



“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 2024
Quarterly Newsletter

Difficult Disposal Days Are Back

Our Difficult Disposal Days provide residents a reminder of the services we offer year-round for “difficult” items, including household hazardous waste (HHW), electronics, and refrigerant-containing appliances, that are potentially harmful to human health and our environment if disposed of improperly.

We accept HHW year-round at our facility in Jefferson County. But with our special mobile HHW collections, we bring this service to your local Recycle Center twice each year. HHW disposal is always available at no charge.

You can also recycle electronics and refrigerant appliances year-round at our Recycle Centers. However, we do charge fees. On the Difficult Disposal Days at each Recycle Center, we accept one item per household at no charge, offering residents a savings.



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the normal fees.

June 7-8

- Batesville Area Recycle Center
- Franklin County Recycle Center

June 14-15

- Jennings County Recycle Center
- Ripley County Recycle Center

June 21-22

- Jefferson County Recycle Center
- Ohio County Recycle Center

June 26 & 29

- Switzerland County Recycle Center

June 27 & 29

- Scott County Recycle Center



May – Household Hazardous Waste

We will host special mobile HHW collections throughout the District. There is no mobile collection in Jefferson County since the facility in Madison accepts HHW year-round.

Saturday, May 4

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

Saturday, May 11

- Jennings County Recycle Center, North Vernon – 8 to 10 a.m.
- Scott County Recycle Center, Scottsburg – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, May 18

- Switzerland County Recycle Center, East Enterprise – 8 to 10 a.m.
- Ohio County Recycle Center, Rising Sun – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

June – Electronics with Screens

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. Additional electronics will be accepted for



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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. Additional appliances will be accepted for the normal fees.

July 12-13

- Batesville Area Recycle Center
- Franklin County Recycle Center

July 19-20

- Jennings County Recycle Center
- Ohio County Recycle Center
- Ripley County Recycle Center

July 24 & 27

- Switzerland County Recycle Center

July 25 & 27

- Scott County Recycle Center

July 26-27

- Jefferson County Recycle Center

SEIRD Art Contest Winners Announced

The Southeastern Indiana Recycling District hosted an art contest in recognition of America Recycles Day, which occurs on November 15th each year. The contest coincided with our fall *Trash Talk!* program in the District. *Trash Talk!*, an educational newsletter, goes to elementary students in third grade and up. Students were invited to use their artistic skills to create a flyer promoting recycling, and those who entered this year delivered. We have some very talented and creative students in our District — they did not make choosing our winners easy! We appreciate all who entered, and we hope they enjoyed creating their projects as much as we enjoyed their artwork.

We would like to congratulate the following students on winning top honors:

- First Place: Lucy Haakinson, Batesville
- Second Place: Halle Meyer, Batesville
- Third Place: Edie Walke, Batesville
- Honorable Mention: Madison Johnson, Milan
- Honorable Mention: Lola Beiser, Batesville

You can view their artwork by visiting our website, www.seird.org, or SEIRD’s Facebook page, www.facebook.com/SEIRRecyclingDistrict.

Frequently Asked Questions

Over the years, SEIRD has fielded countless questions from community members about how to recycle right. Here are answers to some of the questions we hear most often.

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 or #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 an outlet for plastics #4 or #6. 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.

Can I bring you my used or worn-out vehicle?

No, we do not accept vehicles. Please contact a local scrap metal company to dispose of your vehicle.

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Grasscycling 101

Maintaining a vibrant and healthy lawn while being environmentally conscious may seem like a balancing act, but there's a simple and effective practice that can help achieve both goals — grasscycling. This eco-friendly approach involves leaving grass clippings on your lawn after mowing rather than bagging and disposing of them.

Grasscycling is essentially a recycling process for your lawn. Instead of handling grass clippings as waste, you simply let them remain on the lawn to decompose naturally. As you mow, the clippings are scattered across the grass, providing a layer of organic matter that benefits both the soil and the growing grass.

Grass clippings are rich in nutrients like nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. By leaving them on the lawn, you're returning these essential nutrients to the soil, acting as a natural fertilizer. This promotes healthier grass growth and reduces the need for synthetic fertilizers. Grass clippings also act as a natural mulch, helping to retain soil moisture. This means your lawn will require less water, contributing to water conservation efforts and reducing your overall water consumption. Embracing grasscycling significantly decreases the

amount of yard waste generated. Instead of filling up bags with clippings destined for the landfill, you're allowing nature to recycle them onsite, minimizing your environmental impact.

