

Center Stream

Keeping our members current on Kaufman County's waste stream

A Service of Environmental Co-op

Spring 2008



2008 Board of Directors



Left to right: Susanne Orman, Chari Short, Rick King, John Kegerreis, Shannon Corder, Emlyn Miller, Jason Lengacher, Francis Holmes, Marilyn May (Ex. Dir), Margaret Ann Trail.

10th Anniversary of the Co-op



Judge Wayne Gent spoke to members at the March Annual Membership Meeting

March 13th was Environmental Co-op's 10th Anniversary Annual Membership Meeting. The Co-op is a member owned 501 c 3 non-profit organization. To become a member go to our website www.trashbusters.org or call to have an application form sent to you. To our current members please tell your friends and family about the Co-op.

First Tree Planting & Care Workshop



Matt Grubisich, Texas Regional Forester, explains to the class the importance of knowing the correct way to care for trees.

Kaufman County's first Tree Planting and Pruning Workshop was held Saturday, March 8th at the Kaufman County Library with 24 in attendance. The two hour workshop was taught by Pam Corder, Kaufman County's Urban Forester, and Matt Grubisich, Texas Regional Forester for Kaufman County. The workshop highlighted the proper way to plant, care for and prune trees. Participants learned about the process of planting and caring for trees. Each participant received a Chinese Pistachio tree as they left the workshop. Chinese Pistachio trees are native to this area and change color in the fall to a beautiful orange/red color. Environmental Co-op was able to sponsor the workshop through a grant from Texas Forestry Service (TFS).



Pam Corder, Urban Forester spoke to workshop participants.

Regional Forester visits homeowner



Picture from right to left: Ralph Davis, Ag Agent Kaufman County AgriLIFE Extension Service, Matt Grubisich, Area Regional Texas Forester, and David Sparacino, Kaufman County homeowner.

Matt Grubisich, Area Regional Texas Forester visited with Pam Corder, Kaufman County Urban Forester, Ralph Davis, Ag Agent, Kaufman County AgriLIFE Extension Service, and home owner David Sparacino to check on visible diseased trees at a home in North Kaufman County. They also visited Ben Gill Park the same day.

They were concerned that the trees had Oak Wilt but found that they had Hypoxylon Canker that is a result of stress from our drought conditions in 2005-2006. The trees show a visible black and then gray coloring to the bark afterwards the bark will peel off the trees. If you are looking for more information you can do a search on the web under hypoxylon canker. Environmental Co-op has put a flyer on hypoxylon canker at the Kaufman County Library or you can get information at our office 401 N. Adelaide St., Terrell, TX. Phone 972-524-0007.



The children first found out the biology of the worm and then were able to handle worms and see how they feel and look.

Environmental Odyssey left students in awe!

Terrell and Kaufman Independent School Districts sent their second graders to Environmental Odyssey on March 11th & 12th where they had a full day of fun educational activities waiting for them. The children learned about trees by building a tree, each child was assigned to act as a part of a tree, some were leaves, others the roots and yet others where branches and the trunk. This exercise taught them the names of parts of the tree and what those parts did to keep the tree alive.

There was also a Magic of Recycling demonstration where the children found out that much of our trash really can be recycled and about products that are made from recycled materials. In the vermi-compost session they got to hold a worm and found out that in nature worms are fertilizing the ground all the time. A puppet show told them the story of a fisherman that never thought much about trash and what it can do to our waterways. They also got a chance to get close up and personal with a millipede and a really big cockroach!

All in all the students went away with an enormous amount of information to continue to share with their families and friends, church families and community. At the end of the day both the Abitibi Bowater mascot "Pepper the Paper Retriever" and Environmental Co-op's "Trashasarus" said goodbye as they boarded the buses to go back to school.



Recycled Art Poster Coloring Contest



Students names from left to right: 1st place, Ashley Weaver, 2nd place, Macy McGlamery, 3rd place, Leslie Gonzalez and 4th place, Lisa Quintanilla

Environmental Co-op held a Recycling Poster Coloring Contest as a part of their Environmental Odyssey that was held for second graders of Terrell and Kaufman ISD's on March 11th and 12th.

