



"One Man's Trash..."

Your guide to reducing, reusing and recycling

Southeastern Indiana Recycling District

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



812-574-4080
www.seird.org

Fall 2026
Quarterly Newsletter

What SEIRD Does for Southeastern Indiana

The Southeastern Indiana Recycling District serves Franklin, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio, Ripley, Scott, and Switzerland Counties by providing practical solutions for managing the materials our communities no longer need while protecting the environment.

Our work goes well beyond recycling. Through recycling programs, ReUse Centers, household hazardous waste collection, community partnerships, education, and responsible solid waste management, we help keep usable materials in circulation, reduce unnecessary waste, and provide residents with safe and convenient options for items that require special handling.

Good environmental stewardship doesn't have to be complicated. Sometimes it's as simple as knowing what can be recycled, finding a new home for something that still has plenty of life left, or having a safe place to dispose of materials that don't belong in the regular trash. By providing these services throughout southeastern Indiana, SEIRD helps protect our natural resources, support cleaner communities, and make responsible waste management easier and more accessible for everyone.

There's a lot more to SEIRD than recycling bins, cardboard, and plastic. Our programs and services reach residents, schools, and communities in a variety of ways—some you may already use and others you may not even know are available. SEIRD operates eight recycling centers and supports additional satellite recycling locations throughout the district, giving residents convenient options for keeping common household materials out of the trash. We also collect recyclables from 50 area schools each week, helping schools manage their recycling programs and giving students an opportunity to learn good habits along the way. You can download your county's brochure and find details at www.seird.org.

But what about the things you can't simply put in the trash or a regular recycling bin? That's another important part of what we do. SEIRD provides residents with options for disposing of difficult items such as electronics, tires, automotive



fluids, batteries, household hazardous waste, refrigerant-containing appliances, mercury and pharmaceutical waste. These programs offer a practical, local solution for getting rid of items that can otherwise be difficult to dispose of properly. SEIRD also operates seven ReUse Centers, where usable household items can find a new home rather than being thrown away. The stores welcome more than 1,200 visitors each week. From tools and household goods to books, clothing, toys, electronics and more, the ReUse program gives residents a place to pass along things they no longer need—and gives someone else the chance to put them to use. Reuse Center brochures can be downloaded at www.seird.org.

SEIRD provides educational programs for both adults and youth, offers scholarships to area high school seniors and provides recycling information and resources throughout the district. Behind the scenes, we work directly with local governments as well. SEIRD assists cities, towns and counties with trash and recycling bids and contracts, environmental compliance, community programs and other local needs. We also provide recycling grants to communities that offer curbside or satellite recycling opportunities.

SEIRD is about providing useful services to the people and communities of our District. Whether you're clearing out the garage, getting rid of an old television, looking for an affordable secondhand item, helping your school recycle, or simply wondering what to do with something that shouldn't go in the trash, chances are SEIRD has a program that can help.

Celebrate AMERICA RECYCLES DAY



Celebrate America Recycles Day with SEIRD's Annual Raffle! Earth Day falls on November 15th, and we are holding our annual Raffle once again!

- Visit your local recycling center between November 9th-14th to fill out a raffle ticket.
- Designate your favorite prize bundle while entering.
- We will select two winners from each Recycling Center.

This year, we are adding a Grand Prize Raffle item. One Grand Prize winner will be drawn chosen from all entries throughout the district.

Check out the prize details below!

BUNDLE A:

Plastic Home Recycling Bins/sorters

BUNDLE B:

Canvas Recycle Totes/sorters

BUNDLE C:

SEIRD Gear: Your choice of a SEIRD Sweatshirt or T-shirt, and your choice of a Yeti tumbler or can cooler.

GRAND PRIZE:

Yeti Roadie 15 Hard Cooler, SEIRD Sweatshirt, Yeti Rambler Travel mug, Yeti can cooler, and a bag of assorted SEIRD goodies!



America Recycles Day Art Contest for kids in grades 3-5

DESIGN A T-SHIRT PROMOTING RECYCLING!

America Recycles Day is November 15th, and SEIRD is excited to announce a t-shirt design contest for students in grades 3-5. The winning design will be printed on a t-shirt, and every student in the winner's classroom will receive a shirt, along with their teacher. Our top winners will also have their designs showcased on our website, social media, and possibly used for other promotion items if applicable.

