



# “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

Spring 2023  
Quarterly Newsletter

## Free Difficult Disposal Days Are Back



**Drop off HHW, tires, electronics, and refrigerant appliances at no charge!**

Do you have a broken air conditioner, a set of old tires, an old TV, or unneeded lawn and garden chemicals? Why not dispose of these and other hard-to-handle items this spring and summer? From now through August, the District is offering several special waste disposal events for the convenience of our residents. These include the mobile collections for household hazardous waste (HHW) where we bring our free disposal service, offered year-round at our Jefferson County facility, to local Recycle Centers. Plus, residents also get the chance to properly dispose of a limited number of items, including tires,

electronics, and refrigerant appliances, for which we normally charge a fee. These events are so popular that we literally collect tons of waste at them each year.

Please take advantage of these opportunities to dispose of items close to home and free of charge. These events are held as an incentive for our residents to correctly dispose of difficult items. Locations and hours for all Recycle Centers are listed on the back page and online. For more information about these events, please call us at 812-574-4080 or visit our website at [www.seird.org](http://www.seird.org). Thank you for participating!

## What types of tires are accepted?

We accept only car, light truck, and ATV tires during our free Difficult Disposal Days, which are listed at right. However, those plus additional types of tires are accepted for a fee at our County Recycle Centers during normal operating hours. For details, call your County Recycle Center (numbers listed on Page 4), call the district office at 812-574-4080, or visit our website, [www.seird.org](http://www.seird.org).



Credit: NexTser | iStock | Getty Images Plus

### April – Household Hazardous Waste

We will host special mobile household hazardous waste (HHW) collections throughout the district. There is no mobile collection in Jefferson County since the facility in Madison accepts HHW year-round.

#### Saturday, April 1

- Franklin County Recycle Center, Brookville – 8 to 10 a.m.
- Batesville Area Recycle Center, Batesville – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

#### Saturday, 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.

#### Saturday, 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.

Visit [www.seird.org/household-hazardous-waste](http://www.seird.org/household-hazardous-waste) for additional mobile HHW collection dates in August.

### May – Tires

We will accept up to FOUR automobile, light-duty truck, or ATV tires per residence, free of charge, on these dates during the center’s normal operating hours:

#### May 5-6

- Batesville Area Recycle Center
- Franklin County Recycle Center
- Ripley County Recycle Center

#### May 12-13

- Jennings County Recycle Center
- Scott County Recycle Center
- Jefferson County Recycle Center

#### May 17 & 20

- Switzerland County Recycle Center

#### May 19-20

- Ohio County Recycle Center

### June – Electronics

TVs, computer monitors, or other items with a screen can be recycled free of charge on select dates at each County Recycle Center. We will accept ONE item per residence, at no cost, on these dates during the center’s normal operating hours:

#### June 2-3

- Batesville Area Recycle Center
- Franklin County Recycle Center
- Ripley County Recycle Center

#### June 9-10

- Jennings County Recycle Center
- Scott County Recycle Center

#### June 14 & 17

- Switzerland County Recycle Center

#### June 16-17

- Ohio County Recycle Center

#### June 23-24

- Jefferson County Recycle Center

### July – Refrigerant Appliances

Refrigerators, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, and any other appliances containing a refrigerant will be accepted at no charge on select dates at each County Recycle Center. We will accept ONE item per residence, free of charge, on these dates during the center’s normal operating hours:

#### July 7-8

- Batesville Area Recycle Center
- Franklin County Recycle Center
- Ripley County Recycle Center

