



# “One Man’s Trash...”

Your guide to reducing, reusing and recycling

Southeastern Indiana Recycling District

Serving: Franklin, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio,  
Ripley, Scott & Switzerland Counties



800-997-4793  
www.seird.org

Winter 2017  
Quarterly Newsletter

## Dates set for mobile household hazardous waste collections



SEIRD accepts HHW (household hazardous waste) from residents throughout Franklin, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio, Ripley, Scott, and Switzerland counties. During 2017, two special collection days will be available in each county except Jefferson, where HHW is accepted year-round. Residents from all seven SEIRD counties can dispose of HHW at the Jefferson County Recycle Center in Madison at 6556 North Shun Pike Road, Building #534, inside the Jefferson Proving Ground, during normal business hours.

Here is the mobile HHW collection schedule for this year. All mobile collections take place on Saturdays:

- **April 1**  
Franklin County Recycle Center, Brookville – 8 to 10 a.m.  
Batesville Area Recycle Center (Ripley County) – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **April 8**  
Jennings County Recycle Center, North Vernon – 8 to 10 a.m.  
Scott County Recycle Center, Scottsburg – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **April 15**  
Switzerland County Recycle Center, East Enterprise – 8 to 10 a.m.  
Ohio County Recycle Center, Rising Sun – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **August 5**  
Franklin County Recycle Center – 8 to 10 a.m.  
Ripley County Recycle Center, Osgood – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **August 12**  
Jennings County Recycle Center – 8 to 10 a.m.  
Scott County Recycle Center – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **August 19**  
Switzerland County Recycle Center – 8 to 10 a.m.  
Ohio County Recycle Center – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Examples of HHW include household cleaners, oil-based paint, insecticides, pesticides, and automotive fluids. This includes powder, liquid, or crystallized HHW chemicals with their original labels attached. If a product is labeled “Danger,” “Poison,” or “Warning,” there is a good chance that the unneeded portion is HHW. When HHW is not disposed of properly, whether it is mixed with household trash or poured on the ground, it can endanger humans, wildlife, and our environment.

## Leftover paint?

We get a lot of calls about leftover paint. So, chances are, you have some old paint sitting in your basement, garage, or utility room. Do you know what to do with paint that you don’t need?

Latex paint is not hazardous waste. Latex paint is a water-based product and does not contain oil or chemical solvents. **We do not accept latex paint since you have other safe and appropriate disposal options.**

The best option is to dry out the latex paint and dispose of the dried-out paint and can in your household trash. If there is just a small amount of paint in the can, leave the lid off until the paint has dried. With cans that are one-third to two-thirds full, add kitty litter, sawdust, or shredded paper and leave the lid off the can. Allow the paint to harden. In both cases, be sure that the open paint can is not accessible to children or pets. After the paint is dried and hardened in the can, dispose of the can and lid in the trash.

For full cans or larger amounts of paint, call our office at 800-997-4793 or 812-574-4080 or visit our website at [www.seird.org](http://www.seird.org) for additional tips on drying and disposal.

Remember—enamel, which is oil-based paint, and paint thinner are hazardous waste. Dispose of those items through the District’s household hazardous waste program.



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## A greener holiday cleanup

Before you know it, New Year’s Day will be past, the presents will be tucked away, and the tree will be dried out, littering the floor with needles. It’s time to clean up from the holidays, but where do you start? Here are some suggestions to help “green-up” your holiday cleanup!

### Holiday Trees and Greenery

Many communities offer recycling programs for real holiday trees. Contact your city or town hall to find out whether a tree recycling program is available in your community. If you can recycle your real tree, be sure to remove all of the lights, ornaments, tinsel, and garland, and take off the metal or plastic stand. Greenery should also be bare, so please remove wire, hooks, bows, and other decorations.



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### Electronics

More than likely, someone in your household got some new electronics. If those replaced something you already owned and now no longer need, don’t throw your old electronics into the trash! Sell or donate usable and unwanted electronics. We accept working electronics at the district reuse centers. If you have older or broken electronics, recycle them at the recycle center in your county. Fees may apply for some items. (See page 4 for locations and hours.)

