

Staying in the Loop

Providing community-wide recognition and organizational-based technical assistance and education to businesses, schools, governmental agencies, and non-profit organizations that demonstrate leadership in waste reduction and recycling.



Spring 2007

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Contact the Washtenaw County Solid Waste Program at: (734) 222-6874
Or visit us online at: <http://recycle.ewashtenaw.org>

Not a New Concept: Ann Arbor ReUse Center

The ReUse Center accepts donations of reusable household goods, office supplies and building materials for re-sale to the public. It's another great way to responsibly and charitably clean out your home or business.

The ReUse Center also features the "Collector's Corner," which accepts and re-sells higher end products.

STORE INFO

Location: 2420 South Industrial Highway
Hours: Mon-Sat, 9am-5pm
Phone: 734-222-7880



Waste Knot Partner Spotlight: Habitat for Humanity ReStore

The new Habitat for Humanity ReStore is giving a whole new meaning to the phrase "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle." In fact, their store motto is "Realize, Rebuild and Recycle." Opened in October of 2006, the ReStore has certainly proven to abide by this positive motto.

ReStore is a giant 15,000 square-foot warehouse oper-

off retail prices, which is a huge draw for people. ReStore



Like-new Cherry cabinet set, one of many luxury items offered at discount prices at the ReStore

Manager Ray Frye says, "We already have several regular customers that make a point of stopping in to see what new deal there is available." And, Ray certainly invites any and all new faces to visit the store as well!

Besides providing our community with the opportunity to upgrade their homes on a



Re Store manager, Ray Frye

ated by Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley. It accepts new and gently used building materials and home goods for use in Habitat building projects and for sale to the public. The store's proceeds also help low-income families afford housing in Washtenaw County. For ReStore shoppers, store items are typically 50-75%

budget, ReStore is doing a tremendous environmental deed by redirecting boat-loads of materials from the landfills. In their first six months of operation, Habitat estimates they prevented more than 100,000 pounds of waste from being dumped in local landfills. As word about the ReStore spreads, surely that number will continue to increase.



Just some of the brand-new, unopened paint for as low as \$1/gal

Congratulations and thank you to Habitat for Humanity ReStore from the Waste Knot Program for succeeding in your "green" goals and positively contributing to our community!



Some of the many bathroom and kitchen appliances, in tip-top shape

STORE INFO

Location: 170 Aprill Drive (Just off Jackson Road between Wagner and Zeeb)
Hours: Tues-Sat, 9am-4pm
Phone: 734-822-1530

2007 Waste Knot Ceremony



Nearly 150 people attended the 10th annual Waste Knot Awards Ceremony, held on Tuesday, April 24th at Weber's Inn in

Ann Arbor. Weber's, a model Waste Knot Partner, provided a stylish venue with delicious food and drinks—everyone was comfortable and happy to be there.

Two keynote speakers, Dave Strenski from the Ypsilanti Food Co-op and Jessica Simons of the Resource Conser-

vation & Development Counsel, enlightened the audience about their work. Mr. Strenski talked about the use of Solar Photovoltaic Power at the Co-op, while Ms. Simons spoke about her Ash Wood Utilization Project.

Finally, partners new and old were recognized for their waste reduction and recycling practices. All types of organizations—from manufacturing to retail to non-profit—were represented, confirming the diverse and dynamic nature of the program.



Thank you to everyone for helping to make the night a success!

For Your Information

Though accounting for only 5 percent of the world's population, Americans consume 26 percent of the world's energy. (*American Almanac*)

Replacing one incandescent light-bulb with an energy saving compact fluorescent bulb means 1,000 pounds less carbon dioxide is emitted to the atmosphere and \$67 dollars is saved on energy costs over the bulb's lifetime. (*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Alliance to Save Energy*)



DTE Energy GreenCurrents



GreenCurrents is a new program offered by DTE Energy that provides an easy and affordable way for your business to become even more "green." As a Detroit Edison electric customer, your business can choose to participate in GreenCurrents to help make the air we breathe a

little cleaner by supporting the development of renewable energy alternatives within Michigan.

