

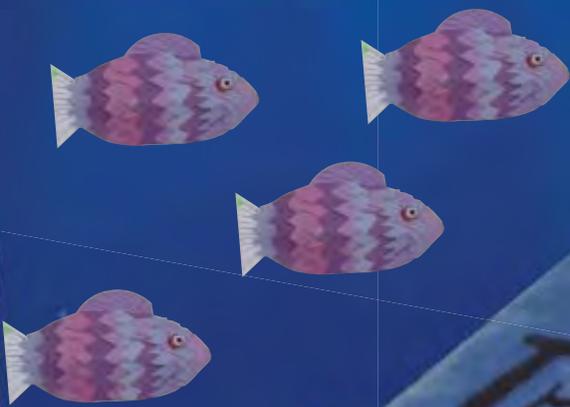
Recycle

PASCO

2014

**Be responsible
about your trash**

**See more Art of Recycling
2014 artwork inside!**



Lets Shellebrate
Trash Free Ocea

Tampa Bay
**Times
NIE**
newspaper in education
tampabay.com/nie



Newspaper in Education

The Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education (NIE) program is a cooperative effort between schools and the *Times* to promote the use of newspapers in print and electronic form as educational resources. Our educational resources fall into the category of informational text.

Informational text is a type of nonfiction text. The primary purpose of informational text is to convey information about the natural or social world. And since the mid-1970s, NIE has provided schools with class sets of informational text in the form of the daily newspaper and our award-winning original curriculum, at no cost to teachers or schools.

In the Tampa Bay area each year, more than 5 million newspapers and electronic licenses are provided to teachers and students free of charge thanks to our generous individual, corporate and foundation sponsors. In addition to providing free supplemental materials to educators, NIE hosts free educator workshops and webinars. Our teaching materials cover a variety of subjects and are consistent with the Florida Standards.

For more information about NIE, visit tampabay.com/nie or call 800-333-7505, ext. 8138. Follow us on Twitter at [Twitter.com/TBTimesNIE](https://twitter.com/TBTimesNIE). For additional copies of this NIE publication, email ordernie@tampabay.com.

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Cover artwork

Lets Shellebrate A Trash Free Ocean by Kaitlyn Brusik, J.W. Mitchell High School; **Protected** by Emily Ringer, Sunlake High School; **There's an Ocean of Reasons** by Patience Jennett, Genesis Preparatory School

Articles written by

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Florida Standards

Reading this publication and completing the newspaper activities incorporates the following Florida Standards for grades 4-12: **Science** SC.4.E.6.3; SC.4.N.1.2; SC.4.N.1.3; SC.4.N.1.6; SC.4.N.2.1; SC.5.N.1.1; SC.6.N.1.1; SC.7.N.1.1; SC.8.N.1.1; SC.8.N.4.2; SC.912.N.1.1; SC.912.N.1.7 **Language Arts:** LAFS.4-12.RF.3.3; LAFS.4-12.RF.4.4; LAFS.4-12.RI.1.1; LAFS.4-12.RI.1.2; LAFS.4-12.RI.1.3; LAFS.4-12.RI.2.4; LAFS.4-12.RI.2.5; LAFS.4-12.RI.2.6; LAFS.4-12.RI.3.7; LAFS.4-12.RI.3.8; LAFS.4-12.RI.3.9; LAFS.4-12.W.1.1; LAFS.4-12.W.1.2; LAFS.4-12.W.1.3; LAFS.4-12.W.2.4; LAFS.4-12.W.2.5; LAFS.4-12.W.2.6; LAFS.4-12.W.3.7; LAFS.4-12.W.3.8; LAFS.4-12.W.3.9; LAFS.4-12.SL.1.1; LAFS.4-12.SL.1.2; LAFS.4-12.SL.1.3; LAFS.4-12.SL.2.4; LAFS.4-12.SL.2.6; LAFS.4-12.L.1.1; LAFS.4-12.L.1.2; LAFS.4-12.L.2.3; LAFS.4-12.L.3.4; LAFS.4-12.L.3.5; LAFS.4-12.L.3.6 **Visual Arts:** VA.4-12.C.1.1; VA.4-12.C.1.2; VA.4-12.C.2.1; VA.4-12.C.2.3; VA.4-12.C.3.1; VA.4-12.C.3.2; VA.4-12.C.3.3; VA.4-12.S.1.2; VA.4-12.S.1.3; VA.4-12.S.1.4; VA.4-12.S.2.1; VA.4-12.S.2.2; VA.4-12.O.1.1; VA.4-12.O.1.2; VA.4-12.O.2.1; VA.4-12.O.3.1; VA.4-12.F.1.1; VA.4-12.F.1.2; VA.4-12.F.3.1; VA.4-12.F.3.2

Pasco Calendar of Events for Recycling 2014 — 2015

APRIL 2014

Great American Cleanup

April 12, 2014

Earth Day at Crews Lake Park

April 26, 2014

SEPTEMBER 2014

Coastal Cleanup

September 20, 2014

NOVEMBER 2014

America Recycles Day

November 15, 2014

DECEMBER 2014

Christmas Tree Recycling

December 26, 2014–

January 7, 2015

Pasco Art of Recycling
Scholarship

Applications accepted
during December 2014.

Contact the Pasco Education
Foundation for details.

FEBRUARY – MARCH 2015

Pasco Art of Recycling
competition for high school
students

APRIL 2015

Great American Cleanup

April 18, 2015

All dates subject to change. Visit the Pasco County and District School Board of Pasco County websites for updated information.



Learning with the Times

Learning new words

When you study new things, you often come up against some tough vocabulary words! Most vocabulary words are learned from context clues or good old-fashioned dictionary work. While you read this publication, be sure to highlight or circle words you don't know. Try to figure out the words' meanings by looking for clues in the sentences around them. Write down your best guess, and then look up the words in a dictionary. As a group activity, make a list of the words your classmates identified and see which ones stumped the class. Next, use these words for a news scavenger hunt. See if you can find these words in the *Tampa Bay Times*. The group that finds the most words wins the game.