### Old Toys and Games

The holidays always bring loads of new games and toys for the kids. As you’re making room on shelves and in closets, clean out old toys, clothes, and games and fill a donation box. Outgrown and unwanted children’s items, adult clothes, household goods, and books are

accepted at the SEIRD reuse centers, as well as by many charitable organizations, churches, and thrift shops.

### Batteries

Sometimes, it seems that every present we receive requires batteries. Single-use alkaline batteries (AAA, AA, C and D) can go into the trash, but rechargeable and button batteries contain materials that should be recycled. Rechargeable and button batteries, as well as car batteries (capped and uncracked), are accepted at the county recycle centers.

### Boxes, Wrapping Paper, and More

After the presents are opened, the floor is usually littered with the wrapping paper and boxes that had carefully and thoughtfully hidden presents inside.

You can recycle cardboard shipping boxes, empty gift boxes, and non-metallic wrapping paper. Many holiday cards can also be recycled, but there are some exceptions: no photo paper, no musical greeting cards, no metallic or foil paper, and no cards with ribbons, buttons, or other items attached.

Ribbons, bows, and most gift bags are not recyclable but are easily stored and can be reused later. If you won’t be saving them, be sure to place them into the trash.

### What’s Next?

Now that you have a freshly cleaned home and a head start on your environmentally cleaner year, brainstorm ways to reduce your waste all year long. For ideas, check out our “New Year’s Reduce-olutions” on page 4.



## Meet us on social media

The Southeastern Indiana Solid Waste District is on social media—and we know you are, too! On Facebook, you’ll find us by searching for “Southeastern Indiana Recycling District.” Be sure to like us once you get there. On Twitter, our username is @SEIRD\_. Look us up and follow us.



# The Zero-Waste Lifestyle

**Amy:** “Remember last weekend when my parents were here?”

**Adam:** “Yeah.” He was looking at his computer, distracted.

**Amy:** “We were joking about living trash free for a whole year? I think I want to do it.”

From that conversation, the Green Garbage Project was born. Over a 52-week period, Amy and Adam Korst endeavored to produce no waste destined for the landfill. In the end, they were left with a shoebox of materials which they could not reuse or recycle. It weighed about the same amount as the three pounds of waste the average American throws away for landfill disposal EACH DAY. They were surprised to learn that it wasn't that difficult and the benefits were many. They lived more simply, spent less money, and ate healthier and were generally happier. In addition, they were helping preserve natural resources and reduce the harmful effects of resource extraction, manufacturing, and transportation on the environment. So, they just kept doing it.

In her book, *The Zero-Waste Lifestyle: Live Well by Throwing Away Less*, Amy Korst shares firsthand knowledge gained from her zero-waste lifestyle. She also draws on the experience of five others, some of whom have been doing this for decades. So, rest assured, this isn't as rare as it sounds, nor is it as difficult. It is both an interesting narrative and an educational reference. Whether you read it cover to cover or keep it on the shelf as a do-it-yourself resource, you won't be disappointed.

The first five chapters cover the big picture of waste in America, as well as hands-on advice about reducing your consumption, improving your recycling, and composting your organic waste.

The author advises you to get to know people where you shop. At a grocery, she'll ask to speak to the manager and, in her words, “I introduce myself, shake their hand, and explain my lifestyle. Then I ask that person whether I can bring my own containers to the

store to buy fresh, bulk, or deli products.” She goes on to offer some sample dialogue to help the reader through the process. Then she offers this helpful tidbit: “I make sure I note the manager's name, so if I encounter a skeptical employee when I get back to the meat counter, I can say, ‘Oh, I checked with Carli, the store manager, and she said it was okay.’”