IESI the contracted waste disposal company with both City's sponsored the contest and Recycled Art Contest. All participants received certificates, and 1st thru 4th place winners received prizes and ribbons.

Terrell's J.F. Kennedy and Kaufman's Monday Primary School each received \$100 for their science program. Congratulations goes to all winners!

DID YOUR SHOPPING LIST KILL A SONGBIRD? New York Times 3/30/08

Migratory songbirds are suffering mysterious population declines, and pesticides may well be to blame. For story go to:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/30/opinion/30stutchbury.html?ex=1207627200&en=af83d36c5c1d27c2&ei=5070&emc=eta1>



Winners of the Recycled Art Poster Coloring Contest from J. F. Kennedy Elementary in Terrell are; from left to right: 1st place, Lluvia De Los Santos, 2nd place, Carson Horn, 3rd place, Abby Angle and 4th place Travis Fairley



Environmental Co-op's 1st Recycling Coordinator Retires



Picture from left to right: Environmental Co-op Board Members Karen Jones, Realtor with ReMax Landmark and Jason Lengacher, Environmental Manager, Nucor Building Systems recognize John Ticer for his dedication to the Business Recycling Program.

John Ticer, Business Paper/Cardboard Recycling Coordinator has retired. John came to Environmental Co-op in 2002 through the Experience Works Program at Texas Workforce. "After a year with Experience Works we contracted with John to run our Business Paper/Cardboard Recycling Program. Without his hard work and dedication to the program we never would have been able to succeed," stated Marilyn May, Executive Director.

He started a "milk run" of sorts and went to small businesses in Terrell that had an interest in recycling. Then he expanded by going out to Kaufman, then to Kemp and Forney. The program now collects about 42,000 pounds of paper and cardboard each month in Kaufman County.

"There have been many problems as we have established this program but John never gave in to those and always found a way to make the program work. The board of directors and myself cannot thank him enough for all his hard work," Marilyn reports.

Mikey Gober has taken over the Business Paper/Cardboard Recycling Coordinator's position and is excited about working with the businesses and continuing to grow the program. If you know of a business in the Forney, Terrell or Kaufman that would be interested in recycling have them call the Co-op at 972-524-0007.

Electronics Recycling Event **April 26th 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** **Wal-Mart Supercenter** **Highway 80, Forney (parking lot)**

Electronics Items that will be collected at no charge include:

Computers—keyboards—(laptops, too)—scanners—printers—copiers/fax machines—cell/corded phones—ink jet and laser cartridges—stereos—microwaves—shavers—mixers—fans—air conditioners—batteries (rechargeable and non) etc.

During this collection event we will also take:
Eyeglasses will be collected for the Lions Club

There will be a charge for the following items (cash only):

Monitors – \$5.00 each
TV's – Small up to 13 inch screens – \$10.00 each
14 inch and larger screens – \$20.00 each

All businesses, schools and citizens are welcome to participate

"Awesome" Children's Summer Programs

June 14th – "Awesome" Environmental Camp
Ages 6–12, 9:30–11:30 a.m. Place to be determined

June 16th – "Awesome" Trees
Ages 6–12, 10–12 p.m., Tri-County Library, Mabank

June 25–27th – "Awesome" Wildlife Camp,
Ages 8-12, 9:30–11:30 a.m.. Rosser

July 26th – "Awesome" Trees
Ages 6–12, 10 a.m.–12 p.m., Tri-County Library, Mabank

Call the Co-op for more information on programs
972-524-0007

Wal-Mart Distribution Center Donation

Marilyn May and Jason Lengacher, Environmental Manager, Nucor Building Systems received a \$1000.00 check from Wal-Mart Distribution Center on behalf of the Members of Environmental Co-op on March 14th. The funds will be used for our environmental programs for children this summer.