Here are some tips to effectively grasscycle:

- Set your mower at the right height. Aim to cut only the top one-third of the grass blades, leaving the clippings small enough to decompose quickly.
- Stick to a regular mowing schedule to ensure that clippings are of manageable size. Infrequent mowing may lead to longer clippings that can smother the grass underneath.
- Mow when the grass is dry. Wet clippings can clump together, hindering their decomposition.

Grasscycling is a simple yet impactful practice that benefits both your lawn and the environment. By embracing this approach, you're not only taking care of your grass, but you're also contributing to reduced waste and water conservation. So, the next time you reach for the lawnmower, think about letting those clippings stay right where they belong — on your lawn.

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 on the back page and online at 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.

Reviving Gadgets

Electronics recycling is the process of collecting, dismantling, and reusing or refurbishing electronic devices. It is an essential practice in today's world where electronic waste has become a significant environmental concern. Electronic devices contain various hazardous materials, such as lead, mercury, and cadmium, which can cause serious harm to the environment if not handled correctly. By recycling our electronic devices, we prevent these harmful substances from contaminating soil and water when disposed of improperly or from ending up in landfills.

So how do you handle electronic devices in a sustainable and responsible manner? First, strive to extend the lifespan of devices by taking good care of them, protecting them and investing in repairs as necessary. This reduces the demand for new products and the associated environmental impact of both manufacturing and disposal.

Second, when it is time to upgrade or replace electronic devices, consider donating or selling them instead of discarding them. Many organizations

and individuals can benefit from used electronics, promoting local reuse, giving devices a second life, and reducing waste.

Finally, with devices that are beyond repair or unwanted by others, please remember that in Indiana electronics are not allowed in landfills. In some cases, manufacturers and retailers may offer recycling programs and even discounts on new devices when you trade in an old one. Otherwise, be sure to recycle your old electronics at your county Recycle Center.

By taking care of our devices while we are using them and after we are done with them, we contribute to a more sustainable future and minimize the environmental impact of our electronic devices.



Wasted! The Story of Food Waste

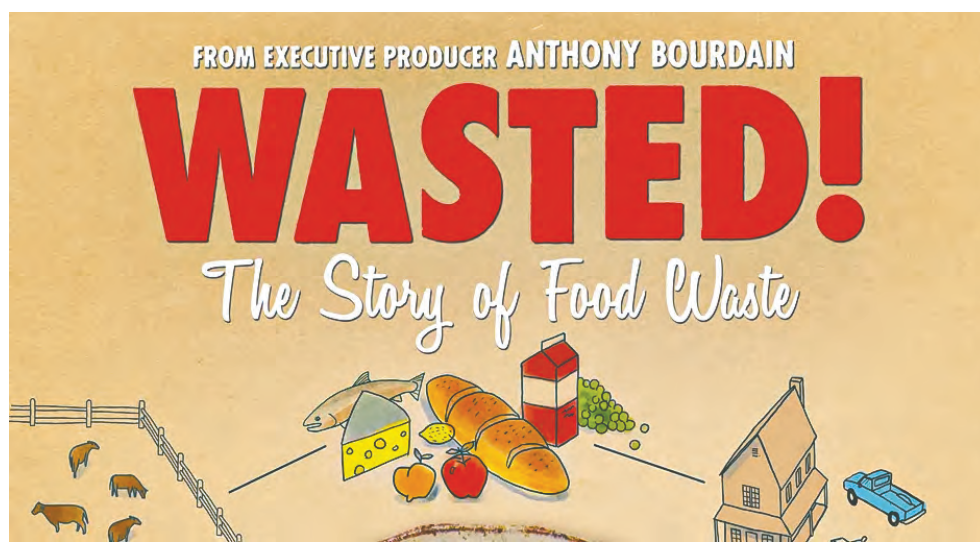
Wasted! The Story of Food Waste, directed by Anna Chai and Nari Kye, is a compelling and eye-opening exploration of a global issue that affects us all — the staggering amount of food wasted across the world. Narrated by the late celebrity chef Anthony Bourdain, the documentary takes audiences on a thought-provoking journey, uncovering the root causes of food waste and offering solutions.

The film skillfully weaves together interviews with chefs, food activists, and experts, presenting a multifaceted perspective on the issue. Bourdain's narration adds a touch of authenticity, guiding viewers through various locations worldwide to showcase the extent of the problem. The cinematography is visually striking, capturing the beauty of food juxtaposed with the harsh reality of its unnecessary disposal.

