

Ann Arbor News “Your World” Submission for 4-24-06:

In honor of Earth Day 2006, the Washtenaw County Department of Planning and Environment, together with the Washtenaw County Consortium for Solid Waste Management (WCCSWM), is releasing the Green Info Guide: A Toolbox for Environmental Best Practices in Washtenaw County. This informational CD is available to all residents, business owners and government agencies of Washtenaw County interested in responsibly reducing, reusing and recycling.

The Green Info Guide includes information on:

- **Recycling in your Municipality:** Find detailed information on the solid waste, recycling and yard waste services offered throughout the county. Also look to the Recycling Guide at <http://recycle.ewashtenaw.org> for this resource.
- **Solid Waste and Recycling Management:** Find creative ways to reduce the amount of trash you send to the landfill each week, as well as detailed information on how landfills work, the dangers of burning trash in your backyard, and how to prevent illegal dumping in your community.
- **School and Educational Resources:** Search this category for local resources to help further your knowledge of recycling and the environment, as well as information on environmental education curriculum, starting a recycling program in your school, and planning a green event.
- **Businesses and Waste Reduction:** There are a number of programs in Washtenaw County and statewide that publicly recognize businesses for using best management practices in waste reduction, recycling, pollution prevention, and energy efficiency. Search this category for information on how to become a Washtenaw County Waste Knot Partner, a Community Partner for Clean Streams, and a Clean Corporate Citizen.
- **Yard Waste and Lawn Care:** Find out where to buy compost in Washtenaw County, how to compost your own yard and food waste, how to care for your lawn and garden with the safety of your family and the environment in mind, and what you can do to stop the spread of the Emerald Ash Borer – the insect that is decimating the Ash tree populations in Michigan.
- **Household Hazardous Waste:** Many of the products we use in our home and garden contain flammable, poisonous, toxic and corrosive materials that may adversely affect your health and the health of the environment when used and disposed of improperly. Educate yourself about the choices and responsibilities associated with purchasing, handling, and disposing of toxic substances.
- **Energy Efficiency:** Find simple, as well as more adventurous, techniques to make your home or workplace more energy efficient. Sometimes it is the simplest and most inexpensive changes that conserve the most natural resources and save you the most money.

Call the Washtenaw County Solid Waste Program at 734-222-6874 or stop by 705 N. Zeeb Road to receive your free copy of the Green Info Guide today!

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