Xeriscaping

How much water (and \$\$) can you save on your personal and company landscaping? Take a look at your landscaping. No, really. Take a minute to look out the window at the lawn, shrubs, and trees.

Are you looking at a water-glugging landscape that sucks your budget dry every summer? Let's fix that! This spring start going "green" by replacing your un-environmentally-friendly landscape with drought-resistant native plants.

Not only will your budget thank you, but so will your community when the water supplies are used for drinking, cooking and cleaning. Not on trying to keep flowers from wilting in the summer heat.

This type of gardening is called Xeriscaping and you can find more information at www.txsmartscape.com. The Co-op has information also.

Plastic drinking bottle (PET) recycling rate again increases

For the third straight year, the recycling rate for polyethylene terephthalate (PET) # 1 containers increased, according to a report issued this week by the National Association for PET Container Resources (Sonoma, California) and the Association of Postconsumer Plastic Recyclers (Washington).

With over 1.272 billion pounds of PET (#2 plastic) collected in the U.S. in 2006—the highest recorded PET container collection volume to date—the figure represents an 8.7-percent increase over the 1.170 billion pounds collected in 2005, resulting in a recycling rate of

23.5 percent, a 0.4-percentage-point increase over the 2005 recycling rate of 23.1 percent. Additionally, the volume of PET containers made available for recycling in the U.S. also ascended in 2006 to 5.424 billion pounds, a 6.9-percent increase over the 2005 figure.

According to the report, officials attribute the increase primarily to the growth in sales of still water, teas, energy drinks and isotonic beverages. However, other factors contributed as well, including California increasing its tonnage of collected PET by 42 million pounds, the installation of new auto sort technology (126 total installations now in the U.S. and Canada) and new commercial bottle recovery efforts being implemented.

Furthermore, U.S. manufacturing applications utilized 855 million pounds of recycled PET in 2006, a minute 1.0-percent decrease in volume when compared to the 864 million pounds employed in 2005. The 2006 report, which can be viewed by clicking here <<http://www.napcor.com/reports.htm>>, marks the second year NAPCOR and the APPR collaborated in preparing the report.

Recycling facts:

Do you check the recycled-content of the products you purchase? You should.

The U.S. produces 90 million tons of paper annually, and consumes 100 million tons. However, only 35% of that paper contains post-consumer materials. Post-consumer means that the paper has been read and recycled by a consumer—you! Check packaging to see if your purchases include recycled materials. Remember the customer has a lot of power...purchasing power. Buy what you expect to see in the marketplace and that is what will be available in the marketplace. No manufacturer will make an item that they can't sell, at least not for long.

You have the power to change the way items are made. Make your voice heard...by buying recycled!!

Kaufman Countywide Clean up planned for May 16th and 17th at the same locations as in years past.

BIRDS GET THE CREDIT, BUT BATS EAT MORE BUGS (Reuters 4/4/08)

Bats play a bigger role than birds do in controlling tropical insects, and the loss of bats might mean that morning cup of coffee gets more expensive. For story go to:

<<http://www.planetark.org/dailynewsstory.cfm?newsid=47770>>

Earth Day Celebration Planned for April 22nd at the Kaufman County Library

Information on county programs: recycling, composting, vermi- composting, tree care, mulching, household hazardous waste, rain water gathering, illegal dumping, organics, xeriscaping and trash disposal will be available from 10:00 a. m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Kaufman County Library, 3790 S. Houston St., Kaufman, TX. Everyone is welcome and there is no charge. Environmental Co-op wants to provide an educational day full of information about our programs to the public. Please mark your calendars and come by the library to check out all the great programs that are available to Kaufman County residents and businesses.

How Green is your rental car?

As for a hybrid next time you rent! EPA's Green Vehicle Guide, at <http://www.epa.gov/greenvehicles>.

Dan Phillips builds houses from recycled materials – Texas Country Reporter story

For story go to:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a9JkPk0Cl04&feature=dir>

Meet a man on a mission determined to make cheap, affordable housing for the common man in an Earth-friendly way. Huntsville, TX.

