycled into hundreds of useful products. For example, 20,000 tires can be made into one artificial turf athletic field. Rubber mulch has many uses in gardens and on playgrounds. When we hop into the car and go for a drive, the roads may be paved with asphalt containing rubber from recycled tires.

Please remind your parents to recycle old, worn-out tires. We accept tires for a fee at our Tox-Away Days. To learn more about tire recycling programs in our community, visit www.RecycleHendricksCounty.org.

SUPPLYING THE DEMAND

In economics (the study of buying and selling things), there is a connection between supply and demand. Supply is how much of an item is available to sell. Demand is how much people want to buy that item. The price of an item is often linked to the supply of it and demand for it.

Look at the examples below to think about how and why supply and demand can be related to each other. Check the correct answer.

- 1. It is June, and snow boots go on sale for 75% off their winter price Why?
☐ A. Low demand and high supply
☐ B. High demand and low supply
- 2. Next week the outside temperatures should reach 95 degrees for several days in a row, and the price for blow-up swimming pools goes up by 20%. Why?
☐ A. Low demand and high supply
☐ B. High demand and low supply
- 3. One year, when there was a shortage of palladium from mines, stores offered \$200 each for old, broken smartphones so that the palladium in them could be recycled to make new phones. During the palladium shortage, what was the supply and demand for old, broken smartphones?
☐ A. Low demand and high supply
☐ B. High demand and low supply



PUZZLING CLUES

Taylor and her friends bought T-shirts at their neighbor’s garage sale. Each shirt cost a different amount. Use the clues below to figure out how much each shirt cost.



- A. Taylor’s shirt cost three times as much as Landon’s shirt.
- B. Lilly’s shirt cost \$2.50.
- C. Taylor’s shirt cost \$3.50 more than Lilly’s shirt.
- D. Julia’s shirt cost \$1.25 more than Landon’s shirt.
- E. The shirts cost a total of \$13.75.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. Which clue did you use first? _____
- 2. Was there any clue that you didn’t need? _____
- 3. Whose shirt cost the most? _____
- 4. Whose shirt cost the least? _____
- 5. How much did each shirt cost? _____

LIVE IT UP AT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

This summer, don't forget to be a frequent visitor to your local library. It's a great place to have fun and keep your brain busy while school is out. The library is a summer

paradise of books, movies, fun activities, and more. Summer reading programs are a great way to keep your mind active while

reading for prizes. Anyone with a library card can borrow DVDs or attend free movie showings. Classes and workshops are popular events for older children and adults, and younger kids enjoy story times and craft sessions. The internet at the library is free. If you need help seeking information, library staff will help you search books, magazines,



Credit: Rido/razz | iStock | Getty Images Plus

and other sources of knowledge.

What's the best part of all? The library is all about reuse! Borrow books and movies and return them when you're finished. Others can borrow what you've returned, and then you can take out more. Ask Mom, Dad, or a grandparent to take you to the library soon!

We also have an awesome lending library filled with environmental picture books, activity books, chapter books, reference materials, games, and even a few movies. Pop into the office, which is in the old Danville Middle School (now the Danville Town Hall), to check them out.

THE RIGHT WAY TO DISPOSE OF OLD APPLIANCES

In the summer, you probably hang around the house a little more than you do during the school year. You get to sleep in a bit, then pull on a T-shirt and shorts from the stack of clean laundry. After you wake up a little more and wash your face, you head to the kitchen, open up the dishwasher, and grab a clean bowl and spoon for your morning cereal. Later in the day, after riding your bike around the neighborhood, you come home and fill a glass with ice and water, guzzle it down, and then grab a freezer pop. These are just everyday things that you do, but what happens when the washer and dryer quit working or the fridge goes out?

Suddenly, life gets a little harder — especially for your parents. We are used to having these appliances ready and waiting for our use. Without them, simple chores become a lot more time-consuming. Most of these large appliances, like stoves and dishwashers, last anywhere from 10 to 18 years, depending on how often they are used. If an appliance is not working and it is not very old, it probably makes sense for your family to have it repaired. However, if the refrigerator or clothes washer is older, Mom or Dad will probably decide it's time to retire the old one and get a newer model.



Credit: Animate/ra | iStock | Getty Images Plus

These large appliances can be recycled. They are made of 60% steel which can be reused in new appliances or to make bikes or cars. Some stores will take away the old appliance for recycling when they deliver the new model. If not, you can recycle your appliances at our Tox-Away Days. There is a fee of \$5 for non-refrigerant appliances, like microwaves, dishwashers, or ovens. Refrigerant-containing appliances, like refrigerators, freezers, and dehumidifiers, can be recycled for a \$10 fee.

When your family is shopping, make it your job to look for the Energy Star logo. This logo means that the equipment will operate with little waste and use less energy than other models. For some appliances, your family's electric or gas company may offer special rebates, or money back, when you recycle an old appliance and replace it with a more energy-efficient model. Make sure you tell your parents to look for rebate information on the utility website.

The next time you reach into the refrigerator for a yogurt or help fold the laundry, remember that your hard-working appliances make life a lot easier. When it's time for you to say goodbye, recycle them.

