

Center Stream

Keeping our members current on Kaufman County's waste stream news



A Service of Environmental Co-op

Spring 2009

Promote “Keeping Kaufman County Clean and Green” during Earth Month

History of Earth Day, April 22:

First launched as an environmental awareness event in the United States in 1970, Earth Day (April 22) is celebrated as the birth of the environmental movement. The first Earth Day, spearheaded by Wisconsin Governor Gaylord Nelson and Harvard University student Denis Hayes, involved 20 million participants in teach-ins that addressed decades of environmental pollution. The event influenced the US Congress to pass clean air and water acts, and establish the Environmental Protection Agency to research and monitor environmental issues and enforce environmental laws.

It's hard for many to imagine the state of our country before the government began to take pollution issues seriously. Before the Clean Air Act it was choking to drive in traffic with the windows down (if you don't believe it, make a visit to Mexico City or Bangkok and see the way it was); and with the Clean Water Act people and fish can once again swim in the Great Lakes. These acts along with many other EPA programs have truly helped to improve the health of our nation; however, much more needs to be done. More information about Earth Day at

<http://www.epa.gov/history/topics/earthday/01.htm>

11th Annual Membership Meeting Held March 19th

The Co-op's 11th Annual Membership Meeting was held at Rockwall Toyota on March 19th. An enjoyable dinner was provided by Environmental Co-op, with Eddie Deen Company and Catering providing salads and drinks for the members. Awards were presented to a number of area businesses that have supported our projects. **Cindy Tayem: Oncor Electric Delivery, Allison Deen: Eddie Deen Company and Catering,**

Naomi Hughes: Nature Calls, Leroy Robinson: Terrell Wal-Mart Supercenter.

Ms. Karen Jones and Ms. Susanne Orman were re-elected to their positions on the Board of Directors.

It was announced at the meeting that annual membership dues will increase to \$12.00 for individuals. After the meeting Barbara Jackson, Vice President, of Toyota of Rockwall provided a tour of their Gold LEED Building. It was fascinating to learn of all the various aspects considered in building the facility. Some of the aspects included:

- *Using materials with high recycled and recyclable content
- *Rain and A/C water harvesting and reduced water usage
- *Energy saving in electrical light usage and heating
- *Recycling in a wide variety of ways
- *Environmentally friendly building and cleaning materials
- *Employee health benefits from safe work practices, improved indoor air quality, work out rooms etc.
- *Landscaping practices that save water and energy.

This is the first Gold LEED Car Dealership in the world. LEED means Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).



Environmental Co-op Welcomes New Team Member

Environmental Co-op would like to extend a warm welcome to Candice Boswell. She is our new Program Manager. Ms. Boswell has a B.S. degree in Biology and 10 years administrative experience. Some of her responsibilities will include environmental and recycling education of the public, overseeing the recent recycling drop off centers and adding a kiosk to the Terrell drop off site.

Candice has volunteered for the Co-op in the past year. Recently she helped with the Environmental Odyssey.

Candice invites anyone wishing to host an event to contact her at the Environmental Co-op office. Please stop by the office to meet her.

Welcome aboard Candice!

Environmental Odyssey

On March 10th and 11th second graders from both Terrell and Kaufman I.S.D.'s gathered in the First Assembly of God Church in Terrell to learn about the environment and how to take care of it. Over 600 students participated.

Prizes were awarded to students competing in an art contest using recycled materials or promoting the recycling theme: "Earth Day is Everyday".

Students participated in a variety of areas of focus: art projects, earthworms, entomology, plant propagation, forestry, water conservation, recycling, and resource conservation. Many volunteers were needed to make this program happen as well as numerous staff from the Environmental Co-op. The Retired Teachers Organization, local Master Gardeners and previous participants in our Master Composter program all contributed volunteers to make this event happen. Many volunteers have returned year after year. It

has become a great way to be involved with the community.

A big thanks to Duncan Robertson, Karen Jones and Candice Boswell for being mascots as the children boarded the busses to return to school!!



Recycled Art



Michael Stevens conducts a plant propagation lesson with the children.



Terrell ISD Staff pose with Marilyn at Odyssey

Summer Programs for Children

Environmental Co-op works with Kaufman County AgriLife to present the following programs:

*Earth Day will be celebrated with special activities held at the Kaufman Library on April 23rd. This will be a special program for the Middle School students. The public is also welcome.

*June 16th Kaufman Library

*July 6th Cooking Camp Scurry-Rosser

*August 4th Outdoor Camp Scurry-Rosser
Recycling and Water conservation along with other topics will be addressed.