Entries are due by November 9th and should be mailed to 6556 N Shun Pike Road, JPG #534, Madison, IN 47250. Please ensure that the student's name, grade, teacher, and school are written on the back of their artwork. Please submit design on a standard sized sheet of blank paper. Given the nature of the contest, please prioritize spelling and readability when creating the design. We look forward to seeing the student's art!





Keep Recyclables Clean

Keep Recyclables Clean, Dry and Properly Sorted One of the most common challenges recycling programs face is contamination from mixed or improperly sorted recyclables. When food waste, liquids, plastic bags, Styrofoam or other non-recyclable items are mixed with clean paper, bottles, cans and cardboard, they can disrupt processing and may cause entire loads of recyclables to be rejected. Keeping recyclables separate and free of contamination helps ensure materials can be successfully recycled into new products.

- Know which plastics are accepted. Look for the recycling symbol and number on the plastic container. However, the number alone does not mean an item is recyclable. Follow local recycling guidelines for the type and shape of the container. The program accepts #1 and #2 bottle- and jug-shaped plastics and #5 plastic containers and cups.
- Keep plastic clamshell containers out of the recycling cart. Plastic clamshells, such as those used for some produce, bakery items and other products, are a common source of contamination. Unless specifically identified as accepted by local guidelines, place these containers in the trash.
- Leave candy wrappers and other flexible plastics out of the recycling cart. Candy wrappers, chip bags, pouches and similar flexible plastic packaging are not accepted with regular recyclables. Place these items in the trash.
- Keep Styrofoam out of cardboard. Styrofoam and other foam packaging do not belong in the recycling cart. Do not place foam pieces inside cardboard boxes or leave them mixed with cardboard. Break down and flatten cardboard boxes before placing them in the recycling cart, and keep them free of Styrofoam and other non-recyclable materials.
- Keep recyclables clean and dry. Empty food and beverage containers before placing them in the recycling cart. A quick rinse can help remove leftover food or liquids and prevent contamination.
- Recycle cardboard correctly. Break down and flatten corrugated cardboard boxes before recycling them. Remove Styrofoam, plastic bags and other non-recyclable packing materials from boxes before placing the cardboard in the cart.
- Recycle items loose, not in bags. Place accepted recyclable materials directly into the recycling cart. Do not bag your recyclables, as bags can interfere with the sorting process.
- When in doubt, check before you recycle. An item should not go into the recycling cart simply because it is made of plastic, paper or another potentially recyclable material. If you are unsure whether an item is accepted, check the local recycling guidelines before placing it in the cart.

Want to Recycle at Your Business?

We offer walk-through consultations to businesses in our District and will help them develop action plans to properly dispose of hazardous materials or recycle standard items, scrap materials, or off-specification goods. If you operate a business in our seven-county District and would like some recycling advice, contact SEIRD at info@seird.org or 812-574-4080.



Bring Bumble Bees Home

Bumble bees are hardworking pollinators that play an important role in nature, our gardens and even the food we eat. In fact, bumble bees are important commercial pollinators for many of the food plants grown for our communities. October's Pollinator of the Month is the bumble bee, so now's the perfect time to learn more about these garden visitors and how you can support them.

Bumble bees are active from early spring through late fall, which means they need access to food throughout much of the growing season. Adult bees and their larvae rely on pollen and nectar for food. A garden with a variety of flowers can provide the resources bumble bees need while also adding color and beauty to your yard. One of the best ways to help bumble bees is to plant native plants. When planning your garden, choose a variety of plants that bloom at different times of the year. Include some that flower in spring, others that bloom during summer and additional plants that provide flowers in fall. This creates a continuous source of food for bumble bees and other pollinators across three seasons.

Bumble bees and other pollinators face challenges, and several bumble bee species are rapidly declining. You can help by making your yard a more welcoming place for pollinators. Consider replacing some areas of lawn with flowering native plants, and avoid removing flowers simply because they attract bees. Bees in your garden can be a sign that your plants are providing valuable habitat and food.

The last important step to protect bees is to eliminate pesticides whenever possible. Pesticides can harm pollinators that visit treated plants. Instead, consider natural approaches to managing garden pests and choose plants that are well suited to local growing conditions.



