

The Greener Side of Summer ...

Summer 2014 Edition

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Waste Management... What Does It Mean?

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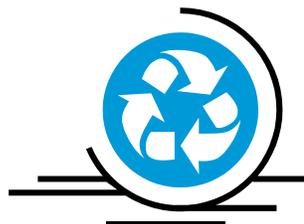
This is always a topic of interest when I go to events or parties with people I am meeting for the first time. As always, the conversation starts out with an introduction and eventually leads to careers. I have had more than one person look at me and say, “You are in charge of garbage trucks and a landfill?” My response, “ Yes, I am in charge of all this! It is very interesting to deal with issues in waste management.”

The conversation turns to waste management which most think is just collecting and disposing of waste. My response is that waste management today is not what waste management was 50, 20, or even 10 years ago!

Today’s waste management involves looking at the waste streams coming into facilities and understanding them. Can waste be recycled or reused? Can we get residents and businesses to understand waste reduction at the source to prevent the need for a new program to start? Understanding what is valuable and what is not is the name of the game in waste management. It is also understanding what is hazardous or non-hazardous to protect the environment.

Waste Management is also about educating our residents about the importance of Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. Recycle the Dress is just one event that has benefited many girls and has utilized reuse concepts in our community.

A career is what you make of it and waste management is certainly never a dull career!



On Saturday, June 7, 2014, 35 people from the age of 2 years old and up joined in to help clean up areas of Muscatine. This event was part of the spring Earth Day events for 2014.

Volunteers ranged from Monsanto to local residents who wanted to help make our community beautiful. For several families with smaller children, it was an opportunity to teach their children that littering is wrong and also to give back to their community.

Thank you to all of our volunteers that helped make this event happen:

Janey Martin (Jack, June, Naomi, Jon, and Elle)
Heather Runyon
Zachary Clark
Sarah Chess
Devin Erikson
Pearl Chess
Susan, Kyle, Karena, and Kate Jensen
Monsanto Team



Members of the Monsanto’s Team at the June 7, 2014 clean up. Turn to page two for more photos of the event.

More Keep Muscatine Beautiful Photos



Residents, young and old, came out to clean up Muscatine on Saturday, June 7, 2014. Great work volunteers!

Kid's Corner Summer Recycling Activity



Are you looking for ways to keep your kids busy for the summer? Before recycling aluminum cans, give them a new life-span. Paint five cans different colors, add different size white polka dots and number them 1-5. Find a 5-inch Styrofoam ball or any small ball and you are set for some bowling fun.

Check out more fun recycled craft ideas at <http://www.favecrafts.com/Easy-Kids-Crafts>

Can You Guess Where This Photograph Was Taken? (See Page 4)





RECYCLE CFL's

The Muscatine Recycling and Transfer Station accepts CFL's for recycling at no cost to residents.

Please protect the environment and safety of others and recycle CFL's.

Handling Important Documents.... Shredding Is Happening Right Here in Muscatine

Document shredding has a new local home here in Muscatine. CROSSROADS INC. has added a secure document shredding division of its operations. The main goal of this part of their operation is to assist local businesses and residents with important document destruction needs.



CROSSROADS INC. applied and received two Solid Waste Alternatives Program (SWAP) grants from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to assist with purchasing the equipment for shredding, bailing, and even the transportation of the locked bins from businesses to their facility. The SWAP grant is funded by a surcharge from tipping fees paid by Iowa landfills to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. The SWAP grant is open for waste reduction and recycling opportunities in the State of Iowa.



Today's world of important information being discarded and ending up in the wrong hands makes having operations like C R O S S - R O A D S INC. important in our commu-



nity. All documents that are handled in their program are placed in a locked container, taken back to their facility, shredded. The area where the shredding takes place is a locked area with cameras to videotape that the material brought in is shredded. Once shredded, the material is bailed and sent to a pulp and paper mill to be made into new paper products.

CROSSROADS INC. is still new to the area of secure document shredding and are interested in servicing the Muscatine area. For more information, please contact CROSSROADS, INC. at [563-263-3545](tel:563-263-3545).

The Muscatine County Landfill participates in the SWAP program funding with the landfill tipping fee surcharge that is directed by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for this program. For more information on SWAP grants, please visit www.iowadnr.gov for more information.



4th of July Holiday Hours and Services for Solid Waste 2014

**Muscatine Recycling Center
and Transfer Station: CLOSED**

Compost Site: CLOSED

Refuse Collection for the City of Muscatine and Fruitland:

Monday, June 30 - Monday Route
Tuesday, July 1 - Tuesday Route
Wednesday, July 2 - Wednesday Route
Thursday, July 3 - Thursday Route
Friday, July 4 - No Collection
Monday, July 7 - Friday and Monday
Routes

Curbside Recycling for the City of Muscatine and Fruitland Week B Route:

Monday, June 30 - Monday Route
Tuesday, July 1 - Tuesday Route
Wednesday, July 2 - Wednesday Routes
Thursday, July 3 - Thursday Routes
Friday, July 4 - No Collection
Saturday, July 5 - Friday Route

*Please remember that curbside recycling is a day
behind after a holiday.*

Answer to Photograph on Page Two:

*The photograph on page two is from the
Muscatine County Landfill, side slope of Ravine
Five. This photo was taken in April 2014, the
patch like material is a compost blanket that was
placed during the late fall of 2013 for seeding.*

Calendar of Events:



**Friday, September 5, 2014 -
5th Annual Community Block
Party at Muscatine Commu-
nity Y—5:30 -7:30 PM**

Recycle and Repurpose



Are you looking for a unique look for your patio or even in your house? Think about repurposing an item that was once considered waste. The table above is made out of two old pallets. The ideas are endless on what you can do with something that might be waste to someone else.

If you are not crafty or handy, there are numerous resources out there to create a unique item for you.

Check out the following websites for more ideas:

<http://gypsiescraftsandtreats.blogspot.com>

<http://www.myrepurposedlife.com/>



**Where do I find
Information about
Solid Waste Services
For Muscatine?**

Visit www.muscatineiowa.gov