

Illinois Solid Waste News

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ILCSWMA Members,

Welcome to 2012! I hope you all had wonderful holidays.

First I want to thank all of those members who have renewed their ILCSWMA memberships. Your support is appreciated. For those who still need to send in their renewal, please take a few minutes to fill it out and return it. Every member is important to ILCSWMA.

Next, **mark March, 15, 2012 on your calendars.** ILCSWMA and the Illinois EPA are co-sponsoring a workshop in Springfield to address electronics recycling and the new Illinois landfill ban on most electronic waste. The landfill ban went into effect on January 1, 2012, so it is important that all involved parties have the opportunity to discuss how this law is impacting them and their operations. The day is planned so that attendees will be able to network, learn and get questions answered about the law.

Invited presenters include representatives from IEPA, an equipment manufacturer, a national electronics retailer, and registered collectors and recyclers.

If you have thoughts or questions about the Electronic Products Recycling and Reuse Act, as amended last year by SB2106, that you would like to see addressed at this workshop, please e-mail those to me at president@ilcswma.org. A registration brochure will be coming out soon; ILCSWMA members will be notified by email when it is available for viewing/download. A draft agenda for the event is included on page four of this newsletter.

Finally, on December 13, I sent our members a letter asking them to consider contributing to efforts to develop an industry-funded paint management program in Illinois. These efforts are being helped by the Product Stewardship Institute with financial support from ILCSWMA and several ILCSWMA members. Again, please consider financial support (at any level) for these efforts. Any questions can be directed to me or to:

Sierra Fletcher
Director of Policy & Programs
Product Stewardship Institute, Inc.
sierra@productstewardship.us

Best Regards,

Don Terry

FULL MEMBER NEWS

JACKSON COUNTY

Starting in January, the Jackson County Electronics Recycling Program expanded to take additional household items for recycling. The additional items now accepted for recycling include: microwaves, vacuum cleaners, fans, heaters, coffee makers, irons, hair dryers, VHS tapes and other like items. These items are in addition to the electronics already collected for recycling. Jackson County was the first local government in Illinois to implement an ongoing collection program for electronics in September 2002. For more information visit www.recyclejacksoncounty.org.

Just before the holiday season Jackson County Health Department hosted a shred day for residents. The event was a great success with 215 vehicles coming through and 6,200 pounds of paper shredded and recycled from the event. Also Jackson County celebrated America Recycles Day at this event by having a display of recycling information and collected over 75 pledges from residents.

MACON COUNTY

This winter, Macon County recycled Christmas lights for the first time. The program was conducted in cooperation with local recyclers, Sol Tick & Company.

The Christmas lights recycling program was very successful for several reasons. The program received great publicity, it provided staff members with the opportunity to speak with residents about the electronics landfill ban and answer various recycling questions, kept 332 pounds of lights out of the landfill, and it did not cost a dime.

Do you know of recycling and waste management facilities you'd like to tour?

Let your ILCSWMA Regional Representative know and they can try to set up a tour for ILCSWMA members in your region!

TRI-COUNTY RESOURCE & WASTE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Western Illinois residents can recycle several new items at the Tri-County Regional Collection Facility in 2012:

- 1) Household batteries, including alkaline and button cell batteries.
- 2) Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs). Waste Management is sponsoring the collection and recycling of household batteries and CFLs.
- 3) Rechargeable batteries. Managed through the industry-funded "Call 2 Recycle" program.
- 4) Christmas lights.

The Regional Collection Facility totals for 2011 include 150,603 lbs of paint from 2,250 households and 341,106 lbs of electronics from 3,971 households. Since the Facility's opening, the totals are now 810,922 lbs of paint from 11,906 households and 1,638,228 lbs of electronics from 14,882 households. The Collection Facility consists of one full time and one part time employee.



According to Chad Braatz, "Yes, there are still households that are untapped...just last week a can of paint came in that we guess is over sixty years old and it was made in Galesburg Illinois."

AFFILIATE MEMBER NEWS

SCARCE

For the last 20 years, used books have been passing through SCARCE on their way to schools all over the world...about 4 million of them to date, with over 260,000 in the last year alone. Kay McKeen, SCARCE's founder and very active president, started the Book Rescue project 20 years ago when she saw used books in the garbage at schools where she was teaching staff about recycling. (In fact, hard-covered books placed in school recycling are generally not recycled and also end up in the landfill.) Aside from avoiding landfilling, re-using books addresses a critical need in both local and international schools: teachers need appropriate books to be effective in the classroom. The well-kept secret is that schools all over Illinois are doing without the right books in some classrooms and for some students. It seems likely that this is the case in most of the U.S.

