



Staying in the Loop

Providing community-wide recognition and organizational-based technical assistance and education to businesses, schools, governmental agencies, and non-profit organizations that demonstrate leadership in waste reduction and recycling.

Spring 2006

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Contact the Washtenaw County Solid Waste Program at: (734) 222-6874
Or visit us online at: <http://recycle.ewashtenaw.org>

Getting the most from your laser cartridges

When your laser cartridge is empty, store it in its original plastic bag and cardboard box. If you don't have the packaging, place it in a plastic bag in a dark area.

Some parts in these cartridges are light sensitive and can be damaged when exposed to light.

Have the cartridge refilled as soon as possible.

Do not attempt to open the cartridge.

Keep the packaging from new and rebuilt cartridges for future transport.

Waste Knot Partner Spotlight: Cartridge World Ann Arbor

This spring, the Washtenaw County Waste Knot Program would like to highlight new partner—Cartridge World Ann Arbor—for excellence in waste reduction and recycling. In fact, Cartridge World's core business is recycling. As the largest retailer of printer cartridge refilling services in the world, this company drastically extends the life of both ink and laser cartridges and keeps them out of the waste stream.

After spending some time at our local Cartridge World, located at 893 Eisenhower in Ann Arbor, franchise owner, Eric Dergis was able to show us that, not only does Cartridge World provide a convenient and cost-effective service to the community, it also succeeds in educating residents and businesses on the environmental benefits of refilling rather than throwing their empty cartridges away.

Refilling cartridges will save you money and conserves resources. Cartridge World Ann Arbor refills laser and ink cartridges for printers, copiers and fax machines for up to 50% less than the cost

of a new cartridge. In North America alone, over 350 million cartridges per year are discarded in our landfills. That number is increasing by 12% annually and for a product that takes up to 450 years to decompose, not only are you saving money by refilling your cartridge, you are also taking a huge step in protecting the environment.



To produce one new laser cartridge, close to one gallon of oil is needed. Most laser cartridges are used by businesses, where Cartridge World receives many of its customers. Eric Dergis has made it easy and convenient for local organizations to remanufacture and refill their laser cartridges – up to 12 times! – by allowing them to send their empty cartridges by mail. He then reuses packaging materials and boxes to send refurbished cartridges

back to the customer.

Cartridge World Ann Arbor goes above and beyond international company standards in waste reduction by minimizing the amount of packaging used for refilled cartridges. Dergis also uses the same sheet of paper 4 times or more to test his outgoing products. For cartridges that are no longer usable, Cartridge World sends them back to the suppliers, where they are taken apart and recycled.

Cartridge World Ann Arbor supports local churches and schools by helping them set up cartridge collection fundraisers, where a certain amount of money per cartridge collected is donated back to the church or school. Cartridge World is then able to refill or recycle these cartridges, diverting them from the landfill. They also collect unwanted cell phones for Safehouse.

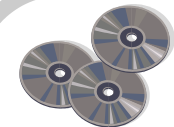
Many thanks to Cartridge World Ann Arbor for providing a valuable service to the community. We welcome you to the Waste Knot Program!

2006 Waste Knot Awards Ceremony

Over 100 Waste Knot Partners attended the 9th annual Waste Knot Awards Ceremony, held on Thursday, April 20th at Weber's Inn in Ann Arbor. Weber's, a model Waste Knot Partner, provided a stylish venue and excellent food—all were comfortable and happy to be there.

Keynote speaker Scott Leopold of Leopold Bros Brewery spoke about the financial success of his business, achieved through a highly

revered sustainable brewing and distilling process. Debra Power of Power Marketing gave a demonstration of the new Green Info Guide (see below). And finally, partners new and old were recognized for their waste reduction and recycling practices. All types of organizations—from manufacturing to retail to non-profit—were represented, proving the diverse and dynamic nature of the program. Thanks for coming!



What to do with damaged, obsolete, or unrepairable CDs...

Try repairing obvious scratches with a mild abrasive such as toothpaste. Work only on the non-label side, applying toothpaste in strokes, moving radially out from the center.

If you don't like your CDs, trade them at a music store or donate them to charity.

To recycle your CDs, take them to the Washtenaw County Regional Drop-off Station at 2950 E. Ellsworth Rd. They charge \$1/dozen CDs. Contact them at 734-971-7400.



Green Info Guide provides a valuable resource to the community.

In honor of Earth Day, the Washtenaw County Department of Planning and Environment, together with the Washtenaw County Consortium for Solid Waste Management (WCCSWM), released 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. Debra Power of Power Marketing presented the Green Info Guide (GIG) at the Waste Knot Awards Ceremony on April 20th. Since that time, she and the Waste Knot Program staff have been hand-delivering and mailing copies of the GIG to partners. 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 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.

We hope that you find this resource valuable to you and your staff as you continue to reduce, reuse, and recycle. If you have any questions or need more copies of the GIG, please call our office at (734) 222-6874.