Korst encourages the reader to, “Be proud! You're making a difference. How many people can say that?” She suggests you lead by example: “Those around you see your choices and may choose to emulate them. Even if they don't, they may choose to accommodate your choices, thereby using their consumer purchasing power to buy green products.” As you research what packaging items are made of and whether or not they are recyclable in your area, she encourages you to call the manufacturers' toll-free numbers and express your interest in recyclable packaging.

Helpful tools are provided, such as a master shopping checklist to help you evaluate what you buy regularly and evaluate whether packaging associated with those items is recyclable. She also advocates that you maintain On-the-Go Kits for the car and work. The travel mug in the car kit reduces her use of disposable coffee cups, and the reusable plastic containers reduce her use of Styrofoam containers when taking leftovers home from a restaurant. Use of these kits provides her with more opportunities to share her story. When someone brings treats to work or there is an office pitch-in, Korst attends these events “with my plastic plate and utensils in hand. This often becomes a talking point among my coworkers, which is great because it helps raise awareness even more.”

In later chapters, she provides detailed instructions on reducing waste in every room of the house, as well as specific advice for kids, travel, work, holidays, and special occasions. Throughout, Korst divides her guidance into beginner, moderate, and advanced levels. Everyone will find something useful here. Once their systems were in place, Amy and Adam found no difficulty maintaining their efforts. With this book, you won't have to develop those systems from scratch.

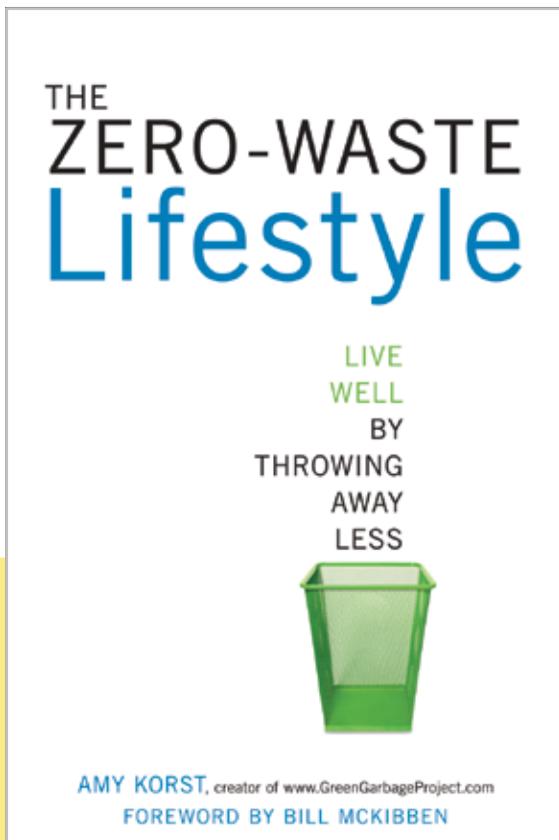


Photo courtesy of Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center at The University of Texas at Austin



*The Theme Gardens at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center are among the 12 acres of cultivated gardens and meadows on site, in addition to hiking trails.*

## QUOTES REQUOTED

**“The environment is where we all meet, where we all have a mutual interest; it is the one thing all of us share.”**

Claudia “Lady Bird” Johnson, 1912-2007

Businesswoman, First Lady, and Co-Founder of the National Wildflower Research Center



Thirteen billion pounds of paper towels are used in America each year. Many times, people take multiple towels to dry their hands. If everyone gave up just one each day, we could save 571,230,000 pounds every year. So, how do we make the most of only one, or even one-half of, a paper towel? Joe Smith explains it takes two simple steps before drying: SHAKE and FOLD. After turning off the water, SHAKE the water off your hands. Next, FOLD the paper towel in half. If it is a tri-fold towel in a public restroom, open it up and fold it in half. Now wipe your hands dry! Watch Joe Smith demonstrate his one-towel technique at [www.TED.com/talks/joe\\_smith\\_how\\_to\\_use\\_a\\_paper\\_towel](http://www.TED.com/talks/joe_smith_how_to_use_a_paper_towel).

