



Issue 15: March 2009

Being Green Away From Home

Spring Break is a popular time to go away on road trips or vacations. When we are travelling we should be thinking about our impact on the environment. Here are some areas that you can focus on to continue to reduce your environmental impact while on vacation.

In The Car

Going on a road trip? You may already think about bringing a garbage bag in your car to avoid litter, but you can also bring a bag for recyclables. Keep your trash separated from your recyclables in the car, then it is easier to dispose of them properly at the end of your journey.

On The Road

Be sure your car is well maintained before heading out. This will improve your gas mileage, reduce your car's emissions, and avoid any leaking of fluids from your car into the environment.

While stopped at rest stops or restaurants, look for recycling containers. If none are available, consider holding onto your recyclables until the next stop where there may be recycling bins.

In a Hotel

When booking your hotel find out what kind of recycling opportunities they offer and what their general environmental policies are. If you are deciding between hotels why not make this part of your decision? Inquire about the kind of recycling program that is being run in the community you are staying in to ensure that you can do your part to best follow it while you are visiting.

Community Hazardous Waste Mobile Events

The OVWRC will be holding hazardous waste mobile events throughout our partner municipalities. These are opportunities to dispose of household hazardous waste such as batteries, compact fluorescent light bulbs, paints, oils, propane cylinders and pesticides. These events will take place from 9am to 3pm at the following locations:

Petawawa Civic Centre – May 23

KI Pembroke Parking Lot – June 20

Laurentian Valley, Old Fire Hall – August 1

Berndt Road Transfer Site – August 22

Collection Schedules

Pembroke, Petawawa and Laurentian Valley collection schedules for 2009-2010 will be arriving in the mail at the end of this month. Please check your new schedule for any changes in your collection days. Be sure to read the back of your schedule for important information on what material is acceptable, how to sort it and how it should be placed at the curb to be picked up.

If you do not receive your schedule by March 30th, please phone the Waste Recovery Centre at 613-735-7537. You can also [click here](#) to download your collection schedule.

Do You Know Where it Goes?

Some materials make us think twice before we throw them away. Is it recyclable? Can it be composted? Or is it garbage?

Cardboard Cans

Cardboard cans are used for a variety of products like frozen juice, nuts, baby formula and powdered cleansers. These cans are made of cardboard but have metal bottoms and/or lids. Recycle these cans with your container recycling. Please place any pull off strips or peel off seals in the regular garbage.

Smoke Detectors and Batteries

When we change the time on our clocks in the spring it is also the time of year to change the batteries in our smoke

detectors and to check that our smoke detectors are working. Remember that your old smoke detector batteries, as well as any other used batteries in the house, should be stored and then disposed of as hazardous waste. If your smoke detector needs to be replaced, your old smoke detector can also be disposed of as hazardous waste. You can bring your household hazardous waste to one of our mobile community hazardous waste events or you can bring it to the OVWRC during [regular operating hours](#).

Re-Use It!

Peanut butter jars are great to keep around and reuse. Once you have washed it, punch holes in the lid and use it as a shaker for baking soda. This makes a great non-toxic alternative to commercial powder cleaners and fresheners. Also keep peanut butter jars by your recycling bin or under your sink to store hazardous waste items like batteries.

The OVWRC E-Newsletter is published by the Ottawa Valley Waste Recovery Centre.

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