

# 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 2005

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

***Congratulations to all winners for demonstrating excellent environmental leadership!***

***Washtenaw County appreciates your participation in improving the quality of county workplaces!***

## Waste Knot Partner Spotlight: Cardea Construction Company

This year, the Washtenaw County Waste Knot Program is excited to announce the acceptance of several new partners as well as recognize new achievements by existing partners. Cardea Construction Company, a Waste Knot Partner since 2000, has been an active recycler for over 15 years, and is this year's Waste Knot Spotlight Partner.

Founded by Patricia Harroun in 1985, the company specializes in remodeling kitchens, bathrooms and finished basements as well as working on additions and whole house renovations. Ms. Harroun currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Washtenaw County Home Builders Association and works as a member of its Green Initiative Council Task-force. She has also pursued education in several areas pertinent to homebuilding today and is a Certified Graduate Remodeler and Certified Aging in Place Specialist.

Under the supervision of Ms. Harroun, the company has implemented a num-

ber of responsible waste management strategies. In fact, the company believes so strongly in recycling that employees collect and transfer recyclables to the recycling Drop Off Station on Ellsworth Road themselves! Some of the items taken to the Drop Off Station include



copper pipe, aluminum siding, batteries, computers, scrap metal, wood debris and yard waste, which are produced during the renovation process.

Not only does the company extensively reduce, reuse and recycle internally, but they share this philosophy with their clients by promoting green building materials and ideas in their remodeling work. This can be seen by their current involvement in Green Building Committee of Washtenaw County.

Cardea Construction also drops off all acceptable items from remodeling jobs to the Recycle Ann Arbor Reuse Center in order to keep the items out of the landfill and give them a new life for others to use and enjoy. As a way of

rewarding employees and ensuring the success of their program, recycling and reuse accomplishments are part of general job reviews for employee salary increases.

The Waste Knot program is not the only group to recognize Cardea for their outstanding environmental achievements. In 2005, the company received the Environmental Awareness Award from the Ann Arbor Board of Realtors for a construction project that followed Energy Star, American Lung Association and Green Building guidelines. Also, the President of Cardea Construction Company was awarded the 2004 Built Green Achievement Award by the Home Builders of Washtenaw County.

## Washtenaw County Fast Facts: How WC Compares to the State of Michigan

Many Washtenaw County citizens may be wondering, just how well their county is doing in comparison to the entire state of Michigan. Based on the information compiled in Washtenaw County's Comprehensive Plan, we are pleased to announce that our county is doing relatively well compared to the State of Michigan.

Washtenaw County, being the 6th largest county (in terms of population) in the State of Michigan, can boast many achievements.

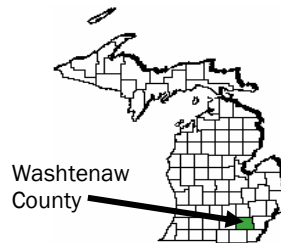
1. In 2000, 48.1 percent of Washtenaw County's population

above age 25 held a bachelor's degree or higher. This exceeds the State of Michigan with 21.8 percent of its population

2. Only 4% of the county's work force is unemployed, compared to the 5.8% unemployment rate for the State of Michigan.

3. The median household income for a Washtenaw County household, is \$51,990 (2000 Census). This is much more than the median household income for the state, which is \$44,667.

4. The per capita income for Washtenaw County is \$27,173, which is also higher than the \$22,168 state per capita income.



Versus



**By 2020, the population of Washtenaw County is projected to be 410,748 persons, a 27 percent increase from the 2000 population of 322,895.**

## What Can We Do to Protect Our Watersheds?

Washtenaw County is home to several watersheds of southeast Michigan, the two largest being the Huron and Raisin River Watersheds. In order to ensure their safety, and ultimately the safety of water quality throughout the county, it is important for citizens to take active roles in the protection of these watersheds.

### Sample Protection Activities:

- Conserve and reuse water wisely in everyday activities.

- Administer soil tests before applying fertilizers, attempt to limit pesticide and fertilizer use as much as possible, everything that goes into your lawn ultimately goes into your watershed!
- Use native vegetation, instead of turf grass.
- Capture and re-use rainfall to water your lawn or garden.
- Wash your car on the lawn, or direct the water from the wash to your lawn, this saves on

sprinkler use.