#### July 14-15

- Jennings County Recycle Center
- Scott County Recycle Center

#### July 19 & 22

- Switzerland County Recycle Center

#### July 21-22

- Ohio County Recycle Center
- Jefferson County Recycle Center

Clip & Save

# Living a Sustainable(ish) Lifestyle

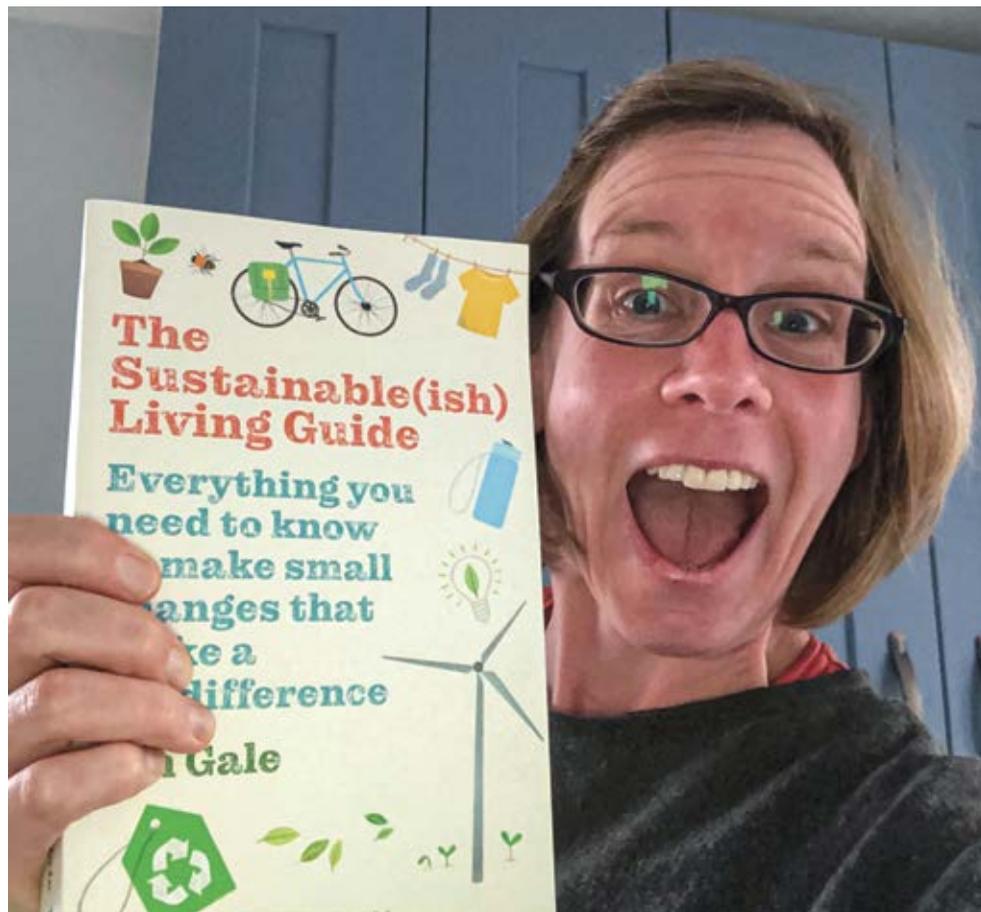


Photo: Courtesy of Jen Gale (facebook.com/mymakedoandmendlife)

“But I believe that at the very crux of living more sustainably is the need to consume less, and to consume more thoughtfully.” So says Jen Gale in the first chapter of her book, *The Sustainable(ish) Living Guide: Everything You Need to Know to Make Small Changes That Make a Big Difference* (Bloomsbury Publishing, 304 pages). Gale makes the case that “There is simply no way we can carry on consuming at the rate we are, and still have a habitable planet left.” The book encourages readers to examine their lives and consumption habits to lead them to what she calls a “sustainable(ish) lifestyle.” Gale isn’t trying to convince her readers to become minimalists but rather to consciously evaluate what they really need, purchase, and bring into their homes.

Gale uses the first chapter to focus on personal responsibility. She writes, “We need to start to question and push back against the seemingly incessant societal demands that more is better, that new is better, and the constant demand that we upgrade, replace, and buy newer all the time.” If you care about the environment, want to make a difference, and could benefit from consuming more consciously, then this book is for you. Not only does she focus on the big picture of preserving our environment, but she also provides steps to living a life with less clutter while choosing better options.

Gale begins with decluttering. Her technique starts with selecting a month. On each day of that month, you choose an item in your home to get rid of, so by the end of the month, you will have gotten rid of about 30 things. This exercise takes only a small amount of time each day and rids your home of unnecessary items in small, easy steps. Plus, decluttering

also reduces the time and energy that go along with acquiring, maintaining, and storing unneeded items. She acknowledges that decluttering may not be simple, especially as you begin the process, but she provides ways to make that process smoother emotionally, as well. One of those is the donation of usable goods. She cautions, “Only donate items that are clean, undamaged and in good condition — if you wouldn’t buy them, the chances are no one else will.”

In a chapter titled, “Plastic free(ish),” Gale gives a brief history lesson on the growth of plastic production and its impact. She includes this eye-opening statistic: “around 300 million tons of plastic are produced each year, and of that, only about 10 percent is recycled.” She goes on to advocate for multiple solutions to this growing problem, including using plastic less often. She offers two practical suggestions. When grocery shopping, opt for reusable bags instead of plastic store bags, and try to limit your use of single-use plastics, such as utensils, straws, and food storage bags, wherever possible.