Going beyond the text

Look carefully at the Art of Recycling images on the cover and pages 8 and 9 in this publication. Choose one of these images and write a paragraph explaining your thoughts about the art. Be sure to include what you think the artist's point is in creating this recycled treasure. Next, look for an article focusing on an environmental issue in the *Tampa Bay Times*. Write down your thoughts about this issue. Create your own art work using any type of media to represent this issue. Write a blog post explaining your creative process and the purpose of the art work. Share your process and art work with your class.

Recycling in Pasco: no more bags!

Pasco County's improved curbside recycling program is Choose and Use Your Own Container. Residents are no longer required to use blue bags. You now can purchase your own permanent recycling container from a local retailer, label it with a reflective recycling sticker that identifies the container as recycling and put it at the curb. Get your sticker from your garbage hauler or the county recycling office.

You can use a bin, cart or can. You can put items in your container loose; you don't have to bag them. We don't want the bags.

Pasco County also has expanded the types of plastics that can be recycled. Pasco County always has accepted plastics coded 1 and 2, but now the county also accept plastics with codes 3, 4, 5 and 7 (not 6, which is mostly Styrofoam).

Of course, the county still takes aluminum cans, metal food cans, and glass bottles and jars (clear, green and brown).

If you get twice-a-week trash pickup at your home, you are already paying for recycling service. All you have to do is use it. Call your trash hauler for a recycling schedule.



Recycling at



What better place to recycle than at an Earth Day Celebration? Come to Crews Lake Wilderness Park on April 26, 2014, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The park is located off Shady Hills Road, just south of the Suncoast Highway in Spring Hill.

Come see Radio Disney!

Bring your:

- **Old electronics:** computers, cellphones, televisions and computer monitors (first two TVs are free; additional TVs are \$7 each), any household electronic products.
- **Medicines:** expired and unused medications, including sharps.
- **Mercury-containing devices:** thermometers, thermostats and any other household device containing mercury (no bulbs.) You will receive a \$5 Walmart gift card for each one.
- **Household hazardous waste:** pool and household chemicals, fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides, paint products, automotive fluids and oil, fluorescent bulbs. **Residential only, no commercial.**

Special features include:

- Croc Encounters, a live reptile wildlife show
- Lady bug release
- Florida native plant sale
- Rain barrel workshop
- Information on recycling in Pasco County
- Worm composting

Join us for a fun, educational day in the park, and bring your recyclables. For more information, please contact Lottie Kelley at lkelly@covantaenergy.com or 727-856-2917, ext. 201.

DO RECYCLE

You can Recycle these items:

- ✓ Aluminum Cans
- ✓ Metal Food Cans
- ✓ Glass Containers (Clear, Green and Brown)
- ✓ Plastic Containers #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #7



Choose & Use Your Own Container

RESIDENTIAL CURBSIDE RECYCLING PROGRAM

DON'T RECYCLE

These items are NOT accepted in this program:

- ✗ Newspaper, paper or cardboard
- ✗ Styrofoam® of any kind
- ✗ Plastic film or bags of any kind
- ✗ Plastic picnicware (plates, cups, utensils, tablecloths)
- ✗ Plastic toys of any kind

PUT THIS STICKER ON THE SIDE OF YOUR RECYCLING CONTAINER, FACING THE STREET.

Students shine on Earth Day 2013

The school district's Conservation and Recycling Operations shared in the celebration by offering arts and crafts for students during Earth Day 2013.



To begin recycling – First start with your garbage

In Pasco County, there is a free-market system for garbage hauling. Pasco County does not pick up your garbage. Your curbside garbage and your recyclables are picked up by one of six independent haulers. You pay directly for service; this is called subscription service. Residents need to sign up in order to receive both garbage and recycling service. If you live in a newer subdivision, your homeowner's association (HOA) or Community Development District (CDD) may contract for your pickup service. Please contact your HOA or CDD directly to learn who the hauler is that services you.

If you are paying for twice-a-week garbage pickup, you are already paying for recycling service.

Call your garbage hauler as listed below to find out your recycling pickup day and to receive a recycling schedule.

Garbage haulers:

County Recycling Inc. • 888-522-5794

J.D. Parker & Sons Inc. • 727-845-1024

Progressive (east side) • 352-583-4204

Progressive (west/central) • 727-849-3333

Seaside Sanitation (Republic) • 727-868-2566

Waste Aid • 813-996-1457 or 727-842-9309

Waste Management of Pasco • 813-621-3053 or 800-255-7172



District School Board of Pasco County Conservation Management Plan

For the 2013-2014 school year, the District is projecting a \$500,000 savings in the energy budget. The objective of the conservation management plan is to meet and/or exceed the projected budget savings by controlling and reducing energy consumption, and by increasing energy awareness.

The conservation management plan requires district-wide involvement and support in accomplishing the savings goal. The implementation and success of the conservation management plan is the responsibility of district personnel who are expected to conserve energy and resources.

The program is called C.A.R.E. = Conserve And Reduce Energy. The District is well on our way to reaching and exceeding that goal. Please show that you CARE by continuing to conserve energy whenever possible.

Congratulations to Alexa Eannel from Deer Park Elementary for submitting the winning C.A.R.E. poster.



Earth Patrol continues to promote environmental awareness

Earth Patrol was developed by the District School Board of Pasco County's Conservation and Recycling Operations to assist with conservation at schools by monitoring campuses for recycling and energy and water conservation.

Students are a vital part of this program. Earth Patrol students check classrooms for lights left on, recyclables in the waste can, trash in the recycling container or leaky faucets. Elementary school students wear green vests that are purchased by local businesses. Secondary school students wear lanyards as they monitor the campus to encourage participation.

When Earth Patrol students find conservation activities being done correctly, they leave a green door hanger that reads "Thanks, you are making a difference." Those that are not helping with the school's conservation goals receive a yellow door hanger that reads "Gotcha, wasted resources are gone forever" and a note about what needs improvement.