For more information contact:

Candice 972-524-0007

RECYCLING FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

Two new Drop-off Recycling centers opened recently one in Terrell and one in Forney. The Terrell Drop-off Site is located at the corner of N. Delphine and High Streets, behind the Kaufman County sub-courthouse. In Forney go to the Pct. 2 maintenance barn at the corner of FM 741 and FM 2932. Recyclers can drop off their paper products and cardboard, and #1 and #2 plastics and household cans. We are not collecting glass at either location due to the downturn in the glass recycling markets.

The paper container formerly located at the Terrell Fire Station has been moved to the Terrell Drop-off site, and the recycling containers at the Terrell Convenience Station have been moved to the drop-off site. "We encourage everyone who was recycling paper at the Fire Station and everyone who was recycling at the Convenience Station to visit one of the new sites for your recycling."

2008 Recycling Report

During 2008 the businesses that participate in Environmental Co-op's Business Paper & Cardboard Recycling Program recycled 292 tons of paper and cardboard, 1.34 tons of plastics and 295 pounds of aluminum. This represents a considerable savings in resources:

4,997 trees
1,228,080 Kilowatt hours of electricity
2,046,800 gallons of water
29,240 gallons of gasoline
17,544 pounds of air pollution
965 cubic yards of land fill space

Again, we want to congratulate those businesses which recycled, and express how much we appreciate them being part of this growing program. If your business would like to participate call Marilyn May at 972-839-6051.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

New Schedule at Kemp ECO-Station

The Kemp ECO-Station is no longer open on Saturday. The new times are Monday through Friday, 7:00am to 3:30pm. It is located in Pct. 4 at 6520 Plainview Drive in Kemp, and is open for Kaufman County residents to deposit recyclables and bulky waste with a permit based on size of the load.

Kaufman County residents who have residential trash or bulky waste can purchase permits at the Kaufman County Sub-Courthouse at 103 N. Main St. in Kemp from 8:00 am–4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. Coupons can be purchased at the ECO-Station with a MasterCard credit card, with a 3.5% convenience charge added for credit card transactions. Permits are based on size of the load at \$7.50 per cubic yard. For questions about the permit prices, residents can call the Sub-Courthouse at 903-498-3492 or the ECO-Station at 903-498-4135. The ECO-Station also accepts household hazardous waste, such as pool and yard household cleaners and chemicals for a charge of \$10 for up to 25 pounds.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days of HHW disposal are Monday–Friday
7 am–3:30 pm (closed at lunch time)

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.

Vermi-Compost Class

Next vermi-compost class is scheduled for

Saturday, May 25th

Place: Environmental Co-op, 401 N. Adelaide St.,
Terrell, Tx

Time: 10 a.m. to 12 noon

Cost: \$15.00

Class participants will learn about how to use worms to compost kitchen scraps. This process results in a great natural fertilizer for house plants and gardens. Young children enjoy the bins also. Participants will make their own bin to take home and learn to care for it. Please register early if you would like to attend. Contact the Co-op at 972-524-0007.

You can also email the office at:

environmentalco-op@cebridge.net

BEST BUY EXPANDS IN-STORE RECYCLING

As of Feb. 15, all 1,006 Best Buy stores in the United States are now offering electronics recycling services.

The Minneapolis-based retailer accepts most consumer electronics, including television sets and computer monitors up to 32 inches in size, CPUs, laptops and accessories, through its in-store recycling program.

Individuals can bring up to two units per household to Best Buy stores for recycling. A \$10 recycling fee per unit will be charged for items with screens, such as televisions and laptops, though customers will receive a \$10 Best Buy gift card in exchange. This fee does not apply to units recycled in California stores or to Best Buy's exclusive branded products, such as Insignia or Dynex.

The program does not accept console television sets, televisions or monitors with screens larger than 32 inches, microwaves, items containing Freon or appliances.

TangerStyle for a Greener World

It's Earth Month at Tanger Outlet Mall from April 1st to May 16th! Come see our display, along with children's environmental artwork, and more at the Outlet Mall Customer Service Corner. *It's TangerStyle For a Greener World!* In addition to special offers and discounts, they will be offering reusable shopping totes and environmentally-friendly gift card packaging.

Will Life Still Bee as Sweet?

Could the climate change be affecting the quality of the pollen? Could this add to stress for bee hives? These are some of the questions being asked by bee keepers.

Ann Trails gave an informative presentation to the Organic Co-op about Bees in February. We were able to see her veil, smell the smoker and look in a hive box. From the entrance reducer to various types of frames and foundations for building up a wax comb, various tools and equipment for working with bee hives were shown and explained. We learned a few uses for duct tape also! Other topics covered ranged from getting bees in the mail to bee nutrition, handling bees, bee hive organization and diseases. Ann shared lots of experiences and tips. Samples of honey and pollen were also on hand to taste. Bees are such interesting and helpful creatures!