In the following chapters, Gale asks readers to examine their work, homes, and other areas of life to start incorporating changes that are more sustainable for the environment. In the final chapter, she highlights multiple ways to become an “everyday radical.” Her calls to action include buying less, buying more sustainable products, voting with your money, and donating unused household items.

If you are interested in a single source to explain how you can live a more sustainable lifestyle, this book provides a timely and compact review of the subject.

# Every Day Is Earth Day

As Earth Day approaches, people are thinking about ways to participate and protect the environment. But are you considering what you can do throughout the year to keep the spirit of Earth Day alive? No matter what changes you make in your everyday life, or the size of the project you take on, every little bit helps. Here are some ideas to get you started.

## At Home

- Exchange household cleaners containing toxic chemicals for greener options, such as using vinegar for streak-free windows or making your own simple laundry detergent.
- Stock your kitchen with empty containers from spreadable butter, sour cream, and lunch meat and other plastic tubs and use them to store leftovers or take your lunch to work.
- Donate or sell items you don’t use anymore that are still useful, such as electronics, clothing, small kitchen appliances, DVDs, and books. Online marketplaces make it easy to sell these items, or you can donate locally through a website like Freecycle or to a nearby charity, or drop them off at your County Reuse Center.
- Instead of sending fruit and vegetable scraps to the landfill, use them to create healthier soil by mixing them with yard waste in a backyard composting bin.
- Cook using fresh ingredients to reduce packaging waste and only prepare as much as you can eat while the food is fresh. Remember to freeze leftovers to enjoy later.

## In the Community

- Give your time and energy to help out at local events, such as community cleanups, Arbor Day tree plantings, or Earth Day celebrations, or with programs like a community garden in your neighborhood or at a place of worship.
- Join in beautification activities in your neighborhood or at your home. Planting trees helps clean our air and provides cooling shade. Flowering shrubs and wildflowers attract pollinators. A vegetable garden can feed your family, with any extras shared with neighbors or coworkers.
- Litter attracts more litter, so do your part to keep your neighborhood clean. Report any signs of illegal dumping, keep the lids on your curbside carts closed, pick up stray paper or wrappers that you see outside (never touch any needles, food, or other potentially contaminated litter with bare hands), and dispose of any trash or recyclables in their appropriate bins in public areas.



Credit: Ildar Abulkhanov | iStock | Getty Images Plus

## Everywhere, Every Day

- Know what is recycled locally and recycle all of those items regularly. Not sure what is accepted for recycling? Visit [www.seird.org](http://www.seird.org) or give us a call at 812-574-4080.
- Carpool or take public transportation to work, school, extracurricular activities, and club meetings. Better yet, walk or ride your bike when possible.
- Make it a habit to use reusable shopping bags when you go to the store or farmers market.
- Skip the bottled water and refill your own reusable water bottles or cups. Not only will you create less waste, but you’ll also save money since tap water is much cheaper than bottled water.
- Kindly decline single-use plastics, such as straws, plastic utensils, drink cups, or takeout containers, when possible. Take your own reusable versions to fast-food restaurants or coffee shops instead.



## Reuse Centers offer ultimate shopping experience

SEIRD Reuse Centers are the perfect way for residents to save money, natural resources, and energy by finding new owners for unwanted and gently used merchandise.

Everything at our Reuse Centers is free. You won't find a better deal than that anywhere! All we ask is that you use it for your personal use and don't resell it. Clean, gently used merchandise in good condition can be dropped off and obtained during the center's normal business hours. Clothing, shoes, books, office supplies, videos/CDs, knick-knacks, and non-upholstered furniture are just a few of the items that are accepted and available at SEIRD Reuse Centers.

Reuse Center hours and locations are listed above and online at [www.seird.org](http://www.seird.org). On our website, click on your county for specific information and a downloadable brochure on the Recycle and Reuse Center nearest you.

The SEIRD Building Materials Reuse Center in East Enterprise can accept a variety of items, including fixtures, windows, doors, sinks, building supplies, and more. That center, located at 19 McCreary Ridge Road, East Enterprise, is open Monday and Wednesday, from noon until 6 p.m., and Saturday, from 8 a.m. until noon.

