



# Recycle This!

Horry County Solid Waste Authority's Newsletter to Read & Recycle

## Have yourself a 'green' holiday season!

'Tis the season to reduce, reuse and recycle! It only takes a tiny commitment to help protect the environment. Here are some simple ways you can make a difference this holiday season:

### GIFT WRAPPING

Fabrics, newspaper comics, magazines and decorative boxes can be used for gift wrap and would essentially save you money. These items can also be used for holiday décor, and reused every year.

### TREES

Recycle your Christmas tree with the Solid Waste Authority starting December 26. The trees will be recycled into mulch that will be given away for free in late January. Do not use tinsel or spray your tree with fake snow, as tinsel and white trees cannot be recycled.



Create unique ornaments with old lightbulbs and beaded wire.

### ORNAMENTS

Make ornaments at home with items you may normally recycle (e.g. light bulbs, paper towel cardboard rolls, toothpicks or popsicle sticks, old calendar pictures, old Christmas wrap). Old holiday cards can also be used as ornaments or for holiday décor.

### SAVE ENERGY

Use a timer on your outdoor Christmas house and tree lights to avoid keeping lights on all night; you can save a lot of energy this way.

### GREETING CARDS

Save old Christmas cards and create new cards by cutting the picture off. Old Christmas cards also make great ornaments and holiday décor.

## The Origins and History of Aluminum

Every minute of everyday, 113,204 aluminum cans are recycled. Aluminum is the most valuable beverage container and it is the most recycled consumer product in the U.S.

But where does it come from? Aluminum is a natural resource, which means it comes from the earth. However, aluminum is not found alone. It is a part of 270 different minerals called bauxite ore. Bauxite was named after a

village in France, where it was first discovered in 1821. To create aluminum, it takes a lot of energy and resources to extract it from those 270 minerals.

Recycling has become an important facet of the aluminum industry. Recycling involves melting the aluminum and creating new products, a process that uses only 5% of the energy needed to produce aluminum from bauxite ore. The top producers that mine

aluminum include Australia, Russia and Brazil.

Aluminum is generally used for transportation, packaging, construction, beverage cans and cooking utensils. In Horry County, you can recycle aluminum cans as well as scrap metal (such as lawn chairs and building materials) at the Recycling Centers or through municipal recycling programs.

# Grinding of the Greens Take Your Tree to a Mulch Better Place!

More than 33 million live Christmas trees are sold in North America every year. After the holidays, look for ways to recycle your tree. The Horry County Solid Waste Authority hosts the Grinding of the Greens every year and this year will be Dec. 26 - Jan. 14. Bring your tree to a designated site and it will be turned into mulch that is free to the public in late January. For details, call (843) 347-1651.



## UPCOMING CALENDAR

*Saturday, Nov. 3 - Swamp Fest*  
10am-3pm - Playcard Environmental Center  
Join the SWA to plant a butterfly garden.

*Tuesday, Nov. 13 - Community Helpers Day*  
Horry County Museum - Join the SWA and other local organizations in promoting help throughout the community.

*Thursday, Nov. 15 - America Recycles Day*  
10am-3pm - Wal-Mart at Gator Hole Plaza The first 50 people to bring 2 recyclables receives a free t-shirt made from organic cotton and chance to win a \$50 gift card to Wal-Mart.

*Dec. 26 to Jan. 14 - Grinding of the Greens*  
After Christmas, bring your Christmas tree to one of the drop-off locations around Horry County. At the end of January, stop back by one of the locations for free mulch!

*Friday, Jan. 11 - Environmental Scholarship*  
Deadline for high school students. Get an application online under the Education section at [www.SolidWasteAuthority.org](http://www.SolidWasteAuthority.org).

## Scholarship Opportunity

**Environmental Scholarships** are being offered to graduating seniors from Horry County high schools. The Horry County Solid Waste Authority is proud to support students who are planning to further their education and practice environmentally sound life habits. One graduating high school senior from each public high school pursuing a degree related to the environment, has the opportunity to win a one-time \$1,000 scholarship. *Application Deadline: January 11, 2008.*

## Are you the next Recycling Student of the Year?

**Recycling Student of the Year** is a contest offered to any public school student who is an avid recycler and recycles at home and at school. The Recycling Student of the Year has a positive influence on their community and must be committed to "Protecting Tomorrow's Environment Today!" *Application Deadline: March 28, 2008.*

To learn more about the Environmental Scholarships or the Recycling Student of the Year contest, please contact the Horry County Solid Waste Authority's Public Education Department at (843) 347-1651 or e-mail: [education@solidwasteauthority.org](mailto:education@solidwasteauthority.org).



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. The current landfill, located off Highway 90 in Conway, is carefully monitored and regulated to ensure public health and safety and environmental protection.

### CONTACT US!

Administration & Education: 347-1651  
Collection & Hauling: 347-6622  
Recycling Convenience Centers: 347-1651  
Materials Recycling Facility: 916-0222

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