Other ways to save paper towels include using an air dryer whenever available and using fabric towels at home, which cut down on waste, as well as paper consumption.

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# Simple Tools to Reduce Food Waste

Kerry Taylor started Squawkfox.com in 2008. Covering a wide range of personal finance and investing topics, the blog offers a few effective strategies to help you save money while reducing food waste. Taylor says the average American household spends more than \$6,000 per year on food and trashes 25% of that food. So, eliminating food waste could save your family as much as \$1,500.

The first step is to identify what food you are wasting and why. Easily followed instructions, including a downloadable Food Waste Diary, can be found at [www.Squawkfox.com/food-waste-diary](http://www.Squawkfox.com/food-waste-diary). Taylor's food waste diary helps you record what you throw away after every meal, the reason why you threw it away, and how much is being tossed. She even wants you to write

down where the food went—compost pile, garbage disposal, trash can, or your dog's stomach. After collecting the data, Taylor encourages you to review the results and search for patterns. Recognizing the causes, such as overpouring beverages, making meals too big, or buying too many perishables at a time, can help you avoid those situations in the future.

The blog also has excellent guidelines and tips:

- Meal planning: [www.Squawkfox.com/meal-planner](http://www.Squawkfox.com/meal-planner)
- Organizing your fridge: [www.Squawkfox.com/organized-fridge](http://www.Squawkfox.com/organized-fridge)
- Organizing your freezer: [www.Squawkfox.com/freezer-organization](http://www.Squawkfox.com/freezer-organization)
- 20 tasty ways to love your slighted leftovers: [www.Squawkfox.com/leftovers](http://www.Squawkfox.com/leftovers)



**A FAMILY OF FOUR SPENDS \$1500  
A YEAR ON FOOD THEY DON'T EAT**

COOK IT, STORE IT, SHARE IT.  
JUST DON'T WASTE IT.

[SAVETHEFOOD.COM](http://SAVETHEFOOD.COM)



You may already recycle your newspapers and office paper, but did you know there are many other ways to reduce or eliminate paper waste?

## Reduce

- Go digital: Ask that bills be emailed to you, and subscribe to electronic versions of your favorite publications. Use email instead of printing memos, store recipes with online programs or apps instead of printing them, and use your smartphone for your calendar, grocery, and to-do lists.
- Eliminate junk mail: Call to have your name removed from catalog and other mailing lists. Check out [www.Ecocycle.org/junkmail](http://www.Ecocycle.org/junkmail) for a list of ways to stop junk mail from clogging up your mailbox.
- Invest in durables: Instead of disposable paper goods, use cloth napkins, cloth kitchen rags, ceramic mugs, and reusable plates.
- Double up: Make copies on both sides of the paper.

## Reuse

- Wrap it up: Repurpose newsprint or old maps as wrapping paper, and reuse gift bags that are still in good shape.

- Remember the reverse: Use the back side of single-sided copies and envelopes as scrap paper.
- Buy recycled: Purchase recycled-content copier paper and notebooks. Don't forget to look for toilet tissue and paper towels with post-consumer recycled content, too.
- Re-read: Check out library books or buy used books instead of buying new ones.

## Recycle

- Capture it all: Make sure you are recycling all of your corrugated cardboard, paperboard, office paper, magazines, and junk mail.
- Add a bin: Place recycling bins strategically in your home and workplace where you make the most paper waste. A container in the bathroom can collect tubes from empty toilet paper rolls and old magazines. A bin next to the kitchen trash can is convenient for depositing cereal boxes and junk mail. Make sure the bin is clearly marked so everyone uses it properly.
- Spread the word: Tell your school, workplace, neighbors, place of worship, and local businesses about recycling opportunities in your area.

## THINK BEFORE YOU SHRED!

Shred **only** documents with sensitive information!

Shredding shortens paper fibers – recycling whole pieces keeps the fibers long, strong, and ready to be made into new paper. Improve recycling by putting non-sensitive papers straight into the recycling bin. It's easy!