## Ready to become a better gardener or backyard composter?



Do you have questions about home composting, yard care, or gardening? The county Purdue Extension offices are fantastic, free resources for all Indiana residents. Their knowledgeable staff members use resources from Purdue University research programs to find out the answers to region-specific questions about natural pest control, tree care, vermicomposting, organic gardening, healthy recipes, and more. If you have questions about agriculture or gardening, communities, families, health, or youth development, contact your county office directly.

The Purdue Extension searchable website is available 24/7. To get started, consider visiting these links:

- **For lawn and garden:** [www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/yardandgarden/](http://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/yardandgarden/)
- **For food and nutrition:** [www.purdue.edu/hhs/extension/food-0/](http://www.purdue.edu/hhs/extension/food-0/)
- **For small-scale farming:** [https://extension.purdue.edu/anr/\\_teams/dffs/index.html](https://extension.purdue.edu/anr/_teams/dffs/index.html)
- **For 4-H and youth development:** <https://extension.purdue.edu/4-H/index.html>



## Illegal dumping hurts everyone

Discarding trash or other unwanted items in empty lots, along highways, or in other non-approved locations is considered illegal dumping, and it is against the law. Commonly dumped items include furniture, appliances, tires, construction waste, household trash, and hazardous materials.

Often, these illegally dumped items attract curious children — posing significant health and safety risks. Dirty diapers and food trash attract rodents, insects, and other vermin. Dumping items pollutes the soil and water and destroys Indiana's natural beauty. Please landfill or recycle items you no longer want or need. Our Difficult Disposal Days FREE drop-off events offer a great way for you to dispose of household hazardous waste, tires, refrigerator appliances, electronic items, and more — at no cost. See the box on Page 1 for dates and locations. Keep Indiana beautiful and your neighbors healthy, and don't break the law.

To report illegal dumping and polluting, please contact the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) online at [www.in.gov/idem/contact/file-a-complaint](http://www.in.gov/idem/contact/file-a-complaint) or call 800-451-6027 and select option 3; all reports are confidential. Keep our environment clean, safe, and healthy — now, and for generations to come.

## Safely dispose of unwanted medications

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](http://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.; 1st 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

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., 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: 812-609-4371  
 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: Tues.–Fri., 8 a.m.–4:15 p.m.; Sat., 8 a.m.–1:45 p.m.  
 Reuse Center Hours: Tues. and Thurs., 9 a.m.–3 p.m.; Sat., 8 a.m.–noon

## 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](http://www.seird.org)



*Keep up to date*

- Visit [www.seird.org](http://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 Reuse Centers located in Franklin, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio, Ripley, Scott, and Switzerland counties.

## 2023 Students Making an Environmental Difference Official Scholarship Application

**Deadline: Friday, March 31, 2023, at 3 p.m.**

The Southeastern Indiana Recycling District (SEIRD) is pleased to announce their 2023 Students Making an Environmental Difference Scholarship for graduating high school seniors in our seven-county district. Pending adequate submissions, multiple award winners may be selected from the entries received from high schools in Franklin, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio, Ripley, Scott, and Switzerland counties. The minimum individual scholarship will be \$500, with a potential combined total of up to \$7,000.

To apply, applicants *must be nominated* by a staff member involved with their high school recycling program or having knowledge of a student's participation in a community recycling effort. Consideration of applicants is based on their past, current, and future involvement in environmentally related studies and activities. Each high school may have multiple nominees. We are looking to assist those students who have given their time and efforts toward making their school or community more environmentally responsible.

Nominated applicants must complete and submit the attached 2023 "Official Scholarship Application" form along with the following:

1. A 500-word essay that specifically addresses the following:
  - How would you encourage more people in your community to recycle?
  - How have you promoted recycling efforts in your area/school?



- How does your career path contribute to bettering the environment?
2. One personalized letter of recommendation from the staff member who nominated them
  3. A transcript of the applicant's grades

Winners will be announced by a SEIRD representative prior to the school's Senior Day awards program. Awardees may be photographed for promotional purposes and have their information submitted to a local paper. A senior picture may be requested as well.

The scholarship monetary awards will be sent directly to the students' confirmed school of higher education. All winners will be issued a packet that includes a list of documentation required for SEIRD to issue a check to a college, business, or trade school. This information must be received at the SEIRD office by November 17, 2023, or the scholarship may be forfeited.

Applications must be emailed. For additional information or to ask questions, contact SEIRD at 812-574-4080.

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](http://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.

*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

[seirdinfo@gmail.com](mailto:seirdinfo@gmail.com) • [www.seird.org](http://www.seird.org)



### Southeastern Indiana Recycling District

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Please recycle after reading.