Earth Patrol students are concerned about wasted resources and work hard to help their schools



become more environmentally aware. The Earth Patrol program is a great way for students to be actively involved in caring for their school and their planet. These efforts help schools save money on their electric, water and solid waste bills. Thanks to Earth Patrol, students are learning hands-on that conservation is important. If you are interested in participating in the Earth Patrol program, you can contact your school's conservation liaison or email recycling coordinator Tony Bartenope at abarteno@pasco.k12.fl.us.



Community Paper Program

It matters where you recycle your paper and cardboard



In Pasco County, more than 20 percent of what gets thrown away is recyclable paper. That's equivalent to 63.3 tons of paper per year that is trashed rather than recycled. For every ton of paper recycled, 17 trees are saved from destruction. It's been said that Americans throw away enough paper in a year to build a 12-foot-high wall from New York City to Los Angeles. When you recycle in a GreenFiber container, you earn revenue for your school, your parks, your libraries and your fire stations.

GreenFiber containers accept:

- Brown and white paper bags
- Cardboard
- Cereal boxes
- Construction paper
- Gift wrap
- Magazines
- Newspaper
- Phone books
- Other paper products



For county sites, visit pascocountyutilities.com.

For school sites, visit pasco.k12.fl.us/conservation

County Community Paper Recycling Program drop-off sites

Fire stations

- Station No. 15, 11538 Trinity Blvd., Trinity, FL 34655
- Station No. 16, 34335 Chancey Road, Zephyrhills, FL 33543
- Station No. 17, 2951 Seven Springs Blvd., New Port Richey, FL 34655
- Station No. 23, 21300 SR 54, Lutz, FL 33549
- Station No. 26, 28229 Aronwood Blvd., Wesley Chapel, FL 33543
- Station No. 37, 18015 SR 54, Lutz, FL 33558

Libraries

- Hudson Regional, 8012 Library Road, Hudson, FL 34667
- Land O'Lakes, 2818 Collier Parkway, Land O'Lakes, FL 34639
- New River, 34043 SR 54, Zephyrhills, FL 33543
- Regency Park, 9701 Little Road, New Port Richey, FL 34654
- South Holiday, 4649 Mile Stretch Road, Holiday, FL 34690

Parks and recreation centers

- J. Ben Harrill Recreation Complex, 2830 Gulf Trace Blvd., Holiday, FL 34691
- Land O'Lakes Recreation Center, 3032 Collier Parkway, Land O'Lakes, FL 34639
- Mitchell Park, 4825 Little Road, New Port Richey, FL 34655
- Odessa Community Center, 1627 Chesapeake Dr., Odessa, FL 33556
- Pasco County Fairgrounds, Park Office, 36722 SR 52, Dade City, FL 33525
- Veterans Recreation Center, 14333 Hicks Road, Hudson, FL 34667
- Wesley Chapel Regional Park, 7727 Boyette Road, Wesley Chapel, FL 33544

Other Pasco County buildings

- Community Services, Nutrition, 13853 15th St., Dade City, FL 33525
- Facilities Management, 7220 Osteen Road, New Port Richey, FL 34653
- East Pasco Government Center, 14236 Sixth St., Dade City, FL 33523
- East Pasco Judicial Center, 38053 Live Oak St., Dade City, FL 33523
- Sunset Building, 5418 Sunset Road, New Port Richey, FL 34652



Recycling saves energy

Recycling processes yield energy savings. For example, recycling aluminum cans saves 95 percent of the energy that is required to make the same amount of aluminum from raw materials or virgin sources. For each aluminum can that is recycled, you save enough energy to power a television or computer for about three hours.

Recycling saves the environment

Recycling processes result in the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. It takes less energy to create a product from recycled sources. Less energy needed means less energy that has to be generated, resulting in fewer greenhouse gases being released into the atmosphere.

Energy-saving tips:

- Use both sides of a piece of paper before recycling it.
- Turn off the faucet when brushing your teeth or washing dishes.
- Take shorter showers.
- Ask your parents to buy rechargeable batteries.
- Turn off lights that you're not using.
- Unplug electronics you're not using (like cellphone chargers!).
- Remind your parents to take reusable shopping bags to the store.



Where Does My Trash Go?



Trash is picked up by trash haulers.



Garbage is converted to electricity at Covanta Energy's Pasco County Waste-to-Energy (WTE) facility. A total of 1,050 tons of garbage per day is processed in Pasco County to produce energy.

Incineration produces energy. This energy is sold to Duke Energy and provides enough power for up to 23,000 homes per year.



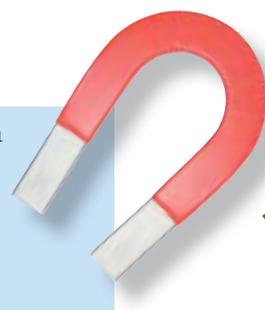
Reclaimed (reused) water from the wastewater treatment plant is used in the WTE facility's cooling tower.



Remaining ash and other nonprocessable materials (construction and demolition debris) go into a landfill.



Metal is removed from ash by a magnet. Aluminum also is removed from ash.



Metal is sent to the scrap metal dealer for recycling. Aluminum is sent to market.



Learning with the Times

Planning for the future

We must begin recycling today if we are to reduce the rate at which our landfills are filling up. Working together with other students, come up with a plan to get your school and family to recycle. Look at the ads in the *Tampa Bay Times*. Think about the dynamics of the ads. Think about ways to draw people's attention to an ad and its message. Next, design an ad for the *Tampa Bay Times* and tampabay.com that encourages recycling by people of all ages. How is the ad on the print edition going to be different than the Web version of the ad? Share your ideas with your classmates.

Being energy efficient

Look in the *Tampa Bay Times* for pictures of home appliances that use energy. For each appliance, answer the following questions. Is this a necessity or a luxury? What are the advantages and disadvantages of using it? What's the alternative to this appliance? Do a little research to determine the energy efficiency of each. Rate the appliances from most efficient to least efficient. Using the electronic edition archives, find newspaper articles about energy issues such as energy shortages, nonrenewable energy sources, energy costs, energy dependence and health problems associated with pollution or other effects of energy use. List ways you can save energy, and create an energy contract to make a difference. Be sure to use specific examples from the newspaper articles and your research to support your ideas. Share your energy conservation ideas with your family and classmates.