Runaway Run-Ons

Read each run-on sentence. Fix it in two ways: Write two simple sentences on the first line, and write one compound sentence using either a comma and coordinating conjunction or a semicolon on the second line.

1. Audrey and Isaac planned a garage sale they wanted to raise money for summer camp.

2. Ella put the old cell phones in a box, her mom took the box to the van.

3. The cell phones can't be dropped off for recycling until Saturday Audrey put a reminder on the refrigerator door.

4. Layla rides her bike to the library Nathan walks.

5. Layla gets to the library first she finds a table.

6. Alejandro goes to the library to return Carl Hiaasen's book *Flush*, he stops to tell the girls about the book.

7. Put unwanted school supplies in this basket for reuse recycle used paper in the blue bin.

8. Mr. Dylan's class will pick up the baskets, Mrs. Hamm's class will collect the blue bins.

9. Nikki's mom cleaned out the garage, she found old bug spray and weed killer.

10. John got mulch in his shoe at recess the mulch was made from old tires.



Credit: FangXiaoNuo | E+ | Getty Images

POLLUTION SOLUTION

Pollution above the ground can affect the roots of plants and the organisms that live deep down in the soil. This experiment will show you how pollutants can seep into the soil. For this experiment, you will need a colander, a sink, a clear plastic tub, rocks of different sizes from outside, water, a pitcher or beaker, and food coloring.

1. Put the rocks into the colander. Run water over the rocks to clean them. Remove all of the dirt.
2. Put the rocks in the clear plastic tub with the smallest on the bottom and largest on the top.
3. Pour a small amount of water over the rocks in the tub. Where does the water go? Write down your observations.
4. Empty the water and rocks into the colander.
5. Refill the plastic tub with rocks, again putting the smallest rocks at the bottom and the largest at the top.
6. Put water into a pitcher or beaker. Mix several drops of food coloring into the water. Does the food coloring change the water? How? Write down your observations.
7. Pour the water and food coloring solution slowly over the rocks in the tub. How far does the liquid sink? At the lowest point, is the water clear or colored by the food coloring? Write down your observations.
8. Carefully lift the tub and look at the bottom. What do you see?

Questions:

1. If the rocks are like soil and the food coloring is like pollution, how do you think pollution might affect the soil?

2. Once pollution is mixed with water, do you think it would be hard or easy to clean the water?

3. What kind of living things might be affected by pollution in the soil?

4. What could you do to stop the pollution from entering the soil? Do landfills use something similar?

5. List some kinds of waste you have at home that could mix with water and seep into the soil.



Credit: FatCamera | E+ | Getty Images

READY FOR A VISITOR?



Did you know that we can come speak to your class or group? Our fun presentations will teach you about keeping our Earth safe and healthy. Ask your teacher, scout leader, or club sponsor to contact us to schedule a visit. We offer fun activities about reducing waste and litter, recycling, composting, and more. Contact Amy Sieferman (asieferman@recyclehc.org) or Katie Archer (karcher@recyclehc.org) for the "Scoop on Summer Fun." Make coffee can ice cream, learn about pop bottle science, create your own paper, or participate in recycling games with us this spring and summer. We would love to join you!



DON'T LITTER!

Litter is ugly. It is also bad for people and animals. Cigarette butts, crumpled and cracked plastic water bottles, fast food wrappers, sharp metal cans, plastic shopping bags, and disposable face masks make a mess of parks, playgrounds, roadsides, and streams. Wind, water, animals, and traffic move litter around, sending it down storm gutters, into fences and trees, and onto lawns and parking lots. Sometimes litter ends up in waterways and washes out into our rivers, lakes, and oceans, causing serious problems for fish, birds, and wild animals.



On the next nice day, grab some gloves and a bag and head outside to pick up litter.

Keep America Beautiful has been working for over 69 years to help reduce litter in our country. This organization has some good news to share. Since 2009, litter in America has decreased by 54% along roadways. But there is still a lot of work to do. More than 50 billion pieces of litter still appear in and around roadways and waterways each year. That equals 152 items of litter for each person in America!

If people know littering is bad, why do they sometimes do it? According to Keep America Beautiful research, the biggest reason why people litter is because they don't feel responsible for keeping an area clean. So, outside their own yards or neighborhoods,

they may not think litter will affect them. Or they may think that someone will come along and pick up after them. Once an area looks littered, people think it is okay to throw more trash there.

It doesn't have to be this way. People choose to litter — and they can choose not to. Before you drop that cheeseburger wrapper out of a car window, stop and make the choice to save it until you can find a trash can. Whether you litter or not, you can be part of the solution to ending litter. Help friends and family understand why littering is harmful. If everyone chooses to stop littering, people and wildlife will be healthier and our roads, streams, and other areas will be more beautiful than ever before.

If you are interested in taking a more active role and cleaning up litter yourself, contact Candi Donaldson, 317-745-9617, at the Hendricks County Partnership for Water Quality if your group needs litter cleanup supplies. She can supply you with trash bags, vests, signs, and gloves. Thanks for your help!

Funded by the Hendricks County Recycling District

HENDRICKS COUNTY RECYCLING DISTRICT
49 N. Wayne Street • Danville, IN 46122 • (317) 858-6070
Info@recyclehc.org • www.RecycleHendricksCounty.org