- Recycle and dispose of household chemicals and hazardous wastes properly. Visit the Washtenaw Count Hazardous Household Waste Collection Site on Zeeb Road every Saturday from 9am to 12pm to dispose of your home toxics.
- Make sure to inspect and maintain your septic and sewer systems so that they run efficiently.
- Eliminate and prevent leaks and spills from your vehicles. Anything leaking out of a vehicle eventually ends up in a water source.
- Join and Watershed Organization in your area! Groups in Washtenaw County include: Huron River Watershed Council, River Raisin Watershed Council.



## Spring Cleaning Tips for Waste Knot Employees:

### • Window Cleaner

Mix ½ cup vinegar with one quart warm water. This solution can be put in an old window cleaner spray bottle for easy use. Use old newspaper instead of paper towels to clean windows, it smears less!

### • Roach and Ant Control

Mix equal parts of powdered sugar and borax, sprinkle where ants and roaches are a problem.

### • Silver Cleaner

Take a deep pan, line it with aluminum foil, then, boil 2-3 water inches into pan. Add 1tsp salt and 1tsp baking soda to boiling water, then place silver in the pan and boil for 3 minutes. Silver comes out looking like new!

### • Oven Cleaner

Mix 1 part vinegar to 4 parts water. Make sure oven is cool and apply to oven surface and scrub the oven clean. Use baking soda on stubborn parts. The vinegar/water solution can be put in a spray bottle to make the process easier!

### • All-Purpose Bathroom & Kitchen Cleaner

Warm 1 pint of water, then dissolve 2 tbsp of baking soda into the water. Lemon juice or vinegar can be added to cut

grease. This also works well in a spray bottle, reuse a store-bought bottle!

### • Toilet Bowl Cleaner

Flush to wet sides of the toilet bowl, then sprinkle 1 cup borax around the sides of the bowl. Pour 1 cup white vinegar around the sides where the borax is. Leave for several hours before scrubbing with a toilet brush.

### • Drain Cleaner

Pour 2 or 3 handfuls of baking soda followed by ½ cup vinegar down the drain. Cover drain for one minute.



For more information visit: <http://www.nwf.org/getgreen/GreenCleaning.cfm>

## Curb Your Car Month!

You can get fit, save money and protect the environment all at once by driving your car less!

There are four major ways to decrease the use of your vehicle, at least one of them could be right for you.

**1. Use Your Feet.**— Over 22% of all motor vehicle trips Americans take are less than one mile long and 50% of the working population commutes less than 5 miles to work.

**2. Bike** - Efficient transportation, especially in cities with heavy automotive traffic.



**3. Public Transit**—For any-one who works and lives within Ann Arbor or Ypsilanti, AATA bus route covers much of that area.

**4. Car Pool**— An option for all types or workplaces, in all areas of Washtenaw County. Drive less and get to know your co-workers.

## Washtenaw County Sponsors Regional Clean-Up Days

Washtenaw County is offering its waste hauling services on three Saturdays this spring to help decrease the waste load of its citizens.

The events will be held on the following dates at these locations listed below:

- April 16th at Manchester United Methodist Church
- April 30th at Webster Township Hall
- May 14th at Chelsea Fairgrounds

This is an announcement for employees of Washtenaw County, **not businesses**. We encourage all individual citizens to attend!

Call Jeff Krcmarik at (734) 222-6865 with questions about acceptable materials.

*Washtenaw County is composed of approximately 462,325 acres of land. Currently about 82% of the land is either agriculture or in an undeveloped state. Continued decreases in this land are expected through 2020.*

# Congratulations to all Waste Knot Partners



## Recent Washtenaw County Publications to check out:

1. **A Comprehensive Plan for Washtenaw County**
2. **Residential Solid Waste Profile and Assessment Report**

Copies of both documents are available on our website at:

<http://recycle.ewashtenaw.org>

### Auto Maintenance/Repair Partners

C&T Collision, Inc.  
City Body, Inc.  
Roberts Paint & Body, Inc.  
Thorton's All Star Auto Salvage

### Business Office Partners

Ann Arbor Architects Collaborative  
Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors  
Barr Engineering Co.  
Black & Veatch  
Bowen & Barber, L.L.C.  
Carol L Hoffer, CLU  
Cimulus, Inc.

Cybernet Systems Corp.  
David W. Osler Associates, Inc.  
Dominant Systems Corp.

Domino's Farm Corporation  
Edward Jones Investments  
Forefront Corporation  
Harris & Baseview  
Hobbs & Black Associates, Inc.  
John D. Erdevig, Attorney at Law  
Manchester & Associates, Attorneys at Law  
Materialise

Mitchell and Mouat Architects, Inc.  
Moore Power Marketing  
Palmer Insurance

Quinn Evans | Architects  
SGI Publications  
Silver Birch Engineering, LLC  
Smith Group JJR  
Swisher Commercial  
The Chelsea Collection  
The Traverse Group, Inc.  
Trillium Real Estate  
West Pole, Inc.