Your trash makes electricity



Your household garbage is not landfilled in Pasco. Instead, it goes to the Waste-to-Energy (WTE) plant and makes electricity. The WTE incinerates the garbage, which in turn heats water to produce steam that turns a turbine which produces megawatts of power. The process reduces the volume of garbage by 90 percent. What's left over, known as "bottom ash," amounts to only 10 percent of what went into the WTE, and that is what goes into a lined landfill.

Here in Pasco, the WTE is managed by a company called Covanta Energy Inc. They have been a partner to Pasco for many years and participate in many community events, such as Earth Day, America Recycles Day, the Great American Cleanup and the Coastal Cleanup.

Waste-to-Energy is considered an environmentally friendly alternative to landfilling trash. According to a November 2010 survey by Florida Tax Watch, 67 percent of Floridians understand and have a favorable opinion of WTE.

Pasco County Art of Recycling scholarship – Don't miss it!

Graduating Pasco County public high school seniors who participate in the Art of Recycling contest are eligible to apply for a \$1,000 scholarship.

Students must have a minimum of a 2.0 GPA (unweighted), be enrolled in a program for art or environmental science at an accredited institution, and have entered work in the current year's Art of Recycling contest (this will be verified).

Students must apply before January 2015 at pascoeducationfoundation.org. More information is available at pascoeducationfoundation.org or from the school's guidance office.



This is the real van Gogh!



My first-semester experience

by Abby Cole, 2013 Art of Recycling scholarship winner

There are many things a college student experiences: meeting new people, exploring careers, learning the fastest route to class, pulling all-nighters to finish a difficult project, even the occasional ramen noodle breakfast. Then there are things a college student would never expect to do: studying vases intensely, trying to pass off charcoal and paint stains as fingernail polish, repairing swords, scrapbooking for a class grade and setting up a 17th-century French bakery.

Yet, as an art major, this is the college life I've gotten to know during my first semester. Ever since I decided to study art in college, I've grown as an artist and as an individual. Not only have my art classes taught me how to better observe my surroundings and notice the amazing amount of beauty and design of the world around me, they also have introduced me to the most supportive and diverse group of friends. Already some of my favorite moments of college are the late-night "studio parties," as all the art majors gather to finish art projects and joke around.

However, meeting people outside of the art department has been just as much fun. I've befriended people of every major who come from all over the world. I've been blessed with the opportunity to explore many careers, such as being a props painter in my university's theater. I've already worked on a couple of large-scale performances, including an opera with a cast numbering in the hundreds.

One of the highlights of my semester was made possible by the Pasco Art of Recycling scholarship. With that \$1,000, I was able to set aside enough money to go on the art department's trip to New York City! I was able to see works by van Gogh, Monet, Dali, Picasso and numerous other famous painters as well as explore one of the world's most interesting cities. It was a breathtaking, amazing experience and one I will never forget. Thanks to the opportunity the Art of Recycling scholarship gave me, I am fulfilling my dream as an artist. I can't wait to see what next semester has in store for me!

Abby Cole is a graduate of Wiregrass Ranch High School and is currently a studio art major at Bob Jones University in Greenville, S.C.

2014 award winners

- \$500 First Place:** *Lets Shellebrate A Trash Free Ocean*, Kaitlyn Brusik, J.W. Mitchell High School
- \$300 Second Place:** *What you don't recycle...remains*, Ashley Gourlay, Ridgewood High School
- \$200 Third Place:** *Recycle 2 - Do it 2 (R2-D2)*, Lukas Leibrecht, Genesis Preparatory School
- \$100 Commissioner's Choice Award:** *Our Trash is not their treasure*, Amber Alonso, J.W. Mitchell High School
- \$100 Most Innovative:** *Don't be Boar'd by Recycling*, Ashley Dioguardi, Ridgewood High School
- \$100 Pasco Arts Council Special Merit:** *Saving Water Makes Cents*, Joshua Sanders, River Ridge High School
- \$100 Best Use of Plastic:** *Save The Wave*, Trevor Sells, Genesis Preparatory School
- \$100 Best Artistic Expression:** *Winter Tree*, Hannah Cutkomp, Zephyrhills High School
- \$100 Art of Recycling Committee Award:** *Bark Up The Right Tree*, Brenna Mc Cauley, Anclote High School
- \$100 Covanta Energy Award:** *Recycling is good for the Heart*, Robert Guerrieri, Ridgewood High School
- \$100 Best Environmental Concept:** *Our Planet hangs in the Balance*, Evan Roberson, J.W. Mitchell High School
- \$100 Best Use of Aluminum:** *Protected*, Emily Ringer, Sunlake High School
- \$100 Best Use of Materials:** *Waste*, Alexander Minnick, Sunlake High School
- \$100 Best Use of Printed Material:** *There's an Ocean of Reasons*, Patience Jennett, Genesis Preparatory School
- \$100 People's Choice (tie):** *Lets Shellebrate A Trash Free Ocean*, Kaitlyn Brusik, J.W. Mitchell High School
- \$100 People's Choice (tie):** *Bark Up The Right Tree*, Brenna Mc Cauley, Anclote High School



First Place Winner

Combines art, recycling

The 2014 Art of Recycling competition was generously sponsored by County Commissioner Pat Mulieri; County Recycling Inc.; Covanta Energy Inc.; Keep Pasco Beautiful Inc.; Barbara Wilhite, Esq.; the Pasco Arts Council; Republic Services Inc.; John R. "Hi" Sierra; Sen. Wilton Simpson, Simpson Farms; Waste Aid; and Waste Management Inc.

One man's trash is another man's treasure! Pasco County students turn trash into art in the annual Pasco Art of Recycling contest, a high school art competition promoting art and recycling through the creative use of recyclable materials.



Second Place Winner



Third Place Winner





 **f**
CYCLING

ycling and creativity!