For information on how to recycle shredded documents in your area, visit [paperrecycles.org](http://paperrecycles.org).



Thanks!



# SEIRD Recycle and Reuse Centers

Check out one of our Reuse Centers. These locations accept clean, gently used items, such as clothing, shoes, books, office supplies, videos/CDs, and non-upholstered furniture. Many can take even more materials. Just give the center near you a call and ask about the items that you would like to donate.

Our Reuse Centers are also great places to “shop” for items that are new-to-you. You may shop for 20 minutes once a week. There is a limit of four household items,

five books, and an unlimited amount of clothing on each visit. At the Building Materials Reuse Center in East Enterprise, you can pick up two items per week. Everything at the Reuse Centers is FREE! All merchandise is intended for personal use only and should not be resold.

Check out the location nearest you!

## Batesville Area Recycle Center

616 John Street, Batesville  
Phone: 812-801-9099  
Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri., 1–6 p.m.;  
Sat., 8 a.m.–noon

## Franklin County Recycle and Reuse Center

9076 Landfill Road, Metamora (located off of U.S. Highway 52, west of Brookville)  
Phone: 765-647-6710  
Recycle Center Hours: Mon.–Sat., 8:30 a.m.–3 p.m.  
Reuse Center Hours: Tues. and Thurs., 9 a.m.–3 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m.–noon

## Jefferson County Recycle Center

6556 N. Shun Pike Road, Building #534, Madison (inside Jefferson Proving Ground)  
Phone: 812-574-4080  
Hours: Mon.–Fri., 7 a.m.–3 p.m.\*; 2nd and 4th Sat., 8 a.m.–noon  
\*The center stays open until 7 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month.

## Jefferson County Reuse Center

13 Medical Plaza, Hanover  
Phone: 812-801-7012  
Hours: Tues. and Thurs., noon–5 p.m.;  
Sat., 8 a.m.–noon

## Jennings County Recycle and Reuse Center

4800 State Road 3, North Vernon (behind county garage)  
Phone: 812-352-0800  
Recycle Center Hours: Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri., 8 a.m.–6 p.m.; Sat., 8 a.m.–4 p.m.  
Reuse Center Hours: Wed. and Fri., 1–6 p.m.; Sat., 11 a.m.–3 p.m.

## Ohio County Recycle and Reuse Center

1432 Barbour Way, Rising Sun  
Phone: 812-801-9037  
Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri., 1–6 p.m.;  
Sat., 8 a.m.–noon

## Ripley County Recycle and Reuse Center

2710 N. Hasmer Hill Road, Osgood  
Phone: 812-801-9077  
Recycle Center Hours: Mon., 8 a.m.–3 p.m.;  
Tues. and Thurs., noon–6 p.m.; Fri., 8 a.m.–3 p.m.; Sat., 8 a.m.–noon (closed Wed. and Sun.)  
Reuse Center Hours: Tues. and Thurs., noon–6 p.m.; Sat., 8 a.m.–noon

## Scott County Recycle and Reuse Center

4689 Double or Nothing Road, Scottsburg  
Phone: 812-752-8474  
Recycle Center Hours: Mon.–Fri., 9 a.m.–3:45 p.m.; Sat., 8 a.m.–12:45 p.m.  
Reuse Center Hours: Tues. and Thurs., 9 a.m.–3 p.m.; Sat., 8 a.m.–noon



## Switzerland County Recycle and Building Materials Reuse Center

19 McCreary Ridge Road, East Enterprise  
Phone: 812-599-3751  
Hours: Mon. and Wed., 1–6 p.m.;  
Sat., 8 a.m.–noon

## Switzerland County Reuse Center

507 Walnut Street, Vevay  
Phone: 812-801-6549  
Hours: Tues. and Thurs., noon–5 p.m.;  
Sat., 8 a.m.–noon

For more information:  
[www.seird.org](http://www.seird.org)

# New Year's Reduce-olutions

As the year comes to a close, people start making New Year's Resolutions. For many, the priority is to spend less money. The easiest way to do this is to reduce what we are consuming. This year, make a Reduce-olution! Here are some tips to help you reduce your consumption and save money at the same time:

- **Turn It Off:** Make it a habit to turn off the lights as you walk out of the room, even if you know you'll be re-entering soon. Plug the TV, DVD player, game system, stereo, and computer into power strips and turn them off when you aren't using them. They draw energy even when they are not on, so this is an easy way to save energy for hours at a time when you are at work or sleeping. Also, turn off the water. Don't let it run while you wash dishes, brush your teeth, or clean the bathtub. It takes less water to run the dishwasher than to hand-wash the same number of dishes, so fill the dishwasher and only hand-wash those things that aren't dishwasher-safe.
- **Drive Sensibly:** Carpool when possible. Get regular tune-ups and oil changes for better gas mileage and fewer emissions. Don't idle; it only takes 10 seconds of gas to restart your car, so idling longer than that wastes more. Visit [www.FuelEconomy.gov/feg/driveHabits.jsp](http://www.FuelEconomy.gov/feg/driveHabits.jsp) for more tips on how to reduce your fuel consumption.
- **Buy Less:** This may seem like the obvious one, but put a little more thought into it. We have kitchens full of single-use gadgets and appliances. Before buying something, ask yourself two questions: "Do I really need this?" and "Do I already have something that would serve the same purpose?"

- **Don't Buy — Borrow:** Before you buy something that you won't use often, look for somewhere you can borrow it. Get books, movies, and magazines from friends and family or the library. Share yard tools with a neighbor. Need a dress for a special occasion? Ask to look through a friend's closet, or consider renting it, as men have rented tuxes for decades.
- **Use Your Bags, Bottles, and Mugs:** We all do it — we keep reusable bags in our cars and then walk into the store without them. Put them somewhere you won't forget them, such as next to the car seat so you see them when you get your child out or next to you in the front seat. Or put your purse or wallet inside the bags so they are together. Don't just use them at the grocery store; take them along for any shopping you do. Always carry a water bottle or coffee mug with you; most places will fill your bottle or mug instead of giving you a disposable cup.
- **Give Up Disposables:** Avoid buying bottled water. Use cloth napkins, towels, and rags in your home. Eat meals on dishes,



not paper, plastic, or Styrofoam plates and bowls.

- **Keep Electronics in Tip-Top Shape:** Keep electronics operating as long as possible and you'll save money and conserve resources. Regularly upload pictures and videos to the cloud and delete them from your mobile device to free up storage space. Don't let the battery go dead before charging it to full. Instead, charge the battery a little at a time, as often as possible. Leave your laptop plugged in while you use it and unplugged when it's turned off. Don't expose your device to high temperatures. Use both a case and a screen protector for cell phones, e-readers, and tablets. Frequently clear the cache and remove temporary files to keep your device running smoothly.

*We want your suggestions, questions and comments!*

## Southeastern Indiana Recycling District

Jefferson Proving Ground  
Building #534  
6556 N. Shun Pike Road  
Madison, IN 47250  
800-997-4793  
[sheila@seird.org](mailto:sheila@seird.org)  
[www.seird.org](http://www.seird.org)

 Southeastern Indiana Recycling District

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# Scholarships available for college-bound high school seniors

The Southeastern Indiana Recycling District (SEIRD) is pleased to announce the 2017 Students Making an Environmental Difference Scholarships for graduating high school seniors. Students attending any high school located in Franklin, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio, Ripley, Scott, or Switzerland County may apply.

The deadline to apply is Monday, April 3, 2017. Entrants do not have to plan to pursue a major or career in an environmental field to be selected for an SEIRD scholarship. Application forms can be picked up in the high school guidance counseling office or requested by email from Gary Marlin at [gary@seird.org](mailto:gary@seird.org). You will also be able to download the application from the SEIRD website, [www.seird.org](http://www.seird.org) (click on "Education"). If you have questions, please call Gary Marlin at 800-997-4793 or 812-574-4080.