Shredding Service Available

Residents of our District can deliver sensitive documents for secure shredding to any of our Recycle Centers. There is a limit of three banker-sized (or similar) boxes per residence per visit. You do not need to remove staples, but please remove all metal tabs and metal

reinforcements from hanging file folders, paper clips, clamp clips, etc. When you deliver your documents to the Recycle Center, you will place them into a



locked, tamper-proof container. When the container is full, it will be transferred to our facility in Madison, where the contents will be shredded. If you are uncomfortable leaving your documents, you may call our office at 812-574-4080. We will be happy to make an appointment so you can deliver documents directly to the Jefferson County Recycle Center

in Madison to personally watch them be shredded. This is a program for residents and their personal, confidential papers only — please, no business documents.



Before you bag up every leaf in your yard this fall, consider leaving some behind. Fallen leaves provide shelter for overwintering pollinators like native bees and butterflies while also protecting soil from erosion and moisture loss. A layer of leaves can create valuable habitat that helps beneficial insects survive through the winter months.

Leaves are also a natural resource for your garden. As they break down, they return nutrients to the soil and improve its health. Try using leaves as mulch around trees and garden beds, or add them to your compost pile.



Break Down Those Boxes

Please break down and flatten all cardboard and paperboard boxes. First, it will save a lot of room in your recycling cart. Second, it keeps items from getting caught inside the box. At our recycle centers, staff members and machines work together to identify and sort materials as they travel rapidly

over and through equipment. When other recyclables are inside boxes, they aren't visible and can't be separated by category, leading to contaminated bales of boxes and lost recyclable containers. Thank you for your help!

Frequently Asked Questions

Do you purchase aluminum cans and scrap metal?

No, we do not pay for these items. We use the revenue made from these materials to fund our program operations, as well as our education outreach efforts, such as our "One Man's Trash..." and Trash Talk! publications and programs held at local schools.



What do I do with old paints and stains?

We accept oil-based paints and stains during our mobile household hazardous waste collections offered twice a year at the Recycle Centers and year-round at the Jefferson County Recycle Center, which is located inside the old Jefferson Proving Ground. We do not accept latex paint. Dry out latex paint and then dispose of it with your household trash.

How do I dry out latex paint?

Pop off the lid and let the sun dry it out or add shredded newspaper or kitty litter and mix until it is solid.

Do you accept all plastics?

No. The recycling market for different

types of plastics is ever-changing. Currently, we accept bottle- or jug-shaped #1 and #2 plastics at all Recycle Centers. We ask that all other shapes of #1 and #2 plastics be placed into the trash. In addition, #5 plastics (any and all shapes) are now accepted for recycling ONLY at the Batesville Area, Jefferson County, Ohio County, Ripley County, Scott County, and Switzerland County Recycle Centers. Stay tuned, as guidelines may change in the future with market changes.

What do I do with my yogurt and cottage cheese containers?

If the containers are a #5 plastic, they are now accepted ONLY at the Batesville Area, Jefferson County, Ohio County, Ripley County, Scott County, and Switzerland County Recycle Centers. Unfortunately, we do not currently have outlets for plastics #3, #4, #6, or #7.

These containers can be reused around the house in a variety of ways, such as for storage, as garden pots, or in craft projects. Otherwise, they must be placed with your trash destined for the landfill.

You did not pick up my curbside recyclables. What happened?

While we help communities develop curbside recycling programs, we do not provide these services directly. Please check with your city or town to find out what company picks up your curbside recycling and then contact that company.

Medication Disposal



The Southeastern Indiana Recycling District (SEIRD) partners with local police and sheriff's departments throughout our seven-county District to provide year-round pharmaceutical (medication) disposal opportunities for residents. Folks who live in Franklin, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio, Ripley, Scott, and Switzerland counties can dispose of unwanted medication waste, including expired and unused/unwanted

controlled and uncontrolled substances, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Flushing medications down the drain sends them into the water supply, where they can easily pose a threat to our health and safety. Proper disposal of medications is easy and FREE, and no questions will be asked. To find the location nearest you, visit our website at www.seird.org or call our office.