All Pasco County public, private and home school students in grades 9-12 are eligible to participate. Students use their imagination to create an environmentally themed original artwork from at least 70 percent used or recyclable materials. Art pieces from the exhibition are displayed at the West Pasco Government Center and the District School Board of Pasco County.

Student work is judged in 15 categories and prizes range from \$100 to \$500. A \$1,000 scholarship also is awarded annually to a student continuing his or her education in the arts.



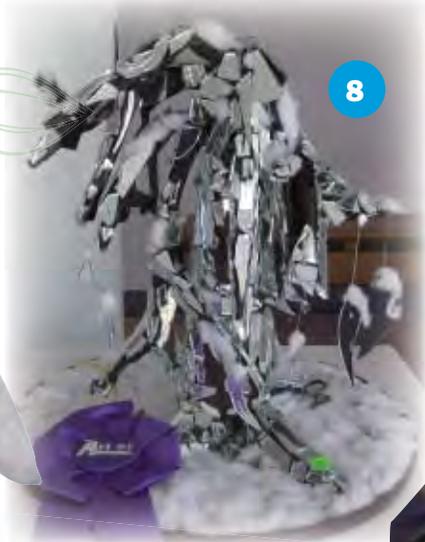
7



9 and 16



10



8



4



11



12

REDUCE · REUSE · RECYCLE
Our trash is not
their treasure

Our Planet Hangs
In the Balance

Household Battery Recycling contest



Cellphone Recycling Program

In the United States, cellphone use has surged from 340,000 subscribers in 1985 to more than 320 million in 2013. The average American user owns two or more cellphones, and upgrades his or her cellphone every 18 months. It is estimated that more than 140 million cellphones are retired each year and more than 500 million cellphones are currently stockpiled in U.S. homes.

Cellphones should not be thrown in the garbage because they contain toxic materials. However, when recycled, even obsolete phones are valuable for the metals they contain: copper, silver, gold and palladium.

One phone has a tiny amount of value, but recycling a million cellphones recovers 35 thousand pounds of copper, 772 pounds of silver, 75 pounds of gold and 33 pounds of palladium. Equivalent energy units could power more than 194,000 homes a year.

Pasco County, in coordination with the District School Board of Pasco County, conducts a cellphone collection program. Cellphones can be deposited in marked collection containers at public schools, county libraries and county administration buildings and at the West Pasco Recycling Center or the East Pasco Transfer Station.

Pasco County schools receive \$2 for every phone collected at a school regardless of its condition. For more information about the program, or to become a sponsor, please call the Pasco County Utilities Hazardous Waste office at 727-847-8041.

Americans throw out approximately 179,000 tons of batteries a year, of which about 14,000 tons is rechargeable. Household batteries make up approximately a quarter of the hazardous waste found in our garbage. Although today's standard household batteries – such as AA, AAA, C and D – have been re-engineered so that the components in them are less toxic, they still contain a variety of toxic substances, including cadmium, lead and mercury, all of which can be recovered and reused. Because batteries disposed of in municipal landfills and trash incinerators can disperse significant amounts of heavy metals and other toxic substances into the air and water, battery waste prevention and recycling strategies are essential.

Household battery recycling continues to be one of the most successful programs Pasco County administers. Over the past 20 years, this program has collected more than 50 tons of household batteries.

Pasco County Utilities and the District School Board of Pasco County have partnered to co-sponsor the Household Battery Recycling Contest each year from July 1 to June 30. All participating schools receive certificates of appreciation, with the Top 10

schools receiving monetary awards provided through money generated from the District's recycling efforts. The battery recycling contest is a great way for a school to earn money!

Pasco County provides household battery drop-offs at public libraries, governmental buildings and some select local businesses. Look for a 5-gallon bucket with a colorful poster on its lid. In 2013 Pasco County recycled 30.98 tons of batteries.

If you'd like more information about battery recycling or any other school district recycling program, please visit pasco.k12.fl.us/recycle or contact Tony Bartenope, recycling coordinator, at 727-794-7936.

2012-2013 Household Battery Recycling Contest winners

Richey Elementary – 3,240 pounds
West Zephyrhills Elementary – 2,485 pounds
Pine View Middle – 896 pounds
Double Branch Elementary – 857 pounds
Odessa Elementary – 854 pounds
Paul R. Smith Middle – 840 pounds
Schrader Elementary – 779 pounds
Deep Park Elementary – 768 pounds
Charles S. Rushe Middle – 650 pounds
Thomas E. Weightman Middle – 562 pounds



Learning with the *Times*

Protecting our environment

We all need to work together to protect our environment. Conserving water, recycling and protecting our wildlife are important for the future of Earth. Look for articles in the *Tampa Bay Times* that show examples of people, groups or organizations that are working to protect the environment. Make a list of those involved and the actions they are taking. Select one of the environmental groups or issues you have read about and do some research about it. Then think about what actions you can take to protect the environment. Share your ideas with others by writing a blog post or short essay that incorporates the information you have learned.

Pasco County recycling drop-off centers

WEST PASCO RECYCLING CENTER

14606 Hays Road (Off SR 52), Spring Hill

7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday – Saturday (except holidays)

• Aluminum • Metal food cans • #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #7 plastic • Clear, green and brown glass • Phone books • Mixed paper • Flattened corrugated cardboard • Newspaper • Cooking oil • Scrap metal

EAST PASCO RECYCLING CENTER

9626 Handcart Road, Dade City

7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday – Saturday (except holidays)

• Aluminum • Metal food cans • #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #7 plastic • Clear, green and brown glass • Phone books • Mixed paper • Flattened corrugated cardboard • Newspaper • Cooking oil • Scrap metal

PORT RICHEY AREA RECYCLING

11321 U.S. 19, Bayonet Point (at rear of Tampa Bay Times Bldg.)

Anytime, Monday – Sunday

• Aluminum • Metal food cans • #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #7 plastic • Clear, green and brown glass • Phone books • Mixed paper • Flattened corrugated cardboard • Newspaper

ANCLOTE GULF PARK

2305 Baillie's Bluff Road, Holiday Area Recycling

Dawn to dusk, Monday – Sunday

• Aluminum • Metal food cans • #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #7 plastic • Clear, green and brown glass • Phone books • Mixed paper • Flattened corrugated cardboard • Newspaper

LAND O'LAKES AREA RECYCLING

6801 Wisteria Loop, Senior Services Center

8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday – Friday

• Aluminum • Metal food cans • #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #7 plastic • Clear, green and brown glass • Phone books • Mixed paper • Flattened corrugated cardboard • Newspaper

CITY OF NEW PORT RICHEY AREA RECYCLING

6420 Pine Hill Road, across from the Public Works complex

7:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., Monday – Friday

• Aluminum • Metal food cans • #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #7 plastic • Clear, green and brown glass • Phone books • Mixed paper • Flattened corrugated cardboard • Newspaper



Tour Mars!