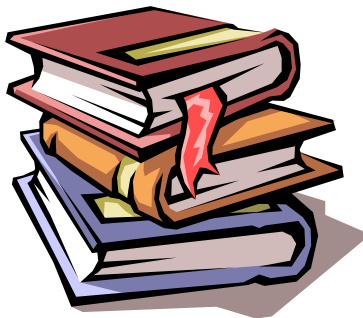
SCARCE's Book Rescue receives donated books from schools, libraries, and individuals. All kinds and condition of books are accepted; large deliveries are scheduled based on available space.

Donors transport the books to SCARCE, where quantities are recorded for subsequent landfill diversion reporting.

Knowledgeable volunteers sort the

books and place them on designated shelves in the book rooms. In June, 2011, one Illinois school district delivered three semi-trailer trucks full of textbooks to SCARCE. The books found homes in schools in Rockford, Chicago, Bloomington, Chicago Heights, and Uganda, to name just a few. One school in DuPage County received history books that the principal wrote are "worth \$30,000" that was not in their budget.

Kay McKeen came to realize that teachers need many items that are often not provided by the school, including the usual pencils and paper, rulers, and scissors, as well as drawing paper, glue guns, ribbon,



yarn, games, and science equipment. With a grant from Tellabs, Inc., SCARCE's Tools for Schools program was begun in 2002. Today, microscopes, overhead projectors, beakers and lab goggles, TVs, media carts, lab stools, tables, pianos, binders, desks, chairs, copiers, a balance beam, and much, much more are taken by teachers for schools across the globe: Addison, West Chicago, Wheaton, Fiji, and the Dominican Republic. Donors include schools, corporations with excess supplies, home organizers, scout groups, families, and individuals. Items are dropped off or driven several hundred miles, and occasionally shipped. Large items, such as pianos, are "advertised" via listserv, and interested teachers are given the donor's contact information in a 3rd party arrangement.

Donors understand that their resources will be offered to teachers and not-for-profits for reuse, and many express gratitude to SCARCE for giving them the opportunity to participate.

Over 4,000 teachers came to SCARCE in 2011; most left with books and classroom resources that put smiles on their faces or, as one teacher said, "This gives me hope."

SCARCE's Book Rescue program is not funded by government or a single private entity and relies on monetary donations from individuals, service organizations, corporations, churches, clubs – people that are inspired by the program and want to support it. Expenses include rent for approximately 3,000 sq. ft. of building space, utilities, and some SCARCE staff payroll. (Staff expenses are kept low through volunteer efforts, as well as court-ordered community service.) Future goals are focused on establishing book rescue operations in Chicago, St. Charles, and beyond, to get even more resources reused in schools.

For more information about SCARCE rescue programs, visit their website at www.scarcecoed.org or email ecoed@sbcglobal.net.

AFFILIATE MEMBER NEWS continued

USAgain, LLC

In 2011 USAgain, a Chicago-based textile collection company, diverted 10.5 million pounds of clothing and textiles from landfills throughout Illinois. USAgain couldn't have achieved such remarkable success without the ever-growing participation of local governments.

Strong partnerships with the Will County Forest Preserve District, Algonquin, Troy, Washington and West Deerfield Township are some examples. USAgain's clothing drop-boxes are hosted by these entities providing their residents with an eco-friendly option to rid themselves of unwanted clothes, shoes and textiles.

The EPA estimates that Americans throw away 11.2 million tons of textiles annually, which is 5.3 percent of total municipal solid waste (MSW) generation. This is evidence of a greater need for corporate-government collaboration in the recycling industry. USAgain has a strong national presence, and is well positioned to drive the growth of such collaboration across state lines by sharing best practices. For more information on USAgain, visit www.usagain.com.



Photo of the dedication of the West Deerfield partnership with USAgain

ASSOCIATION NEWS

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING WORKSHOP CO-SPONSORED BY IEPA & ILCSWMA

**Thursday, March 15 from 10am—3pm
Northfield Inn, Springfield, Illinois**

Draft Agenda

10:00am

Welcome from Don Terry and Keynote Address
(Speaker Invited from Equipment Manufacturer)

10:45am

Responsibilities Under the Electronic Products
Recycling & Reuse Act (as amended), Dave Walters,
IEPA

11:45am

Lunch with Featured Speaker (Speaker TBD)

1:00pm Two Breakout Sessions

- Recyclers Roundtable: Hear from Vintage Tech Recyclers, Sims, and TOTALL Metal Recyclers on their experience with the law and programs in Illinois. Presentations followed by facilitated discussion.
- Enforcement of the Disposal Ban: Units of local government that have enforcement delegation agreements with IEPA will be given direction on enforcement approaches by Paul Purseglove, IEPA.

2:00pm

Communicating the Landfill Ban & Recycling Options. Hear from units of local government that have been working to educate the public about electronics recycling & disposal.

2:45pm Wrap-Up & Evaluations