SPRING MASTER COMPOSTER CLASS



Pictured from left to right are Cindy Rich, Lea Ann Baker, Gayle Black, Monica Gifford and Pam Corder.

Master Composter students at Environmental Co-op's spring class learned to recycle leaves. Composting is the technique of breaking leaves down into a rich soil amendment that will enhance plant health during the hot days of summer by keeping the soil cooler and more moist. The next Master Composter class will be held May 10th and 17th. Call 972-524-0007 for details.

Co-op Calendar

For more information or for volunteer opportunities, call 972-524-0007.

April 5 – Vermi-Compost class at Xeric Garden in Forney from 10 am – noon
April 19- Earth Day at Heritage Jubilee; Environmental Booth, Ben Gill Park, Terrell
April 22 - Earth Day Celebration, Kaufman County Library, 3790 S. Houston St, Kaufman 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
April 26 – Electronic Recycling Event, Wal-Mart Supercenter, Hwy 80, Forney 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
May 3 – Kaufman Cleanup, City of Kaufman
May 10 & 17 – Master Composter Class, Terrell 9:00 am – 4:30 pm
May 16 & 17 – Countywide Cleanup, same locations
May 20 - E-Business Advisory Council, Terrell, 10 am

City of Plano Live Green EXPO

Plano Centre
2000 East Spring Creek Parkway
4/12/2008 – 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

The EXPO is being presented by the City of Plano. It is a FREE event encouraging environmentally friendly lifestyles. There will be exhibitions offering "green" products and services; performances by The Bill Tillman Band, Eddie Coker, live broadcast of The Dirt Doctor; environmental workshops; keynote speakers, an eco-fashion show; hybrid ride and drive; children's activities and lots of great prizes and much more.

www.livegreeninplano.com



The Special Events Company

PLANNING • PRODUCTION
RENTAL • SALES

Bruno Schoener
DESIGNER

2161 Hutton Drive
Carrollton, TX 75006
Phone 214-350-5373
Cell 214-243-4048
Fax 214-350-7715
bruno@mmspecialevents.com
www.mmspecialevents.com

Environmental Co-op supporters

Shiels
Engineering, Inc.

22, Box 198
Lubbock, Texas 79402
972-402-0112
972-402-0813

GEOSCIENCE & ENGINEERING CONSULTING

A big thanks to NUCOR Building Systems for sponsoring the printing of our newsletter!

NUCOR Building Systems
600 Apache Trail
Terrell, TX 75160



Life is like a piano, what you get out of it depends on how you play it.

C. Michael Stevens

11887 County Road 352
Terrell, TX. 75161

(972) 551-3863
(214) 770-3866 cell
lafinca@peoplepc.com



Life is like a piano, what you get out of it depends on how you play it.

J. Bruno Schoener

11887 County Road 352
Terrell, TX. 75161

(972) 551-3863
(214) 770-5808 cell
lafinca@peoplepc.com



EXOTIC EXPECTATIONS, INC.
Creative Landscape Design

C. Michael Stevens

(214) 526-3994 Office
(214) 520-3646 Fax
(214) 770-3866 Cell

cmichaelstevens@yahoo.com

2807 Larry Drive • Dallas, TX 75228

Kaufman Recycling Center

Located at East First North Street and Alton Street
(From Hwy. 34 N. go N.W. on East First North and then
North on Alton)

Open: Wednesday–Saturday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

For information call:

City Hall – 972-932-2216

City Public Works – 972-932-2216

County Courthouse – 972-932-4331

Recycling Center – 972-932-2161

Pct. 1 Maintenance Barn – 972-932-3684

Materials accepted	Comments
Aluminum cans, tin cans	Should be rinsed
Newspaper, office paper, phone books, magazines	Can be mixed Cardboard also accepted
Oil and oil filters IN SEALED CONTAINERS ONLY	Oil and oi filters can only be recycled at the Pct. 1 Maintenance Barn at 600 N. Nash in Kaufman
Plastic bottles and jugs	Should be rinsed
Glass containers	Should be rinsed

Wood chips are available free of charge. You load.