If you are interested in learning more Ann recommends reading the "The Beekeeper's Handbook" by Dr. Dianna Sammataro and Alphonse Avitable. Some websites you might want to explore are: Plants Attractive to Native Bees - Logan Bee Lab.

<http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/docs>.

Bee Photos - Zach's Bee Photos, Zachary Huang

<http://photo.bees.net/>

Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Association

<http://northtexasbeekeepers.org>

Beekeeping Equipment, Supplies, Publications - Dadant Company, Paris, TX

<http://www.dadant.com>

Contact Phyllis Boerner at the Co-op if you would like more information about the Organic Co-op. She would like to know any topics in which you are interested. Meeting schedule for 2009:

June 17, 6:00 pm

September 16, 6:00 pm

November 18, 6:00 pm

Our Website Gets a Make Over!

Check it out at: www.trashbusters.org for all the latest updates on new recycling drop off centers and ECO-station hours, calendar and lots more.

Keeping Kaufman County Clean and Green is Goal for Environmental Co-op

Going green is a concept the Environmental Co-op promotes all year long. In 2009, the Co-op's primary focus is to "Keep Kaufman County Clean and Green" by implementing a grant from the North Central Texas Council of Governments to open two additional recycling locations in Kaufman County, to begin cardboard baling in order to process the cardboard collected from businesses in the County and to provide education for citizens to make "green" decisions in their everyday lives.

"Making environmentally friendly decisions shouldn't mean having to change your entire lifestyle," advises Marilyn May, Executive Director of the Co-op. "Just think of going green as giving a few daily habits a makeover. Small changes, when continued over a period of time, can make a positive impact on the environment."

Recycling newspaper, cardboard, magazines, junk mail, plastic soda and water bottles, plastic milk jugs and aluminum and steel cans will significantly reduce the average family's weekly trash that is headed for the landfill. In addition to saving landfill space, the recycled items will be used to make new products and reduce the need for energy, water and natural resources.

There are currently four residential recycling locations in Kaufman County. In addition, residents who live in the City of Forney have weekly curbside recycling.

"We are working to open two more recycling drop-off sites in the County by late summer," announced Ms. May.

Ms. May invites everyone to visit the Co-op's website at www.trashbusters.org for more information on what is accepted at each drop-off site and check on days and hours of operation or call the Co-op at 972-524-0007.

Another easy way for a consumer to "go green" is to take reusable canvas bags to the store to reduce the amount of plastic bags that are given out. Each year, the United States uses 30 billion plastic and 10 billion paper grocery bags, requiring approximately 14 million trees and 12 million barrels of oil. Anyone can help reduce this problem by keeping a reusable bag handy for shopping trips. "The hardest

part is remembering to take your reusable bags into the store with you," Ms. May laughed. "but after several times you will get into the habit of carrying your reusable bags with you into the store."

Ms. May explained that the Co-op practices what it preaches about greening the office. Two-sided copying is the norm, they use recycled content paper, and they use coffee mugs rather than disposable cups. They recycle all printer cartridges, and they ensure their promotional and education products are made from recycled materials, including chip clips made from recycled plastic and jar openers made from recycled tires.

"With this special emphasis on 'going green,' we want to invite you to join the Co-op in its efforts to "Keep Kaufman County Clean and Green" by becoming a member of our organization," said Ms. May. "We are a member-owned non-profit that needs support from the citizens to implement new programs and to sustain our existing programs, which include Master Composter training, public school education projects, a Stop Illegal Dumping campaign and our business recycling program. Membership is open to individuals, other non-profits and businesses. Individual membership is \$12 annually and includes a quarterly newsletter and discounts on classes offered by the Co-op. We invite you to become a member and join us in becoming greener at home, at work and at play."

Kaufman County-wide Clean Up Locations

May 1st and 2nd 8 am-4:30 pm

Kaufman County AgriLife is managing this program.

For more information: 972-932-2216.

Collection sites as follows:

Combine: Fire Station

Elmo: Elmo Food Stop

Forney: Precinct 2 Barn

Kaufman: Kaufman Trash Disposal and Recycling Center

Kemp: ECO Station

Mabank: Rodeo Grounds

Peeltown: Across from Peeltown Store

Scurry: Across from Sloans Grocery

Terrell: Convenience Station



Electronics Recycling Event

April 25, Noon to 4:00 p.m.

Brown Middle School, 1050 Windmill Farms Blvd.,
(in Windmill Farms) Forney, TX 75126

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 for the Lions Club

There will be a charge for the following items:

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. See the Co-op calendar for other
scheduled Electronic Recycling events.