SEIRD Recycle and Reuse Centers

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: 513-239-0310
Recycle Center Hours: Mon.–Sat., 8:30 a.m.–3 p.m.
Reuse Center Hours: Tues. and Thurs., 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

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

6511 N. Meridian Road (inside Jefferson Proving Ground), Madison
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., 12–5 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: 812-292-2360
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, Underwood
Phone: 812-722-8700
Recycle Center Hours: Tues., Thurs., and Sat., 9 a.m.–4:15 p.m.
Reuse Center Hours: Tues. and Thurs., 9 a.m.–3 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

Switzerland County Recycle, Building Materials Reuse Center and Reuse Store

19 McCreary Ridge Road, East Enterprise
Phone: 812-599-3751
Recycle and Building Materials Reuse Center Hours: Mon. and Wed., noon–6 p.m.; Sat., 8 a.m.–noon
Reuse Store Hours: Mon. and Wed., noon–6 p.m.; Sat., 8 a.m.–noon

www.seird.org

Feed Your Soil with Homemade Compost

Composting is a way to recycle organic materials while creating something nourishing for your garden. Compost is a dark, crumbly, material produced when leaves, kitchen scraps and other organic materials decompose. When added to garden soil, compost acts as a useful amendment that can improve soil health and help your garden thrive. Composting also plays a vital role in keeping valuable organic materials out of the waste stream. In fact, up to 75% of the materials found in a typical landfill could potentially be composted.

For gardeners, compost can play an important role in maintaining healthy soil. Adding organic matter can improve both sandy and clay soils, while helping loosen heavy clay and improve drainage. Compost also supports beneficial microorganisms and earthworms and creates a reservoir that slowly releases nutrients to plants. Getting started at home does not have to be complicated. First, consider how much organic waste your household produces and choose a composting system that fits your needs and available space. Options include wire fencing bins, cement block bins, barrel composters, portable bins and three-chambered systems. A compost structure helps keep materials contained and can encourage faster, more thorough decomposition.

A successful compost pile needs water, oxygen, “greens” and “browns.” Greens provide nitrogen and include grass clippings, yard trimmings, fruit and vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, tea bags and herbivore manure. Browns provide carbon and include dried leaves, shredded



newspaper, sawdust, wood chips, straw, hay, pine needles and garden debris. A carbon-to-nitrogen ratio of about 30:1 is ideal.

Avoid adding fats and oils, dairy products, meat and bones, pet manure, plastics, synthetic fabrics, cleaning solvents and petroleum products. To begin a pile, start with eight to 10 inches of leaves, grass or plant trimmings. Keep the materials moist—but not soggy—and continue building layers. Shredding leaves can help them break down faster. Turning the pile provides oxygen, helps speed decomposition and can reduce odors.

With proper management, compost can be ready in two to four months during the warm season. Finished compost will no longer resemble the original materials, will have decreased to about half its original height and will have a pleasant, earthy smell. Once finished, use it as mulch, top dressing around plants or as an addition to garden soil.

Stay Up to Date

- Visit www.seird.org for any changes or updates to our drop-off recycling programs or collection events.
- Like us on Facebook. We post regular updates and handy tips on the Southeastern Indiana Recycling District Facebook page.
- Look for posters and notices in our Recycle Centers located in Franklin, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio, Ripley, Scott, and Switzerland counties.

SEIRD Reuse Centers

If you live in Franklin, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio, Ripley, Scott, and Switzerland counties, there is a great opportunity where you can drop off things you no longer need and find something new to take home. SEIRD Reuse Centers are “free stores” for local residents. Everything you’ll find at our Reuse Centers is completely free, and it’s all about sharing usable items instead of sending them to the landfill.

There are a few guidelines to keep things running smoothly.

- You can shop once a week, and visits are limited to 20 minutes.
- You’re welcome to take up to four items (not including clothing), and you can pick out up to five books.
- Clothing donations should be clean and neatly folded or hung up, and anything you bring in should be in good, working condition. That means no soiled or torn clothing, no upholstered furniture or mattresses, and no hazardous or broken items. If you wouldn’t give it to a friend, it probably doesn’t belong here.

Please visit www.seird.org to find all pertinent information for the Reuse Center located in your county.

We want your suggestions, questions, and comments!

Southeastern Indiana Recycling District

Jefferson Proving Ground
Building #534
6556 N. Shun Pike Road
Madison, IN 47250
812-574-4080

www.facebook.com/SEIRRecyclingDistrict
seirdinfo@gmail.com • www.seird.org



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Please recycle after reading.

The Southeastern Indiana Recycling District (SEIRD) offers residents recycling, reuse, and household hazardous waste disposal options in Franklin, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio, Ripley, Scott, and Switzerland counties. Please visit our website at www.seird.org to learn more about our services. As we are a public recycling district, we do not pay for scrap metal or any other items.