When you enroll in GreenCurrents, your business will support the development of several different types of renewable energy:

Wind Energy - a mechanical process utilizing wind turbines that are connected to a generator to capture wind and generate electricity.

Solar Energy - solar energy systems use solar radiation captured by solar panels to produce heat and electricity.



Biomass Energy - biomass energy is produced from non-fossilized materials derived from plants. Wood and wood waste are the largest sources of biomass energy followed by energy from municipal solid waste (MSW) and alcohol fuels.

Geothermal Energy - energy from the hot interior of the earth.

Hydropower - capturing flowing water to produce electricity without reducing or using up the watersource in the process.



GreenCurrents has two enrollment options. The first is the "100 Percent Match-Based Enrollment," which allows you to match 100% of your company's monthly electric consumption for 2 cents per kilowatt-hour. The monthly cost depends on the amount of kilo-watt hours used, and is in addition to normal electricity charges. The second option is the "1000 Kilo-watt-Hour Block Enrollment". This allows you to purchase renewable energy in single block increments, where each block represents 1000 kilowatt-hours. The cost per block is \$20.00/month, and is in addition to the normal monthly charges. There is no limit on the amount of individual blocks purchased.

By joining GreenCurrents, not only will your business be supporting the development of renewable energy sources to protect the environment and future generations, but it will also be fueling the Michigan economy. Your customers will think even more highly of your business knowing that you're making a positive contribution to the environment and to Michigan!

Join other local businesses that have already begun supporting renewable energy in Michigan... Sign Up for GreenCurrents Today!

For more information, visit DTE Energy's website at: <http://my.dteenergy.com/products/greenCurrents/>.



Green Fair 2007

Get Ready! On June 15th, the City of Ann Arbor Mayor's Office will host its 7th annual Green Fair. This event is in celebration of our community's environmental leadership as demonstrated by citizens, nonprofits, local government and businesses.

For the Green Fair, downtown Ann Arbor's Main Street will be closed to automotive traffic, and only open to walkers and bikers. The event will include displays of environmental information, "green" products, bicycle events, live music and a chance for everyone to enjoy Ann Arbor's hip, urban outdoor environment.

The Green Fair will feature three main areas: the Environmental

Leaders Area, the Green Energy Area and BikeFest 2007 Area.

The Environmental Leaders Area will showcase over 50 environmental nonprofit organizations, government agencies and businesses that have earned the "Waste Knot" award. Exhibits will feature hands-on activities for people of all ages, including crafts, live animal demonstrations, walk-through environmental art and an Environmental Jeopardy Quiz!

The Green Energy Area will be devoted to innovative energy-saving designs and actions. There will be displays of alternative fuel vehicles, demonstrations of "green" building materials, solar energy installations and more.

Attendees may even get to ride on the new Segway personal transport vehicles!

Finally, BikeFest will return for its second year at the Green Fair, showcasing the local biking & environmental community. There will be free bike skill demos, bike contests, a bike maintenance clinic, youth games and info from local bike shops!

Please bring your friends and family to this special event!

Event Info:

Date: Friday June 15th, 2007
Time: 6pm - 9pm
Location: Downtown Ann Arbor's Main Street, between E. Huron and William St.

Washtenaw County Website a Valuable Environmental Resource

Washtenaw County has a website for people who are interested in becoming more environmentally responsible. This valuable resource provides a plethora of earth-friendly info available to everyone!



The web address is www.ewashtenaw.org/ep. The main page displays a drawing of a house with several icons representing various environmental aspects, such as recycling, lawn care, mold, etc. Users can click on any icon and it will bring up all the information pertaining to

that particular subject.

For example, if someone were interested in learning about energy use, they need only click on the "energy use" icon. This will lead them to energy fact sheets, info about energy efficiency, renewable energy choices, how to lower the bill and more!

Be sure to check out this incredible resource soon!

Congratulations to New 2007 Waste Knot Partners!