E-waste – electronic products such as computers, televisions, VCRs, stereos, photocopiers and fax machines – is one of the fastest-growing components of solid waste in the United States.

Students from the West Zephyrhills Elementary Earth Patrol were recently invited to tour the Managed Asset Recovery Services (MARS) warehouse to see how the District School Board of Pasco County recycles electronics. Technicians from MARS showed the students how electronics are received, inspected and sorted. After the tour, the students broke up into groups and learned how to remove and replace several key desktop computer components. All materials collected by the District are delivered to a licensed electronic waste dismantler that removes and erases information on data storage devices, dismantles all components and sells materials directly to electronics manufacturers domestically and abroad.

“We are always excited to have students tour our facility,” said Alan Lambert, MARS director of operations. “It gives us an opportunity to remind kids that each and every one of us can make a positive impact on the environment by simply reducing, reusing and recycling old electronics instead of throwing them away.”

For information on scheduling a class field trip to the MARS facility, please contact Tony Bartenope, Pasco County Schools recycling coordinator, at abarteno@pasco.k12.fl.us.



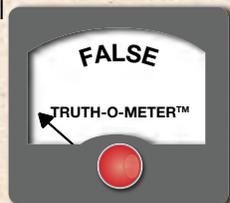
BUSTING

those persistent recycling myths

Myth One:

Pasco County burns its recyclables. This is TRASH ON FIRE false.

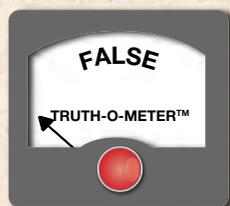
All recyclable material delivered from the curbside program and drop-offs is separated, baled and sold to market. As long as the recyclable materials are not contaminated at the source, only a small amount of material ends up as residue (leftover) from the process. This can be sent to an incinerator or a landfill. The residue rate of the current processor is less than 5 percent.



Myth Two:

It takes more energy to recycle plastic than not to recycle it. This is TRASH ON FIRE false.

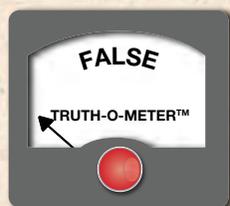
A 2010 study showed that for every pound of recycled polyethylene terephthalate (PET) plastic used instead of new, energy use is reduced by 84 percent, and greenhouse gas emissions are reduced by 71 percent.



Myth Three:

Whatever, it all ends up in the landfill anyway. This is TRASH ON FIRE false.

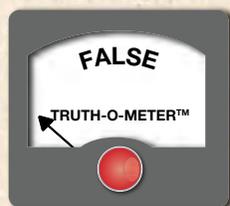
This is one of the most frustrating recycling misunderstandings out there. The biggest problem for recycling right now is supply – the recycling manufacturers need more material. Recyclable materials have value. Landfilling them is like throwing away money!



Myth Four:

If a garbage truck picks up my recyclables that means my recycling is going in the garbage. This is FALSE.

Many trash haulers use the same trucks to pick up both trash and recycling, but on different days. If it's your recycling pickup day and a garbage truck picks up your recycling, it is going to the recycling processing facility. On the other hand, if you see both your trash and your recycling going into the same compartment, on the same truck, at the same time, then there's a problem. Please call your trash hauler for an explanation. If you are not satisfied, call Pasco County Recycling at 727-856-4539.



Did you know?

Historical recycling facts

Can do

In 1959, the Adolph Coors Company of Denver, Colo. unveiled the U.S. beer industry's first recyclable, all-aluminum can. Coors paid 1 cent for each can returned to the brewery.

Why blue?

Most recycling bins are blue because the first city to begin a community-wide recycling program, back in 1983, chose blue, and it caught on. Of course, other colors, such as green, tan, yellow and even purple, also are used by cities and counties in the U.S. and around the world.

Garbage barge

On March 22, 1987, a barge piled high with garbage left Long Island, N.Y. and headed to a landfill in North Carolina. But when it got there, the state, fearing hazardous materials, refused to let it enter the harbor. The barge got the same reception in Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, Florida and the countries of Mexico, Belize and the Bahamas. After 6,000 miles, in June 1987, the barge returned to New York – only to be rejected by the very state that generated the garbage in the first place! Eventually, in the fall of 1987, it was determined that the garbage did not contain hazardous materials and it was incinerated in Brooklyn. This homeless “garbage barge” was a smelly wakeup call for governments to become more responsible for the garbage they produce, and it became a symbol for the recycling movement.

Recycling has been here a long time

During the 1800s and early 1900s, recycling was a matter of necessity. Manufactured goods were difficult to come by and early American families saved and reused things many times. Many families made a living by working on the streets looking for materials like rags and clothing in order to refurbish and resell. You may have heard the term “rag-picker.” In those days, it was a job.

As the world and, in particular, the United States, became more industrialized, a new consumer culture began to emerge. People began to value clean and new over rescued and reused. However, municipalities whose refuse began to climb started to see the value of recycling. New York City started separating its waste in 1895.

World War II brought the “war effort,” and recycling and reuse became *de rigueur* again to support the troops. However, when a huge burst of consumerism followed the war, accompanied by mass-production technology, this disconnected the individual from the value of the goods he or she was acquiring. Trash grew; recycling waned. It wasn't until the 1970s that individuals began to connect the disposal of trash with degradation of the environment. Recycling saw a resurgence, and the first Earth Day took place on April 22, 1970.



