

RECYCLE THIS!

Horry County's Newsletter to Read & Recycle

How Much Does Horry County Recycle?

Recycling is growing in Horry County as proven by its 31.7% rate.

The average person in Horry County throws away 5.6 pounds of trash every day and recycles 2.6 pounds of trash.

With a 238,493 permanent population in 2007, Horry County recycled 59,659 tons of residential recyclables, which included cardboard, metal, paper, plastic, and banned items. The S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) reported that Horry County recycled a grand total of 114,142 tons of recyclables, which included residential, commercial, and industrial.

Horry County's recycling tonnage results in an environmental impact



A typical day at the Horry County landfill on Hwy 90 in Conway.

equivalent to eliminating electricity usage by 384,785 households for one year; 24,569 acres of forest preserved from deforestation; or conserving 341,398,245 gallons of gasoline.

With a population of more than 4 million, South Carolina's recycling

rate increased to 31 percent from 30.4 percent in FY06. The amount of municipal solid waste (MSW) recycled increased to 1.551 million tons from 1.510 million tons in FY06. MSW is defined as waste from residents, businesses and schools. Paper and cardboard accounts for 47 percent of the total items recycled, with metal accounting for 23 percent.

In South Carolina, a total of 6.55 million tons of MSW was disposed of into South Carolina landfills, with 1.75 million tons of that MSW coming from out-of-state. There are 18 permitted landfills in South Carolina and 1,754 landfills total in the United States, according to the EPA.

No Need to Dispose Your TV!

At midnight on February 17, 2009, all television stations in the United States will stop broadcasting in analog and switch to digital broadcasting. Digital broadcasting promises to provide a clearer picture and more programming options as well as free up airwaves for use by emergency responders.

However, this does not mean you will need to run to the store, buy a new TV and throw away the old one. As a result of the switch to digital broadcasting, many consumers may falsely believe that old analog televisions will no longer work and as a result purchase a new digital television. This could create a significant volume of analog

televisions being disposed of.

Consumers with analog or digital televisions who subscribe to cable or satellite service do not need to purchase converter boxes in order to receive the new digital signal.

Other consumers with analog televisions can simply purchase a digital television converter box (estimated to cost \$50 – \$70 each) in order to receive the new digital signal. To limit the financial impact of purchasing a converter box, Congress has established the TV Converter Box Coupon Program.

Please help the Horry County Solid Waste Authority educate our community in an effort to reduce the **unnecessary** disposal



of televisions. If residents are not properly informed, the volume of televisions entering our waste stream may grow. For more information, visit www.dtvanswers.com, www.dtv2009.gov or call 1-888-388-2009.

Recycling Tidbits

Recycle Your CDs

Recycle your CDs and DVDs for free through the Compact Disc Recycling Center of America. CDs were introduced in the United States in 1983 and more than 800,000 discs were sold. By 1990, this number had grown to close to 1 billion. More than 5.5 million boxes of software and music are thrown away to landfills every year. Every month about 100,000 pounds of discs become obsolete or useless. CDs and DVDs are made from many different materials, each of which has its own separate life cycle involving energy use and waste. They include aluminum, polycarbonate, lacquer, gold, dyes, water, glass, silver and nickel. At the CD Recycling Center, discs are shredded and recycled into household products, building materials, office equipment and auto parts. The CD Recycling Center accepts all types of discs CD, DVD, Blu Ray, HD DVD. They also accept all types of disc packaging including sleeves, jewel cases, slim cases, DVD cases and shell cases. Send your discs, cases and paper booklets to The Compact Disc Recycling Center of America, 68-H Stiles Road, Salem, NH 03079. Visit the website at www.cdrecyclingcenter.com, email Info@CDRecyclingCenter.org or call (603) 890-8996.



Join Freecycle Network

The Freecycle Network™ is made up of online recycling groups across the globe. It's a grassroots and entirely nonprofit movement of people who are giving (and getting) stuff for free in their own towns and thus keeping good stuff out of landfills. Visit www.freecycle.org to find your group.

Kids can win \$10,000 with Trash to Treasure

Kids from kindergarten to high school can reduce, recycle and redesign items to win \$10,000 cash prize and a Dell computer from the Intel Foundation as part of the nationwide Trash to Treasure competition inspired by the PBS show "Design Squad." The competition will run until June 30, 2008. In addition to the prize, the winner gets a trip to the development lab at Continuum in Boston, an international design and innovation consultancy, to build a prototype of the winning design. The contest will challenge kids of all ages to turn discarded or recycled items into products that can be used to move things or people, protect the environment or play. You can get more details at www.PBS.org/designsquad

EcoQuiz

How many pounds of junk mail does each adult American receive in a year?

American mailboxes are stuffed with an average of 41 pounds of junk mail each year and about 17 pounds end up in the landfill. To get yourself off lists: www.obviousj.com/junkmail

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Jen and Kendra rock out with The Drive Home at Earth Day Rocks! at McLean Park in NMB, April 22, 2008.

CALENDAR

Children's Museum Summer Program Series

Kids of all ages can create recycling art during the summer at the Children's Museum of South Carolina! June 17 at 1 pm - CD Suncatcher Fish; July 15 at 1 pm - Bottlecap Necklaces; August 17 at 1 pm - Recycled Art. Call (843) 946-9469.

June 5-9 - Sun Fun Festival, Market Common

Celebrate Myrtle Beach at the annual Sun Fun Festival at Market Common. Join the SWA at the Sun Fun Kids Fair at Fuller Park in Surfside Beach on June 9 from 4-7pm. For more information, visit www.sunfunfestival.com or call (843) 916-7221.

Wednesday, June 25 - Take Action Today

Teachers and educators in South Carolina can join this FREE one-day environmental workshop at Seawell's in Columbia. Call (800) 768-7348.

GREEN NEWS: Celebrities

The following celebrities have taken initiatives to help the environment through the following actions: ■ Neil Young for his bio-fuel, plug-in hybrid electric car. ■ Adrian Grenier for taking green to TV with his new show on Discovery, The Green Life. ■ Brad Pitt for Helping Build a New New Orleans. ■ Hayden Panettiere for Protesting Dolphin Kills. ■ Leonardo DiCaprio for The 11th Hour, feature film documentary on DVD.



The Horry County Solid Waste Authority provides a fully integrated solid waste management system, which includes landfill management, public education, state-of-the-art technology, and recycling programs.

CONTACT US!

Administration & Education: 347-1651
Collection & Hauling: 347-6622
Recycling Convenience Centers: 347-1651
Materials Recycling Facility: 347-1651

info@SolidWasteAuthority.org

www.SolidWasteAuthority.org