### Chamber Partners

Ann Arbor Chamber of Commerce  
Ypsilanti Chamber of Commerce

### Construction/Demolition Partners

Calvert's Rolloff Containers  
Cardea Construction Co.  
Heart and Soul Landscaping Services, Inc.  
Homeowner Services of America, Inc.

TDF II Hauling and Plowing

### Government Partners

Ann Arbor District Library  
Chelsea District Library  
City of Ann Arbor, City Hall  
City of Ann Arbor, Farmers Market  
City of Saline  
Federal Correctional Institution  
Great Lakes Science Center  
Pittsfield Charter Township  
Saline District Library  
Village of Dexter  
Village of Chelsea  
Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority

### Manufacturing Partners

Chelsea Milling Company  
Data Optics, Inc.  
Elastizell Corporation of America

Essen Instruments, Inc.  
Goetzcraft Printers, Inc.  
Horiba Instruments  
JAC Products, Inc.

Kaiser Optical Systems, Inc.  
Malloy Inc.  
McNaughton&Gunn, Inc.  
NSK Corporation  
Nustep, Inc.

SoloHill Engineering  
Thompson-Shore Printing  
Visteon Automotive Systems - Rawsonville Plant  
Visteon Automotive Systems - Saline Plant,  
Visteon Automotive Systems - Spring St. Plant

### Non-Profit Partners

American Cancer Society, Huron Valley Service Center  
Ann Arbor Area Convention & Visitor's Bureau  
Colonial Square Cooperative  
Ecology Center  
First Unitarian Universalist Church  
Frontline Church

High/Scope Education Research Foundation

National Kidney Foundation of Michigan

NSF International

NEW Center

Performance Network

Recycle Ann Arbor

The Scrap Box

The Women's Center of America

### Research and Development Partners

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

### Restaurant Partners

Arbor Brewing Company  
Dominick's  
Leopold Brothers of Ann Arbor r

Northside Grill

Seva Restaurant

Sweetwaters Café

Zingerman's Delicatessen

### Retail/Wholesale Partners

Arrow Awards

Dixboro General Store

Dragons Lair Futons

G.E. Wacker, Inc.

Generations

Forma Fine Crafts

King's Keyboard House

Maggie's Organics/Clean Clothes, Inc.

Materials Unlimited

Mikan Corporation

Miles of Golf

People's Food Coop&Café Verde-

Pro Comm/Wolverine Wireless

ReCellular Inc.

Saline Picture Frame Company

Shaman Drum Bookshop

Signs by Tomorrow

Toner Supply

UPS Store

Ypsilanti Food cooperative

### School Partners

Ann Arbor Learning Community  
Forsythe Middle School  
Lincoln Consolidated High School

Rudolf Steiner School

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic

Parish & School

University of Michigan

Washtenaw Community College

### Service Partners

1-800-Got-Junk?

Arbor Psychological Consultants,  
Arbor Springs Water Company, Inc.

Babel Latina, Inc. Editorial Group

Barbara Boyk, Ph.D

Coach's Catastrophe Cleaning

Services

David Meyer Photography

Design My Wedding

Eckland Imaging & Design

Edward Jones Investments

Electronics Service Center, Inc.

Harrington's Standard Printing

Johnson Hill Land Ethics Studio

Kleanthous Family Foot Clinic

Larime Photographic, Inc.

Law Office of Helen Conklin Vick

Liebherr Gear Technology

Lodi Farms LTD

Marsha Traxler, RN, RPP

Master Tech Appliance Service, Inc.

Organizational Designs, Inc.

Palmer Studio

Parcel Plus

Secure Eco Shred

SelectRide, Inc.

Sustainable Systems, Inc.

Unibar Maintenance Services, Inc.

Weber's Inn

### Other Partners

Ann Arbor New

Ann Arbor Transportation Authority

Assay Designs, Inc.

DTE Energy

Georgetown Country Club

RJ Frank Home Inspections

Tel Systems/Thalner Electronics

Labs, Inc.

St. Joseph Mercy Hospital

University of Michigan Hospitals

and Health Centers

Village Cooperative Homes, Inc.

### Certificates of Merit

A.F. Smith Electric, Inc.

Chelsea Animal Hospital

City of Milan

Dexter Area Chamber of Commerce

Ecumenical Center and International Residence