Learning with the Times

Environment editorial

Think about the importance of the environment as it relates to the future of mankind and the quality of life. With your class, make a list of ways these concepts are interconnected. Next, in a small group, look for articles in the newspaper about recycling, water conservation, the environment, pollution or any other topics you discussed with your class. Based on the information you read in these articles, write an editorial on the importance of protecting your environment. Use the editorials in the *Tampa Bay Times* as models.

Residential cooking oil recycling program



When fats, oils and grease are poured down your kitchen drain, they solidify and stick to the walls of the sewer pipes. This builds up, and eventually clogs the pipes. Pipes that have buildup must be cleaned more frequently and need replacing sooner. This is an added cost for Pasco County Utilities and for utility customers.

Grease buildup can cause blockages that result in raw sewage overflowing into your streets and homes.

Why not turn your cooking oil into a resource? Pasco County offers four drop-offs for used household cooking oil. These oils can be recycled in a variety of products, from cosmetics to poultry feed to biodiesel.

Pasco County participates in a statewide program called C.O.R.E. (Cooking Oil Recycling Effort) designed to reduce sewer overflows by decreasing

the amount of fats, oil and grease poured down the drain. In 2013, the Pasco County Residential Cooking Oil Recycling Program collected 1,500 gallons of used cooking oils.

Recycle your used cooking oil for free:

East Pasco Transfer Station

9526 Handcart Road, Dade City, FL

Pasco County Facilities

7220 Osteen Road, New Port Richey, FL

West Pasco Recycling Center

14606 Hays Road, Spring Hill, FL

Zephyrhills City Maintenance Yard

39421 South Ave., Zephyrhills, FL

Pasco County household used sharps exchange program

What are sharps? Sharps are medical instruments such as hypodermic needles, IV tubing with needles, scalpel blades, razor blades, lancets, glass tubes, syringes and diabetic testing supplies.

Safe disposal of sharps is important. Placing hypodermic needles and other sharps in household trash puts disposal workers at risk of injury or infection. Sharps can harm people, pets and wildlife, pollute the environment and even damage public sewers and pump stations.

Participation in the program is easy! Visit a sponsor exchange location and ask for an approved sharps container. Follow the directions on the container to dispose of your sharps. When the container is full, return it to the sponsor exchange site for proper disposal. For a list of the sponsor exchange sites, please visit PascoCountyUtilities.com or call 727-847-8041.

This program is a public service provided at no charge by the Pasco County Utilities Service Branch, the Pasco County Board of County Commissioners, the American Diabetes Association and the sponsor exchange sites.

Pasco County electronic equipment recycling program

Computers and electronic equipment such as televisions, VCRs, telephones, video games, radios, computer monitors and CD players contain both useful recyclable materials and elements that are hazardous and must not be landfilled or incinerated. Recyclable materials include plastics, non precious metals (steel, aluminum and copper), wood, glass, and precious metals (gold). However, electronic equipment also contains lead, cadmium, chromium and mercury, all of which can adversely affect human health and the environment if not managed properly.

Demanufacturing is the process of dismantling a piece of equipment, recovering the resources (raw materials) and utilizing the raw materials in remanufacturing new products. When done properly, demanufacturing generates no waste, making landfilling or incineration unnecessary. Pasco County was the first county in Florida, and one of a handful of counties in the nation, to implement an electronic equipment demanufacturing program.

Millions of computers are arriving at landfills throughout the United States annually, and millions more remain in storage. In 2013, Pasco County recycled 765,000 pounds of computers.

Computer monitors and TVs make up the bulk of the electronic waste stream and are very problematic because they contain lead. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) estimates that a total of 6,738 pounds of lead enter Florida's solid waste stream annually, and 42 percent of this is attributed to monitors and TVs.

Please help to keep hazardous materials out of our environment by bringing your electronics for recycling to a Pasco County Recycling Center. For additional information, call Pasco County Utilities at 727-847-8041.

Recycle your obsolete electronics:

West Pasco Recycling Center

14606 Hays Road, Spring Hill, FL 34610

East Pasco Transfer Station

9626 Handcart Road, Dade City, FL 33525

There is a nominal charge for computers, televisions and monitors.



Protecting our waterways

By being aware of our actions and making simple changes in our daily lives, we can help prevent water pollution and protect our waterways. When it rains, pollutants on lawns, roads, sidewalks, driveways and parking lots are washed into storm drains. This polluted stormwater runoff eventually ends up in our waterways. That's why it is so important to properly dispose of trash and waste so that it doesn't become polluted stormwater runoff.

Sweep or blow grass clippings back onto the lawn or dispose of clippings in the trash. Clean up after your pets and dispose of their waste in the trash or a pet waste container. Sweep up excess fertilizer on paved areas and place it back into the fertilizer bag. Don't put any hazardous wastes in the trash, road, storm drain or bodies of water. Recycle whenever possible. Taking these actions will help protect our waterways. Be the solution to stormwater pollution!

For more information, contact Pasco County Stormwater Management at 727-834-3611.

Water-saving tips



Check for leaks. According to the Southwest Florida Water Management District, one leaking toilet can waste up to 50 gallons of water a day, and leaking faucets and showerheads can waste up to 1,000 gallons per week! Take five minutes a month to check these areas. Some leaks, such as those caused by worn-out toilet flappers, are easy to fix and end up saving water.



Run only full loads. Run only full loads in the washing machine and the dishwasher. Running only full loads saves time, electricity and water. Use only the recommended amount of soap to ensure that your clothes and dishes are thoroughly rinsed and avoid residue in your machinery and pipes.



Compost your scraps. Garbage disposals require a lot of water to operate properly. Use a garbage disposal only when necessary and never pour grease or fats down your disposal. The less garbage you put

down your pipes, the longer they will last and the less maintenance they will require. Why not try composting your food scraps instead of sending them down the pipe?



