



# 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.*

Fall 2006

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

## Green Info Guide Energy Links

To find more information on *Household Energy Efficiency* or *Business Energy Efficiency* world wide web links, please visit the online interactive Green Info Guide at <http://recycle.ewashtenaw.org/gig>. Or, you may also access the links from the Green Info Guide CD-Rom, under *Energy Efficiency*.



## Waste Knot Partner Spotlight: Ypsilanti Food Cooperative and River Street

Temperatures are dropping and energy use is going up. That's why the Ypsilanti Food Cooperative and River Street Bakery is our spotlight partner this fall. In addition to its long-standing role as a community owned grocery store in historic Depot Town, the Ypsilanti Food Co-op is also a community leader in energy conservation



and waste management.

The Food Cooperative reduces its energy-use by utilizing efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs. To further reduce carbon emissions, they installed a set of four solar panels last year. At peak performance, the four panels provide for up to half of the Co-op's energy needs.

The River Street Bakery, which was purchased by the Food Co-op last year, is also a model for energy effi-



ciency. All of the bakery's goods are baked in a wood-fired oven that is fueled by the shipping pallets that the Co-operative receives its products on. Instead of having their pallets hauled away to a landfill, they stay onsite and provide an alternative to grid energy (any Waste Knot partners that receive and discard shipping pallets are encouraged to contact the Ypsilanti Food Cooperative.) This year the River Street Bakery went one step farther and installed an on-demand hot water heater. Instead of continuously heating water,



this style of hot water heater warms the water only as it is

needed, preventing energy loss from standby heating.

In addition to its energy-saving strategies, the Co-op sells many of its good in bulk, as a way of reducing packaging. The plastic containers in which meats and other items are sold are made of corn rather than petroleum and the Co-op



buys whatever produce it can locally. Of course, they also recycle all of the usual items and even have a sheltered area in the back of the store to keep their recycling orderly.

The Ypsilanti Food Cooperative is truly dedicated to energy conservation and waste reduction and we are very pleased to have them as our spotlight member this season.

## America Recycles Day Event



America Recycles Day is an annual event now in its 10th year. The theme of this year's campaign is *It All Comes Back to*

*You*. The slogan presents the messages: a recycled product or material can return to consumers as another new product; recycling comes back to consumers as an improved environment, preservation of resources and economic well-being of the country; and it is everyone's respon-

sibility to recycle. Here at Washtenaw County, we desire to continue supporting this essential cause by hosting a bar night event at Leopold Bros. of Ann Arbor. As a social gathering, this event is a fun opportunity for Waste Knot and Washtenaw County employees to meet up and share with each other about what they are doing to recycle and eliminate waste at their respective businesses. The bar night will take place the week before America

Recycles Day, on Thursday November 9<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-8:00 PM.

We hope to see all of you there!

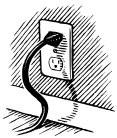


### For Your Information

Many appliances, even when turned off, continue to use energy. This standby energy, also known as phantom energy, is used for such functions as the instant-on capability of televisions.

To avoid the use of standby energy, plug your appliances into a switched outlet or a power strip and turn them off at the source when not in use.

Many battery chargers, such as those for use with cell phones, also consume electricity when not in use. Unplug these when the battery is charged and save!



## Environmental Excellence Awards Re-Cap

The Eighth Annual Environmental Excellence Awards presentation was held on September 20, at 6:30 pm at the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners Meeting.

The Environmental Excellence Awards Program aims to recognize businesses and non-profit organizations in Washtenaw County that provide leadership in environmental stewardship in the areas of water quality protection, waste reduction and recycling, and pollution prevention.

The awards are presented by the Washtenaw County Office of the Drain Commissioner, Department of Environmental Health Regulations and Department of Planning and Environment. Winners not only comply with environmental regulations, but they also implement innovative practices to protect our environment.

Many of the Environmental Excellence Award winners are, not surprisingly, Waste Knot members. Congratulations to all of this year's winners!

### 2006 Overall Environmental Excellence Award

Ann Arbor News, Production Facility located in Pittsfield Township for protecting water quality, preventing pollution and implementing waste reduction and recycling programs.

## == THE == ANN ARBOR NEWS

### Excellence in Water Quality Protection

Kaiser Optical Systems, Inc.



**Honorable Mention:**  
Angel Food Catering  
1-800-GOT-JUNK?



### Excellence in Waste Reduction and Recycling

Calvert's Rolloff Containers, Inc.



