

Mid Michigan Waste Authority



COMMUNITY connection

A monthly update from the Mid Michigan Waste Authority

April 2018

Upcoming Events

MMWA Executive Cmte Meeting

MMWA Office

Thursday, May 24 @ 9:30 AM

Earth Day Celebration

Saginaw Children's Zoo

Saturday, April 21 @ 10 am - 2 pm

Earth Day Celebration Saturday, April 21

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 21, when MMWA holds its annual Earth Day celebration at the Saginaw Children's Zoo. Once again, the first 400 people who bring a recyclable drink container will be admitted for free.

Festivities will include face painting, a scavenger hunt, crafts, contests, resources, and activities offered by MMWA and its environmentally-focused community partners.

For more information, visit www.recyclemotion.org/news.

In March 2018

11 MMWA member communities had ZERO valid RCLs and 12 communities had ONE.

A valid RCL is when a Waste Management collection worker returns to the address to provide collection service.

MMWA launches curbside education pilot April 16

Mid Michigan Waste Authority is launching a new curbside education pilot in eight of its member communities that aims to improve recycling habits while recognizing residents who are already demonstrating good recycling behavior.

The 15-week pilot runs from April 16 to July 27, and will cover parts of Bridgeport Twp, Carrollton Twp, James Twp, Saginaw Twp, Spaulding Twp, Village of St. Charles, Thomas Twp, and Tittabawassee Twp.

The project is funded in part by a Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Recycling Education Grant. MMWA was one of just 13 entities statewide to receive an education grant last May.

Through the pilot, MMWA is changing the tone of its curbside education efforts by using two new stickers to help educate residents and promote the MMWA recycling program. The stickers will also encourage residents to switch to a 45-gallon or smaller can for their recyclables.

The "Gold Medal" sticker will provide positive reinforcement to those residents who "get caught being good recyclers." Recycling collection workers will leave the sticker on bins and cans that are prepared properly and contain only accepted recyclables.

The "Oops!" sticker will be left on recycling bins or cans that contain the three most common recycling container contaminants: plastic bags, foam products, or greasy pizza boxes. Because these items are not recyclable in the MMWA curbside program, the

sticker will remind residents that they should be placed in the trash.

Residents in areas that are not part of the pilot project will see no change to their curbside recycling program. Drivers will continue to use the orange stickers that inform residents of improperly prepared trash, recycling, or yard waste, or note that a bulk item has been scheduled for collection.

For more information about the curbside education pilot, call (989) 781-9555.

Need a home for your foam ?

Mid Michigan Waste Authority is pleased to announce the addition of a foam recycling pilot to this year's Household Special Waste Drop-off program. Residents will be able to bring most polystyrene foam products to MMWA for recycling on the two Document Shredding/Foam Recycling dates: Thursdays, May 17 and September 20 from 3 pm to 7 pm.

Thanks to a partnership with Dart Container Corporation, MMWA will accept most polystyrene foam products including cups, takeout containers, egg cartons, coolers/ice chests, meat trays, protective packing foam blocks, and other foam marked with a #6 inside the chasing arrows symbol. We cannot take packing peanuts. Any foam that has contained food or beverages needs to be thoroughly rinsed. Straws, lids and labels must be removed.