Illegal Dumping is still a problem



**Report Illegal Dumping to the Kaufman County
Law Enforcement Center: 972-932-4337 ask for
Officer Dowden or Officer Dykes**

Co-op Calendar 2009

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

April 25- Electronic Recycling Event, Brown Middle School, 1050 Windmill Farms Blvd., Forney, TX 75126 Noon to 4 p.m.
April 18 - Heritage Jubilee, Ben Gill Park, Terrell. The Co-op will have a booth on Saturday; stop by and pick up our latest info!
April 22 - Earth Day
April 23 – Kaufman County Library, Earth Day Celebration 10 am – 2 pm , public invited
May 1-2 – County Wide Clean Up
May 23 – Vermi-compost class 10- noon at Environmental Co-op. Make a bin to take home with you.
June 17- Organic Co-op Meeting at Environmental Co-op Office, 6pm
Sept. 12 – Trinity River Trash Bash Cleanup in Crandall. Volunteers needed for clean up 9am – 1pm
Sept 16 – Organic Co-op, Environmental Co-op 6pm
Sept. 26 – Cedar Creek Cleanup, volunteers needed for cleanup at Cedar Creek Lake
Oct. 17 Vermi-compost class 10- noon at Environmental Co-op Make a bin to take home with you.
Oct 24 - Make a Difference Day – Cedar Creek area volunteer workday, 8am – noon Mabank arena – free bulky trash collection
Oct. 24 – Scarecrow Festival, City of Kaufman square: Co-op booth
Oct 27 – Kaufman County Hay Show, Tues. 5pm at Kaufman County Fairgrounds; Co-op booth
Nov 18 – Organic Co-op, Environmental Co-op, 6pm
Nov 19 – E-Business Advisory Council, Terrell, 10am
Nov 21- Texas Recycles Day Electronic Recycling
Dec 5 – Forney Christmas Parade, Forney
Dec 12 -Terrell Christmas Parade, Terrell

Environmental Co-op supporters



Terrell – Forney – Wylie – Rockwall



Terrell Citizens 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

Only residential trash and bulky waste with permit.

Wood chips are available free of charge.

You load.

NEW – Terrell Drop-off Recycling Center

Located at Corner of N. Delphine and High St. (Behind Pct 3 Sub Courthouse)

Serving City of Terrell and Kaufman County

Open: Daily

For information call:

Co-op office – 972-524-0007

<u>Materials accepted</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Aluminum cans, tin cans	Should be rinsed, labels OK
#1 and #2 plastics (water bottles, soda bottles, milk jugs, detergent bottles)	Should be rinsed, labels OK
Newspaper, cardboard, office paper, phone books, magazines, paperback books	Can be mixed

Precinct 2 (Forney) Drop Off Recycling Center

Located at Pct 2 Maintenance Barn, Forney (Corner of FM 741 and 2932)

Serving Precinct 2

Open: Monday – Friday 7:00am–3:30pm

For information call:

Pct. 2 Maintenance Barn – 972-564-7282

Pct 2 Office – 972-564-4054

<u>Materials accepted</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Aluminum cans, tin cans	Please rinse, labels OK
#1 and #2 plastics (water bottles, soda bottles, milk jugs, detergent bottles)	Should be rinsed, labels OK
Newspaper, cardboard, office paper, phone books, magazines, paperback books	Can be mixed
Oil and oil filters IN SEALED CONTAINERS ONLY	At Precinct 2 Maintenance Barn

Kaufman Recycling Center

Located at East First North Street and Alton St. (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

<u>Materials accepted</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Aluminum cans, tin	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 oil filters can only be recycled at the Pct. 1 Maintenance Barn at 600 N. Nash, Kaufman
Plastic bottles and	Should be rinsed
Glass containers	Should be rinsed

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: Monday–Friday
7:00 am – 3:30 pm (closed at lunch hour)

For information call:

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

ECO-Station – 903-498-4135

<u>Materials accepted</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Aluminum cans, tin cans	Please rinse & mixed OK
Newspaper, office paper, magazines, paperback books	Can be mixed Cardboard also accepted
Oil and oil filters IN SEALED CONTAINERS ONLY	At the ECO-Station
#1 & 2 Plastic bottles & jugs	Should be rinsed
Brush	No larger than 4” diameter and 8’ length; no wire or nails

Solid Waste Questions? Find the Answers Here:

Environmental Co-op 972-524-0007 Phone 972-551-0854 Fax

Marilyn May, Executive Director, mmay@cebridge.net

Donita Everett, Office Administrator, environmentalco-op@cebridge.net

David Williams, Business Paper Recycling Coordinator

Candice Boswell, Program Manager, enviroed@cebridge.net

Phyllis Boerner, Programs, jkeating@cebridge.net

Vonda Scott, Clerical, jkeating@cebridge.net

Information on the Web

www.trashbusters.org

www.tceq.state.tx.us

www.timetorecycle.com

www.timetorecycle.com

www.epa.gov

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