



Earth Day

The first Earth Day celebrated on April 22nd took place in 1970. It was founded by Senator Gaylord Nelson who wanted to bring attention to environmental issues. He decided to organize a grassroots protest across college campuses in the United States. By the time all was said and done 20 million demonstrators and thousands of schools and local communities took part in that first Earth Day. Now Earth Day is celebrated in many countries on April 22nd. People everywhere plan events, projects and address local and global environmental issues. This event has grown so much that events now take place throughout the entire month of April.

Earth Day Trivia (from www.earthday.ca)

1. How many plastic bags are used per year by the average family of four people?
 - a) 200
 - b) 500
 - c) 1000
 - d) 1500
2. Composting can reduce your household waste by:
 - a) 10%
 - b) 25%
 - c) 50%
 - d) 75%
3. On average, households waste _____ of their food purchases.
 - a) 5 %
 - b) 10%
 - c) 14%
 - d) 19%
4. On average, each child that takes a _____ to school generates 30kg of garbage per school year.
 - a) Backpack
 - b) Disposable Lunch
 - c) Scooter
 - d) Textbook

** Look at the bottom of the newsletter for answers**

Bulky Item Collection

Petawawa, Pembroke & Laurentian Valley offer a bulky item pick-up that provides residents with curbside collection of large household items such as: appliances, mattresses, furniture, carpets, etc. Please refer to your 2009/10 Collection Schedule for a complete list of acceptable items, size and weight restrictions or check our website at www.ovwrc.com. Your collection schedule also has the dates of bulky item pick-up for your area. Items that are NOT acceptable for the bulky item pick-up include household hazardous or special waste, construction, renovation and demolition material, leaf and yard waste, propane tanks, tires or regular garbage. [Click here](#) for the specific pick-up dates and times for your location.

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?

Individual Serving Containers

We now accept all types of individual plastic cups for container recycling. These include all small yogurt, apple sauce and pudding cups.

Easter Basket Plastic “Straw”

The straw-like material that is sold to fill up Easter baskets is not recyclable, put it in the garbage. Better yet, look for alternatives to this material such as reusing paper around the house and shredding it for the Easter baskets or buying the paper type straw which can be recycled.

Re-Use It!

Here are two ideas for starting seedlings indoors using reusable materials. Plant seeds in egg cups or cardboard tubes from toilet paper rolls. Fill them with potting soil, plant a seed in each and then leave them to germinate. When the seedlings are ready to be brought outdoors in the spring plant them, egg cup or paper tube and all, in the ground. The paper cup or tube will decompose and allow your plant to grow into the soil.

Earth Day Trivia Answers: 1.C 2.C 3.C 4.B

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