Turn it off. Brushing teeth and washing hands do not require that the water run. Turn off the water while you brush your teeth or wash your hands.



Check your water softener settings. According to the EPA, water softeners can use up to 10,000 gallons of water per year. Reducing how often you recharge your softener will have a big impact on your water use. Be sure to refer to your user manual.



Check your sprinkler settings. Many sprinkler systems have zones. The number of zones and the length of time the sprinklers are on can drastically impact water usage and what you pay for water. Consult with a professional and adjust these settings to get the optimum irrigation while reducing your water use. Always check irrigation systems and appliance settings after a power outage, as many times a loss of power can reset the equipment.

Please don't be a litter piggy

Don't you hate how litter and dumping make our community look ugly? Doesn't it just amaze you that people can throw junk out a car window or toss garbage into our waterways?

If piggy people make you angry, then we invite you to do something about it.

Get a group together and adopt a section of a Pasco County road. Adopt-A-Road groups commit to picking up trash on a one- or two-mile stretch of road four times a year for a minimum of two years.

Adopt-A-Road groups are publicly recognized with signs placed on either end of their adopted section.

Adopt-A-Road is administered by Pasco County Recycling and Education with support from Stormwater and Public Works. For more information about Adopt-A-Road, call 727-856-4539 or email jseney@pascocountyfl.net.

Can't commit to adopting a road? You can still help!

Join others picking up trash at the Great American Cleanup (third Saturday of April) or the Coastal Cleanup (third Saturday of September). Cleanup hours count toward student community service hours.

Pasco Great American Cleanup 2013: 423 volunteers picked up 20.9 tons of trash

Pasco Coastal Cleanup 2013: 1,515 volunteers picked up 19.2 tons of trash

Adopt-A-Road Honor Roll Thank You

These 12 groups met their requirement of four cleanups in 2013.

- Boy Scouts of America Troop 77
- Disciples Cornerstone Baptist Church
- Deer Park Elementary School
- Hudson High School JROTC
- Hope Lutheran Church
- Kyrja's Friends of Rupert
- Morningside RV Park
- River Road Residents
- SMQ Airport Services
- Southern Oaks Homeowner's Association
- V.F.W. Men's Auxiliary
- Waste Management of Pasco



How to recycle that pesky hazardous stuff

No one wants hazardous materials in our incinerators or landfills. Disposal of such materials is regulated and must be done with attention and care in order to avoid polluting our air, land and water. What can you do with old motor oil, leftover lawn fertilizers and pesticides? What about household chemicals and cleansers? Old batteries? Old fluorescent tubes and bulbs? Paint in old paint cans?

Pasco County provides two hazardous waste collection center locations. You can drop off most of your items at no charge.

The collection centers accept fertilizer, fungicides, insecticides, herbicides, rodenticides, household chemicals and cleansers, paint, paint thinners and removers, solvents, automotive fluids, wood preservatives, used motor oil and pool chemicals. **They also accept** household batteries, lead-acid batteries, fluorescent bulbs and mercury-containing devices.

Most garbage drop-off services are free and available to Pasco County households. Commercial entities will be charged for disposal. For some items or for excessive amounts, there also may be charges. Yard waste is charged by the ton and is pro-rated for smaller amounts.

For a small charge, the collection centers accept: Televisions, computer monitors, computer components, 20-gallon or less propane tanks, car and truck tires, refrigerators and air conditioners.

West Pasco Recycling Center

14606 Hays Road, Spring Hill
Open Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

East Pasco Transfer Station

9626 Handcart Road, Dade City
Open Wednesday and the second Saturday of each month
8 a.m. – 2 p.m.



Informational resources

Pasco County Utilities

pascocountyutilities.com

For information on water and sewer services, reclaimed water, solid waste/resource recovery, recycling, hazardous waste, environmental lab and other topics.

District School Board of Pasco County Conservation and Recycling Operations

pasco.k12.fl.us/recycle

For more than 20 years, the District School Board of Pasco County has initiated numerous

sustainable and cost-saving environmental programs to educate students, employees, administrators and community partners on practices that conserve energy, reduce costs and nurture the environment.

Keep Pasco Beautiful Inc.

keepascobeautiful.org

KPB is a not-for-profit community coalition of volunteers who promote better methods to reduce litter and waste, to recycle and to landscape and beautify our neighborhoods for the environmental health and economic benefit of Pasco County.



Operations

District School Board of Pasco County

District School Board of Pasco County Conservation & Recycling

For more than 20 years, the District School Board of Pasco County has initiated numerous sustainable and cost-saving environmental programs. Their commitment is to help others in achieving the conservation and recycling goals of the District. They do so by educating students, employees, administrators and community partners on practices that conserve energy, reduce costs and nurture the environment.

In 2012 – 2013, the District recycled:

- 2010.62 tons of paper and cardboard, saving almost 34,170 trees
- 34.37 tons of plastic bottles, saving roughly 560 barrels of oil
- 146.22 tons of metal, saving about 2,047,080 kWh of energy
- 12.14 tons of batteries that won't be causing harm to the environment



Ask for and buy recycled products

Recyclables become new products. Recycling something is only half the formula. You must buy products made from recycled materials to create the demand for more recycling.

Products need markets in order to sell. A market is defined as activities that direct the

flow of goods and services from producers to consumers. Your demand for products made from recycled material creates the market for a product. The more you ask for it, the more products will be produced and the more we can recycle. It's up to you.



Learning with the *Times*

Conserve and create

Conserving resources is important. Recycling and reusing items is a great way to conserve resources and avoid waste. Look in the *Tampa Bay Times* for photographs, comics, advertisements and words or items that can and cannot be recycled. Make a chart listing the items in each group. Group items by type of waste (i.e., plastic, glass, wood, metal and such). For your list of items that cannot be recycled, identify which are flammable, corrosive, reactive or toxic. Group these items by the disposal method you would use. Now that you have your lists, it is time to be creative. Write and illustrate a short story for each type of waste from the viewpoint of an item. If possible, add some impact numbers to your story. Use the information in this publication to help you. Share your story with your classmates.