The Waste Knot Program is pleased to welcome 17 new partners to the program in 2007. Congratulations to:



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|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Acme Mercantile | JC Beal Construction, Inc. |
| Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation | Phire Branding Company |
| Benquin Business Systems | Quest Martial Arts |
| Betty Brigade | Salon Vertigo |
| Carpenterguy | Sun and Moon Yoga Studio |
| Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley | Washtenaw Land Trust |
| Heritage High School/Saline | Western Washtenaw Recycling Authority |
| Jamie's Lakewood Auto | Whitmore Lake High School |
| | Yoga Shala |

The Waste Knot Program would like to thank these new members for their commitment to recycling and reducing waste. Keep up the great work!

Did You Know?

On average, your refrigerator/freezer produces about 8 percent of your household's energy costs. There are several ways to reduce this expense:

- Check thermostat controls. A fridge works most efficiently when set between 38°F and 40°F, and a freezer at 0°F.
- If you have a manual defrost freezer, don't forget to defrost it regularly. More than 1/4 inch of frost makes your freezer work harder to keep your food, and the frost, frozen.
- Keep it level. An un-level refrigerator may cause the door gasket to seal improperly letting the cold air leak out. Set a glass of water on top and adjust the legs until the unit looks level.
- Keep it closed. A fridge works most efficiently when you open the door as infrequently as possible.



Congratulations to all Waste Knot Partners



Waste Knot

Program Updates:

Keep us updated on your waste reduction and recycling practices—we want to know what you are doing!

The more you reduce, reuse, and recycle, the more \$\$\$ you save.

Let co-workers know that they are a part of the Waste Knot Program—post this newsletter and flyer insert in places where everyone can read them.

Would you like to be featured in a future issue of Staying in the Loop? Let us know!

Please Call:

734-222-6874

Architecture Partners

Ann Arbor Architects Collaborative
David W. Osler Associates, Inc.
Hobbs & Black Associates, Inc.
Mitchell and Mout Architects, Inc.
Quinn Evans | Architects

Auto Repair and Maintenance Partners

C & T Collision, Inc.
City Body
Jamie's Lakewood Auto
Robert's Paint and Body, Inc.
Thorton's All Star Auto Salvage

Business Service Partners

Benquin Business Systems
Dominant Systems Corporation
Domino's Farms Corporation
Dynamic Edge, Inc.
Forefront Corporation
Phire Branding Company
Power Marketing
Secure ECO Shred

Chambers of Commerce Partners

Ann Arbor Chamber of Commerce
Ypsilanti Chamber of Commerce

Cleaning and Janitorial Service Partners

Coach's Catastrophe Cleaning Services
Unibar Maintenance Services, Inc.

Construction and Demolition Partners

Calvert's Roll-off Containers, Inc.
Cardea Construction
Carpenterguy
Homeowner Services of America, Inc.
JC Beal Construction, Inc.
TDF II Hauling & Plowing

Engineering Partners

Barr Engineering Company
Black & Veatch
Cybernet Systems Corporation

Finance Partners

Bowen & Barber, LLC
Carol L. Hoffer, CLU
Edward Jones Investments
Oliver Financial Planning
Swisher Commercial

Government Partners

Ann Arbor City Hall
Ann Arbor District Library
Ann Arbor Farmers Market
Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation
Chelsea District Library
City of Chelsea
Federal Correctional Institution, Milan
Freedom Township
Great Lakes Science Center
Leslie Science Center
Pittsfield Charter Township
Saline District Library
Village of Dexter
Washtenaw County Conservation District
Western Washtenaw Recycling Authority
Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority

Grocery Partners

People's Food Cooperative and Café Verde
Ypsilanti Food Cooperative and River Street Bakery

Health Service Partners

Arbor Psychological Consultants, P.C.
Barbara Boyk, PhD
Kleanthous Family Foot Clinic, P.C.
Linda Diane Feldt, RPP, NCTMB
Marsha Traxler, RN, RPP
Quest Martial Arts
St. Joseph Mercy Hospital
Sun and Moon Yoga Studio