How to Argue in Support of Recycling

by Eva Kurkinova

Well-designed and well-run recycling programs are financially and environmentally superior to other disposal alternatives. In the 1980s arguments for recycling focused on its ability to reduce the amount of trash going to landfills and incinerators. In the 1990s, Americans became more interested in recycling as an environmental issue. Now, in the 21st century investing in recycling will pay off by improving your local economy and the global environment.

Recycling is an engine for economic growth

The U.S. recycling and reuse industry consist of 56,000 companies that employ more than 1.1 million people with a gross income of over \$236 billion. The recycling sector includes paper and steel producers, composting, plastic and rubber product manufacturers, computer de-manufacturers and electronics

recyclers. For every 1 job in the waste industry, 4 jobs in the recycling industry exist. It is because each stage in the recycling process adds value and creates economic activity.

Recycling is more cost-effective than ever

New technologies are improving the efficiency of collection and processing. This development enables cities to maximize their recycling programs to better serve businesses and residents.

Markets for recyclable materials have created a big demand

Everyday recyclable commodities (paper, plastic, steel) are bought and sold in enormous amounts in the international marketplace. The market for recycled materials has never been greater and it is expected to continue to grow.

- Almost 14 million tons of recovered paper were exported from

the U.S. in 2004

- In recent years, revenue gained from exporting all recyclable commodities from the U.S. grew to \$8.4 billion.

Recycling raises money for local communities.

It is much easier to make the economic case for recycling now than in the past. The average price of recovered paper continues to increase. Communities making long-term commitments for recycling infrastructure can be rewarded with revenues from the sale of recyclables.

Recycling saves energy and resources

Manufacturing with recyclable materials produces significant energy savings over manufacturing with virgin materials. Using a product once and then throwing it away does not make economic or environmental sense.

All Washtenaw County residents are invited to attend the Washtenaw County Regional Clean-up Day, being held on June 3, 2006 at Lincoln High School, 7425 Willis Road in Augusta Township.

Please visit <http://recycle.ewashtenaw.org> or call our 24-hour hotline at 734-222-3950 for more information.

Businesses and out-of-county residents are restricted from attending.



Please Welcome New Partners for 2006!

The Waste Knot Program is pleased to welcome 21 new partners to the program in 2006. Congratulations to:

- The Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum: www.aahom.org
 Batteries Plus: www.batteriesplus.com
 Bessenberg Bindery: www.bessenberg.com
 Cartridge World Ann Arbor: (734) 213-1739
 Cartridges for Kids: www.cartridgesforkids.com
 Clean Water Action: www.cleanwateraction.org/mi
 Conscientious Cruiser: www.annarboralive.com/thecruiser
 Dynamic Edge, Inc: www.dynedge.com
 Food Gatherers: www.foodgatherers.org
 Freedom Township: www.twp-freedom.org
 Growing Hope: www.growinghope.net
 InPrint, Inc: www.inprintonline.com
 Iris Waste Diversion Specialists, LLC
 Legal Services of South Central Michigan: <http://lsbcm.org>
 Leslie Science Center: www.a2gov.org/CommunityServices/Parks/LeslieScience/leslie_main.html
 Linda Diane Feldt: www.holisticwisdom.org
 Michigan Peaceworks: www.michiganpeaceworks.org
 Nature and Nurture, LLC: www.natureandnurture.org
 Oliver Financial Planning: www.oliverfinancialplanning.com
 Simply Organized Life: www.simplyorganizedlife.com
 Washtenaw County Conservation District: www.washtenawcd.org

The Waste Knot Program thanks these new partners for their commitment to recycling and reducing waste. Keep up the good work!

Congratulations to all Waste Knot Partners



Waste Knot Program Updates:

Keep us updated on your waste reduction and recycling practices—we want to know what you are doing!

The more you reduce, reuse, and recycle, the more \$\$\$ you save.

Let co-workers know that they are a part of the Waste Knot Program—post this newsletter and flyer insert in places where everyone can read them.

Would you like to be featured in a future issue of Staying in the Loop? Let us know!

Auto Maintenance/Repair Partners

C&T Collision, Inc.
City Body, Inc.
Roberts Paint & Body, Inc.
Thorton's All Star Auto Salvage

Business Office Partners

Ann Arbor Architects Collaborative
Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors
Barr Engineering Co.
Black & Veatch
Bowen & Barber, L.L.C.
Carol L. Hoffer, CLU
Cimulus, Inc.
Cybernet Systems Corp.
David W. Osler Associates, Inc.
Dominant Systems Corp.
Domino's Farm Corporation
Dynamic Edge, Inc.
Edward Jones Investments
Forefront Corporation
Harris & Baseview
Hobbs & Black Associates, Inc.
John D. Erdevig, Attorney at Law
Law Office of Helen Conklin Vick
Manchester & Associates, Attorneys at Law
Materialise
Mitchell and Mouat Architects, Inc.