Wasted! not only sheds light on the environmental impact of food waste but also addresses its economic and social consequences. The film effectively communicates the magnitude of waste at different stages of the food supply chain, from farms to restaurants and households. It challenges viewers to rethink their consumption habits and encourages a collective shift toward a more sustainable and mindful approach to food.

The documentary also goes beyond highlighting the problem; it offers practical solutions. From creative culinary approaches for utilizing food scraps to advocating for changes in policies and consumer behavior, *Wasted!* inspires viewers to be part of the solution.

Wasted! The Story of Food Waste, which is available on several streaming platforms, combines the charisma of Anthony Bourdain, the expertise of interviewees, and the artistry of filmmaking to create a compelling narrative that inspires action. A must-watch for those interested in sustainability, environmental issues, and the broader implications of our food choices.



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 or call our office.



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. Dumped items frequently include furniture, appliances, tires, construction waste, household trash, and hazardous materials. Oftentimes 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 be sure to landfill or recycle items you no longer want or need.

To report illegal dumping, please contact the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) online at www.in.gov/idem/5274.htm 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.

Ready to Clear Out Old Tax Paperwork?



Residents of our District can deliver sensitive documents, such as old financial and tax 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.

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., 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., Thurs., and Sat., 8 a.m.–4:15 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

FAQ ...

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Which automotive waste items are acceptable?

We can help you recycle used motor oil, hydraulic fluid, and antifreeze. Although used, these wastes must be otherwise clean and non-contaminated by other substances. There is a limit for these fluids of 10 gallons per person per visit. We also recycle oil filters, automotive batteries, and tires.

Do you take tires?

Yes, but there are fees, which vary depending upon the type of tire. Please visit www.seird.org and view your Recycle Center brochure for a full list of accepted tires, fees, and limits.

Which electronics do you charge for?

There is a \$15 recycling fee charged for items with a screen, such as computer monitors, laptops/tablets, and TVs. This fee helps offset the costs we incur in handling these items.

Do you accept...

Styrofoam?

No, not at this time. Bag it and place it into your trash to go to the landfill.

Window glass?

No. Only food and beverage glass bottles and jars are accepted.

Alkaline batteries?

No, alkaline batteries no longer contain

mercury and should be disposed of in the trash.

Other types of batteries?

We can only recycle rechargeable and automotive batteries.

Vinyl siding?

No, we have no local outlets for vinyl siding, so the landfill is your only option.

Aluminum siding?

Yes, place it into the scrap metal container at your Recycle Center.

Gas or charcoal grills?

Yes, but only the grill itself. The propane tank must be removed. Place only the grill, without the propane tank, in the scrap metal container.

Lawn mowers?

Yes, but the gas tank must be removed. Place only the lawn mower, without the gas tank, in the scrap metal container.



Credit: animafiora | iStock | Getty Images Plus

Appliances?

Yes, non-refrigerant appliances can be placed into the scrap metal container.

Refrigerant appliances?

Yes, we take refrigerators, freezers, window

air conditioning units, and dehumidifiers. There is a \$15 recycling fee per item. We also accept these during annual Difficult Disposal Days at each Recycle Center. See the front page for details or visit www.seird.org for more information.

Metal fencing?

Yes, but it must be rolled up and tied off or placed inside of a metal drum. Place in the scrap metal container.

Lumber?

No. Try to reuse old lumber or dispose of it at the landfill. Ask your crafty friends or search online for countless projects that reuse old lumber.



Cleaning chemicals?

Yes, but only during HHW mobile collection days or at the Jefferson County Recycle Center during normal business hours. Keep cleaning chemicals in their original containers and do not mix them with other chemicals.

Unlabeled HHW?

No, for safety reasons, unlabeled chemicals, cleaners, and related liquids are not acceptable. Keep all Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) in its original, labeled container.

Mattresses?

No, we cannot recycle mattresses, and they must go to a landfill or transfer station.

Furniture?

Clean, non-upholstered, usable furniture may be taken to your nearest Reuse Store. All other furniture must go to the landfill.

If you have a question we didn't answer here, contact us by phone or email or post your question on our Facebook page. We will be happy to answer your questions!

Thanks for making the effort to #RecycleRight. Recycling helps conserve natural resources, keeps our towns and countryside looking beautiful, and supports jobs in a circular economy. We hope to see you at one of our recycling facilities soon!

Our thanks to SEIRD Citizens Advisory Committee member Jared Rogers for helping compile these questions and answers.



Credit: Dan Totical | iStock | Getty Images Plus

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 • www.seird.org



Southeastern Indiana Recycling District

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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.