

# APRIL

## ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS MONTH

# 2016



What Is "Waste"? Waste denotes "useless or having no value". Just because you don't have use for an item doesn't mean that it should go into a landfill. It may have value or be a resource for someone else. Think Before You Throw!

1. Watch *World Population Growth* video from 1 CE to 2050-5 minutes  
PopulationEducation.org

2. Learn about Safer personal care Products  
EWG.org

3. **REDUCE**  
What You Buy, Use and Throw Away!

4. Fill a reusable bottle with TAP WATER  
FoodandWaterWatch.org

5. Is "Freegan" for you?  
Freegan.info

6. **REFUSE** Plastic Straws  
take the pledge  
PlasticPollutionCoalition.org

7. "Foodkeeper" app tips for storing food-  
food.safety.gov

8. Food recovery efforts at schools  
FoodBus.org

9. Volunteers needed at N.I.L. **FOOD BANK**  
SolveHungerToday.org

10. **REUSE** and Donate Gently-used Items!

11. Have a donation? Connect with a charity  
zealousgood.com

12. Share Your Soles  
ShareYourSoles.org

13. Swap Stuff- **SAVE MONEY**  
Yerdle.com

14. "Trash" can be upcycled  
Terracycle.com/brigades

15. **DONATE** Books and Supplies  
Scarcerecoed.org

16. Shed pounds- Clean out a closet & donate. check out-  
SwanccGreenPages

17. **RECYCLE**  
Know the Do's and Don'ts!  
(See reverse side)

18. National Env. Edu. Week, "Surrounded by Science"  
EEWeek.org/ee-week

19. See "Portraits of Global Mass Culture"  
chrisjordan.com

20. Old Cartons = New Paper products  
RecycleCartons.com

21. Recycling one can saves enough energy to run a TV for 3 hours  
CanCentral.com

22. **EARTH DAY**  
"Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world."  
-Nelson Mandela  
EarthSite.org

23. Where can I recycle THIS?  
Earth911.org

24. **COMPOST** and Buy Locally-Grown Food!

25. Backyard Composting tips  
Swancc.org

26. "We Compost" Program  
illinoiscomposts.org

27. Find a FARMER'S MARKET  
localharvest.org

28. On average, each person wastes 20 LBS. of FOOD per week  
wastedfood.com

29. **ARBOR DAY**  
ArborDay.org

30. Be a "Change Maker"  
storyofstuff.org

More Resources on reverse side

K. Passi



Provided by the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County - swancc.org



SWANCC PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

SWANCC offers the following programs to residents that live in a member community for materials that can be recycled or need to be safely disposed. No business, school or institutional materials will be accepted. IDs will be checked.

- ❑ Battery Recycling (from households only)  
Alkaline and rechargeable batteries ❑ tape ends
- ❑ Document Destruction Events
- ❑ Electronics Recycling (permanent drop-offs locations and one-day events)
- ❑ Fluorescent Light Bulb Recycling
- ❑ Holiday Lights
- ❑ Pharmaceutical Disposal
- ❑ Sharps Disposal

SWANCC offers a variety of resources to educate individuals about reducing, reusing and recycling opportunities, as products that can be healthier for our families and environment:

Books, Curriculum, and DVDs For Loan

- ❑ *Closing the Loop Brochure*
- ❑ *Eco Cleaning Guide*
- ❑ *Eco-Friendly Marketplace Guide*
- ❑ *Eco Landscaping Guide*
- ❑ *Green Pages Reuse and Recycling Directory*
- ❑ *Waste Reduction Solutions Brochure*

Informational YouTube Videos:

- ❑ *Composting at Home*
- ❑ *Electronics Recycling: Know the Law*
- ❑ *How to Dry Latex Paint and Dispose of Household Chemical Wastes*
- ❑ *Managing Special Materials*
- ❑ *Recycling 101: The Dos and Don'ts*

For details regarding the above programs and resources, or for additional information, visit **swancc.org** or call the Agency at (847) 724-9205.

Connect With SWANCC


Join the Agency's online community for upcoming event reminders and information on waste reduction, recycling and sustainability.