Chamber Partners

Ann Arbor Chamber of Commerce
Ypsilanti Area Chamber of Commerce
Construction/Demolition Partners
Calvert's Rolloff Containers, Inc.
Cardea Construction Co.
Heart and Soul Services
Homeowner Services of America, Inc.
Nature and Nurture, LLC
TDF II Hauling and Plowing

Government Partners

Ann Arbor District Library
Chelsea District Library
City of Ann Arbor, City Hall
City of Ann Arbor, Farmers Market
City of Ann Arbor, Leslie Science Center
City of Chelsea
City of Saline
Federal Correctional Institution, Milan
Freedom Township
Great Lakes Science Center
Pittsfield Charter Township
Saline District Library
Village of Dexter
Washtenaw County Conservation District
Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority

Manufacturing Partners

Automotive Components Holdings, LLC—
Saline Plant
Automotive Components Holdings, LLC—
Spring St. Plant
Chelsea Milling Company
Data Optics, Inc.
Elastizell Corporation of America
Essen Instruments, Inc.

Ford Motor Company—Rawsonville Plant

Goetzcraft Printers, Inc.
Horiba Instruments
JAC Products, Inc.
Kaiser Optical Systems, Inc.
Malloy Inc.
McNaughton & Gunn, Inc.
Mikan Corporation
NSK Corporation
Nustep, Inc.
SoloHill Engineering
Thompson-Shore, Inc.

Non-Profit Partners

American Cancer Society
Ann Arbor Area Convention & Visitor's Bureau
Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum
Clean Water Action
Colonial Square Cooperative
Ecology Center
First Unitarian Universalist Church
Food Gatherers
Frontline Church
Growing Hope
High/Scope Educational Research Foundation
Legal Services of South Central Michigan
Michigan Peaceworks
National Kidney Foundation of Michigan
NEW Center – Nonprofit Enterprise at Work
NSF International
Performance Network
Recycle Ann Arbor
The Conscientious Cruiser
The Scrap Box
The Women's Center of America

Research and Development Partners

Pfizer Global Research and Development
Subaru Research and Development, Inc.

Restaurant Partners

Arbor Brewing Company
Dominick's
Leopold Bros. of Ann Arbor
Northside Grill
Seva Restaurant
Sweetwaters Café
Zingerman's Delicatessen

Retail/Wholesale Partners

Arrow Awards
Batteries Plus
Cartridge World Ann Arbor
Dixboro General Store
Dragons Lair Futons
Eckland Imaging & Design
G.E. Wacker, Inc.
Generations
King's Keyboard House
Maggie's Organics/Clean Clothes, Inc.
Materials Unlimited
Miles of Golf
People's Food Cooperative & Café Verde
ReCellular Inc.
Saline Picture Frame Company
Shaman Drum Bookshop
Signs by Tomorrow
The Chelsea Collection

Toner Supply ISO9001 Certified
UPS Store

Ypsilanti Food Cooperative

School Partners

Ann Arbor Learning Community
Forsythe Middle School
Lincoln Consolidated High School
Rudolf Steiner School
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Parish & School
University of Michigan
Washtenaw Community College

Service Partners

1-800-Got-Junk?
Ann Arbor News
Ann Arbor Transportation Authority
Arbor Psychological Consultants, P.C.
Arbor Springs Water Company, Inc.
Assay Designs, Inc.
Babel Latina, Inc. Editorial Group
Barbara Boyk, Ph.D
Bessenberg Bindery
Cartridges for Kids
Coach's Catastrophe Cleaning Services
David Meyer Photography
Design My Wedding
DTE Energy
Electronics Service Center, Inc.
Harrington's Standard Printing
InPrint, Inc.
Johnson Hill Land Ethics Studio
Kleanthous Family Foot Clinic
Liebherr Gear Technology
Linda Diane Feldt
Lodi Farms, LTD
Marsha Traxler, RN, RPP
Master Tech Appliance Service, Inc.
Organizational Designs, Inc.
Palmer Studio
Parcel Plus
Print-Tech
RJ Frank, Home Inspections
Secure ECO Shred
SelectRide, Inc.
Simply Organized Life
Sustainable Systems, Inc. & Sustainable Spaces
TeL Systems/Thalner Electronic Laboratories, Inc.
Unibar Maintenance Services, Inc.
Weber's Inn
Other Partners
Georgetown Country Club
Iris Waste Diversion Specialists, LLC
Klave's Marina, Inc.
St. Joseph Mercy Hospital
University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers
Village Cooperative Homes, Inc.
Certificates of Merit
A.F. Smith Electric, Inc.
Chelsea Animal Hospital
City of Milan
Dexter Area Chamber of Commerce
Ecumenical Center and International Residence
St. Louis Center