University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers
Yoga Shala

Landscape Design and Planning Partners

Heart & Soul Services
Johnson Hill Land Ethics Studio
Lodi Farms LTD
Nature and Nurture, LLC
Smith Group JJR

Law Firm and Attorney Partners

John D. Erdevig, Attorney at Law
Law Office of Helen Conklin Vick
Legal Services of South Central Michigan
Manchester & Associates, Attorneys at Law

Manufacturing Partners

Automotive Components Holdings, LLC Saline Plant
Automotive Components Holdings, LLC Spring St. Plant
Chelsea Milling Company
Data Optics, Inc.
Elastzell Corporation of America
Essen Instruments, Inc.
Ford Motor Company Rawsonville Plant
Horiba Instruments
JAC Products, Inc.
Kaiser Optical Systems, Inc.
Liebherr Gear Technology
Malloy, Inc.
McNaughton & Gunn, Inc.
Mikan Corporation
NSK Corporation
NuStep, Inc.
SoloHill Engineering, Inc.
Thomson-Shore
Toner Supply ISO90001 Certified

Non-Profit Partners

American Cancer Society Huron Valley Service Center
Ann Arbor Area Convention & Visitor's Bureau
Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum
Clean Water Action
Colonial Square Cooperative
The Conscientious Cruiser
Ecology Center
First Unitarian Universalist Church
Food Gatherers
Frontline Church
Growing Hope
Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley
High/Scope Educational Research Foundation
Legal Services of South Central Michigan
Michigan Peaceworks
National Kidney Foundation of Michigan
NEW Center – Nonprofit Enterprise at Work
NSF International
Performance Network
Recycle Ann Arbor
The Scrap Box
Washtenaw Land Trust
The Women's Center of America

Printing Service Partners

Goetzcraft Printers, Inc.
Harrington's Standard Printing
Print-Tech

Realty and Housing Community Partners

Ann Arbor Board of Realtors
Colonial Square Cooperative
Trillium Real Estate
Village Cooperative Homes, Inc.

Research and Development Partners

Assay Designs, Inc.
Pfizer Global Research and Development
Subaru Research and Development

Restaurant Partners

Arbor Brewing Company
Dominick's
Leopold Brothers Brewery

Northside Grill
Seva
Sweetwaters Café
Zingerman's Delicatessen

Retail and Wholesale Partners

Acme Mercantile
Arrow Awards
Batteries Plus
Cartridge World Ann Arbor
The Chelsea Collection
Dixboro General Store
Dragons Lair Futon
Eckland Imaging & Design
Forma Fine Crafts
Generations
G.E. Wacker, Inc.
King's Keyboard House
Maggie's Organics/Clean Clothes, Inc.
Materials Unlimited
Miles of Golf
ReCellular, Inc.
Saline Picture Frame Company
Shaman Drum Bookshop
Signs by Tomorrow

School Partners

Ann Arbor Learning Community
Forsythe Middle School
Heritage Elementary School
Lincoln Consolidated High School
Rudolf Steiner School
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Parish and School
The University of Michigan
Washtenaw County Community College
Whitmore Lake High School

Service Partners

1-800-GOT-JUNK?
Ann Arbor News
Ann Arbor Transportation Authority
Arbor Springs Water Company, Inc.
Babel Latina, Inc.
Bessenberg Bindery
Betty Brigade
Cartridges for Kids
Current Magazine/SGI Publications
David Meyer Photography
Design My Wedding
DTE Energy
Electronics Service Center, Inc.
Georgetown Country Club
Iris Waste Diversion Specialists, LLC
Master Tech Appliance Service, Inc.
Organizational Designs, Inc.
Palmer Insurance
RJ Frank, Home Inspections
Salon Vertigo
SelectRide, Inc.
Simply Organized Life
Sustainable Systems, Inc. & Sustainable Spaces
Tel. Systems/Thalner Electronic Laboratories, Inc.
Weber's Inn

Shipping Service Partners

Parcel Plus
UPS Store

Software, Web, and Graphic Design Partners

Cimulus, Inc.
Harris & Baseview
InPrint, Inc.
Materialise
West Pole, Inc.