**Honorable Mention:**  
University of Michigan Solid Waste Services  
Western Washtenaw Recycling Authority

### Excellence in Pollution Prevention

Ann Arbor Machine



**Honorable Mention:**  
Martinrea Manufacturing, Inc.





## RETAP: Retired Engineer Technical Assistance Program

The RETAP program was established in 1994 to serve the purpose of providing professional assistance to Michigan businesses and institutions. It is composed of Michigan retired engineers. They are each highly qualified, with 30-40 years of experience in diverse industries, numerous processes, and with various wastes.

### RETAP Services & Benefits

RETAP provides free, confidential, and nonregulatory on-site waste reduction assessments. The assessments are conducted by a team of professionals which look for ways to reduce, reuse, recycle, and increase energy efficiency at facilities. Using the information they acquire, a written, confidential report is produced, containing specific rec-

ommendations to save money, increase efficiency, reduce liability, and promote a positive public image. There is great incentive to follow through with the suggested recommendations, including the fact that companies assisted through RETAP have saved thousands of dollars!

### Eligibility

To be eligible for the program, businesses must consist of less than 500 in-state employees. Michigan institutions of any size are acceptable, including hospitals, schools, municipalities, and county and state governments.

### Previously Assisted Facilities

- Agricultural businesses
- Auto service
- Chemical companies
- Dry cleaners
- Hospitals
- Metal finishing & forming

- Painting & coating facilities
- Plastics
- Retail
- Schools
- Tool and die
- Wood products

### To Sign up/Get More Information

Contact RETAP partners:

- ⇒ RETAP at 888-749-7886, or FAX 248-478-8192
- ⇒ Environmental Science and Services Division at 800-662-9278

Or check online:

- ⇒ Website at [www.michigan.gov/deqretap](http://www.michigan.gov/deqretap)

## New Waste Knot Partner Benefits!

We're hard at work preparing new benefits for you, our Waste Knot partners, but we need your help!



### - The Waste Knot Discount Card

We are currently looking for partner businesses interested in providing discounts to other Waste Knot members. Participation in this program has several benefits including free advertising, improved networking, and attracting new customers. If you are interested in participating in this program, please email Jeff Krcmarik at [krcmarij@ewashtenaw.org](mailto:krcmarij@ewashtenaw.org).

### - Washtenaw County 3-R Business Directory

We have created a new directory designed specifically for businesses and organizations that practice sustainability in the form of waste reduction and recycling. As a Waste Knot member, you already have an entry in the directory, but it is currently incomplete. To find out what we need to complete your listing, please see our new benefits page on the Waste Knot website. You can access the Waste Knot website at <http://recycle.ewashtenaw.org/wasteknot> and the business directory at <http://recycle.ewashtenaw.org/businesslist>. Please send all information to Jeremy Sobczak at [sobczakj@ewashtenaw.org](mailto:sobczakj@ewashtenaw.org).



### - Success Stories

We're planning on updating the program's Success Stories page with a focus on bottom line savings. If you think your business or organization has a story to tell about how money was saved through recycling and energy or water conservation, email Jeremy Sobczak at [sobczakj@ewashtenaw.org](mailto:sobczakj@ewashtenaw.org) and you could be featured on our new Success Stories page!

We hope you're as excited about these new benefits as we are and are looking forward to hearing from all of you! Until then, thanks for making the Waste Knot program such a success.

### Did You Know?

You can find out how much energy your appliances are using with a simple device called the *Kill-a-Watt*.

The *Kill-a-Watt* plugs into a standard outlet and, when you plug your appliances into it, displays the wattage being consumed. Use these simple devices to determine which appliances are over consuming in your office!



The main branch of the Ann Arbor public library has Kill-a-Watts available for loan.



# 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 Mouat Architects, Inc.  
Quinn Evans | Architects

### Auto Repair and Maintenance Partners

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

### Business Service Partners

Dominant Systems Corporation  
Domino's Farms Corporation  
Dynamic Edge, Inc.  
Forefront Corporation  
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  
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  
St. Joseph Mercy Hospital  
Sun and Moon Yoga Studio

University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers

### 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.  
Elastizell 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  
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  
Western Washtenaw Recycling Authority  
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  
Sings by Tomorrow

### School Partners

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

### Service Partners

1-800-GOT-JUNK?  
Ann Arbor News  
Ann Arbor Transportation Authority  
Arbor Springs Water Company, Inc.  
Babel Latina, Inc.  
Bessenberg Bindery  
Cartridges for Kids  
Current Magazine/S&G 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.