GENERAL RECYCLING GUIDELINES

PLACE IN RECYCLING CONTAINER	ACCEPTABLE	NOT ACCEPTABLE
<b>PAPER</b> 	Includes newspaper, magazines, junk mail, office paper, cardboard boxes, aseptic cartons to include milk, juice and soup containers, cereal/food boxes and paper egg cartons. Flatten all boxes.	Materials should be free of plastic bags and wrappers. DO NOT include bath tissue, paper towels, photos, laminated paper, or paper coated with food, wax or foil.
<b>PLASTIC</b> 	Plastic containers numbered 1-5 and 7. Caps can be left on empty bottles. Labels do not need to be removed.	Containers should be empty and free of excess liquids and food residue. DO NOT include utensils, plates, toys, plant pots, garden hoses or pools.
<b>METAL</b> 	Includes clean aluminum, tin and steel cans, foil trays and empty aerosol cans. Labels may remain on the containers. Place metal lids inside cans.	Containers should be empty and free of excess liquids and food residue. DO NOT include fire extinguishers, propane and helium gas tanks, utensils, hangers, small appliances, batteries or auto parts.
<b>GLASS</b> 	Rinse glass bottles and jars to include clear, amber, blue and green glass. Labels do not need to be removed.	DO NOT include light bulbs, mirrors, bakeware, ceramics, drinking glasses, window or auto glass.

<b>What About Plastic #6?</b> Many recycling programs on a national level no longer include #6 PS plastic, known as polystyrene (check with your local hauler). It comes in expanded (fluffy) and rigid (clear) forms. According to	industry experts, #6 PS plastic is not easily recycled because it is mostly air, often coated with food contaminants, and can cost more than other commodities to recycle due to its lightweight nature, lack of competitive markets and high	transportation costs.  However, <i>Abt Electronics</i> , 1200 N Milwaukee Ave., and <i>Dart Container Corp.</i> , 315 Evergreen Dr., in Aurora take polystyrene from homeowners.	Both companies have drop-off programs for plastic foam packaging and washed out food service items. Visit Abt at <b>abt.com/green/</b> and Dart Container Corp., Inc. at <b>dartcontainer.com</b> for details.
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------



**RECYCLE**  
PLASTIC BAGS

Plastic bags and wrappers should be stuffed into one bag and tied closed. Recycle them at your nearest participating grocery or retail store.

**Items on the NOT ACCEPTABLE list may contaminate an entire load of recyclables and SHOULD NOT be placed in your recycling cart or bin.**

NO auto parts	NO combustibles	NO holiday lights	NO toys
NO batteries	NO foam	NO needles/syringes	NO utensils
NO clothes hangers	NO food/garbage	NO paint cans	NO wires

**NO Household Chemical Waste. Visit [swancc.org](http://swancc.org) for information on proper disposal.**

For additional information about properly recycling or disposing of items, contact SWANCC at (847) 724-9205 or visit **swancc.org**.

PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH

- ❑ [ClimateKids.nasa.gov/go-green](https://climatekids.nasa.gov/go-green)
- ❑ [EcoKidsUSA.org](https://EcoKidsUSA.org)
- ❑ [EIA.gov/Kids/Energy](https://EIA.gov/Kids/Energy)
- ❑ [KidsBeGreen.org](https://KidsBeGreen.org)
- ❑ [KidsFace.org](https://KidsFace.org)
- ❑ [Kids.niehs.nih.gov](https://Kids.niehs.nih.gov)
- ❑ [PBSKids.org/eeekoworld](https://PBSKids.org/eeekoworld)
- ❑ [PopulationEducaiton.org](https://PopulationEducaiton.org)
- ❑ [RecyclingFactsForKids.com](https://RecyclingFactsForKids.com)
- ❑ [RootsandShoots.org](https://RootsandShoots.org)
- ❑ [ScienceKids.co.nz/sciencefacts/recycling.html](https://ScienceKids.co.nz/sciencefacts/recycling.html)
- ❑ [Soils4kids.org](https://Soils4kids.org)
- ❑ [StoryofStuff.org](https://StoryofStuff.org)

RESOURCES FOR HOME LIFE

**Environmentally-Friendly Cleaners You Can Make at Home**  
[improvenet.com/environmental-friendly-cleaners-for-your-home](https://improvenet.com/environmental-friendly-cleaners-for-your-home)

**Environmental Working Group**  
[ewg.org](https://ewg.org)

**Find a SmartWay Vehicle**  
[fueleconomy.gov/feg/SmartWay.do](https://fueleconomy.gov/feg/SmartWay.do)

**Go Green at Home: Resources for Kids and Adults**  
[homeadvisor.com/article.show.Go-Green-at-Home-For-Kids-and-Adults.17339.html](https://homeadvisor.com/article.show.Go-Green-at-Home-For-Kids-and-Adults.17339.html)

**Green Pools: Operate an Eco-Friendly Pool**  
[blog.intheswim.com/green-pools-operate-an-eco-friendly-pool](https://blog.intheswim.com/green-pools-operate-an-eco-friendly-pool)

**Organic Consumers Association**  
[organicconsumer.org](https://organicconsumer.org)

**WaterSense | An EPA Partnership Program**  
[epa.gov/watersense](https://epa.gov/watersense)