Terrell Citizen’s Convenience Station

Located on CR 319

(North of Terrell between FM 429 N. & Hwy. 34 N.)

Open: Wednesday & Saturday 9:00 am–4:00 pm

For information call:

City Hall – 972-551-6604

Convenience Station – 972-551-6628

Pct. 3 Maintenance Barn – 972-563-5362

Materials accepted	Comments
Aluminum cans, tin cans	Should be rinsed, can be mixed
Newspaper, office paper, phone books, magazines, paperback books	No cardboard or packing material
Oil and oil filters IN SEALED CONTAINERS ONLY	Oil and oil filters can be recycled at the Pct. 3 Maintenance Barn at 601 E. Nash St., Terrell
Plastic bottles and jugs	Should be rinsed
Brush	No larger than 4” diameter and 8’ length; no wire or nails

Wood chips are available free of charge. You load.

Kemp ECO-Station

Located at 6520 Plainview Drive off US 175
(north side frontage road)

Hours of operation: Tuesday–Saturday 7:00 am – 3:30 pm

For information call:

Kaufman County Sub Courthouse – 903-498-3492, ext. 1

ECO-Station – 903-498-4135

Materials accepted	Comments
Aluminum cans, tin cans	Should be rinsed, can be mixed
Newspaper, office paper, magazines, paperback books	Can be mixed Cardboard also accepted
Oil and oil filters IN SEALED CONTAINERS ONLY	At the ECO-Station
Plastic bottles and jugs	Should be rinsed
Brush	No larger than 4” diameter and 8’ length; no wire or nails

Household Hazardous Waste Collection (HHW)

Days of HHW disposal are Tuesday - Saturday from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Oil based paint (enamels) & thinners	Automotive Fluids
Pesticides, fertilizers	Pool and yard chemicals
Batteries	Household chemicals
Fluorescent light tubes	Craft and hobby supplies

Not Accepted: Business or medical waste; explosive or shock sensitive materials, smoke detectors or other radioactive material, compressed gas or explosives, including ammunition.

Help the Co-op go paperless

It has been our endeavor at Environmental Co-op to send out as much information via the internet as possible in order to reduce waste along the paper stream. Most of our members like receiving the newsletter and notices over their email accounts. We continue to mail newsletters to those who don't.

But, it is a constant struggle to keep email accounts updated for so many members, and we can't do it unless you send us that information.

Doing our part to reduce and reuse.

Recycle your paper and cardboard in Terrell

By placing your recyclable paper and cardboard in the Terrell City Hall recycling bin *you help us help you!* A paper recycling bin is located at Terrell City Hall next to the Fire Department. This container is provided as a community service for your convenience in recycling paper and cardboard products. Remember, please break the cardboard boxes flat before placing them in the container and do not dispose of phone books in this container. **NO PLASTIC BAGS** please.

Solid Waste Questions? Find the Answers Here:

Environmental Co-op

Marilyn May, Executive Director
Donita Everett, Office Administrator
Mickey Gober, Business Paper Recycling Coordinator
Pam Corder, Urban Forester
Phyllis Boerner, Programs
P.O. Box 1833, 401 N. Adelaide St., Terrell, TX 75160
972-524-0007 Phone, 972-551-0854 Fax
environmentalco-op@cebridge.net

Information on the Web

www.trashbusters.org
www.tceq.state.tx.us
www.timetorecycle.com
www.epa.gov (we are Region 6)
www.earth911.org
www.nwf.org
www.texasgardener.com
www.earleharrison.com (Jr. Master Composter Program)

Kaufman Trash & Recycling Center
972-932-2161



Terrell Citizen's Convenience Center
972-551-6628

Kemp ECO-Station
903-498-4135

To report illegal dumping activity call: Kaufman County Law Enforcement Center – 972-932-4337

Environmental Co-op
401 N. Adelaide St.
P.O. Box 1833
Terrell, TX 75160