

# Your Guide to Being A **SUSTAINABLE HERO**



[LargoRecycles.com](http://LargoRecycles.com)



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

Recycle this newspaper  
to help save a tree



# QUICK LINKS:

Get straight to the topics you care about

Let's talk about dog poo (and other ways to keep our waters clean). **4**

Help, my toilet is backed up! **5**

Meet Largo's 1-pound Goliath. **6**

Can I recycle this? The answer might surprise you. **8**

Don't have curbside recycling? Easy solutions for everyone. **10**

How light-up walls can help you work out. **12**

What would you do with \$3,500? **12**

How to get rid of your used motor oil. **14**

I want to get involved. How do I start? **15**



## Money-saving tips and tricks



Follow this symbol through this publication to see what directly impacts the city's finances – and your wallet. Learn how to save with the simple things!

## CONNECT HERE



Be the first to know. Look for these icons and connect to the best video and chatter about what's happening in your city.

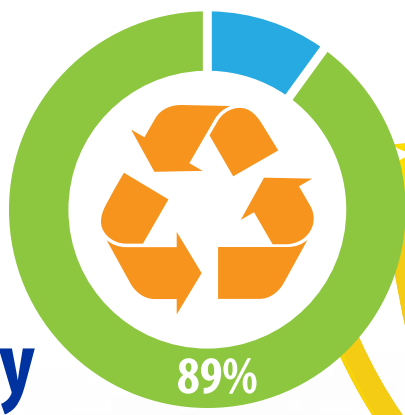
- [facebook.com/CityofLargo](https://facebook.com/CityofLargo)
- [facebook.com/LargoRecycles](https://facebook.com/LargoRecycles)
- [twitter.com/LargoNews](https://twitter.com/LargoNews)
- [youtube.com/user/LargoTV1](https://youtube.com/user/LargoTV1)

## GOING BEYOND THE TEXT 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. Keep a running list of new words you encounter in a notebook or journal. Try to figure out the words' meanings by looking for clues in the sentences around them. Write down your best guess, and then look the words up in a dictionary or by using merriam-webster.com. Try to stump your classmates and family with all of the new words you find.



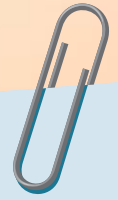
# CERTIFICATIONS AND AWARDS



- Arbor Day Foundation Sterling Tree City USA
- LEED-certified buildings
- ISO rating of 1 (Fire Department)
- American Public Works Association accreditation
- Agency of Excellence (Recreation, Parks and Arts)
- Florida State Genealogical Society Genealogy Outstanding Achievement Award (Largo Public Library)
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection Environmental Protection Operations & Maintenance Award (Wastewater Reclamation Facility)



Check out [Largo.com](http://Largo.com) to learn more about why your city continues to get so many awards and certifications while providing the services you deserve.



## GOING BEYOND THE TEXT WHAT IF

The City of Largo is committed to staying ahead of the curve on environmental issues for all of its residents. Government leaders in the City of Largo and Pinellas County government encourage people to recycle. But, what would happen if that was not the case? Imagine a future world that has been shaped by people who do not listen to the conservation message presented by the City of Largo. Go to [LargoRecycles.com](http://LargoRecycles.com) and check out the great programs available. With your classmates, come up with a future look of what the City of Largo would look like if the conservation message is not heeded by residents. Using the articles, advertisements and photos in the *Tampa Bay Times* as models, create a two-page advertorial to promote the City of Largo's recycling programs. The left page should show what would happen if the residents did not use the programs. The right side of the page should show the future if the programs are followed. Write a one-page descriptive essay to explain your advertorial. Share the description of your world and your stories with your classmates.

## Largo today and tomorrow

The City of Largo has helped Pinellas County become No. 1 in the state of Florida with a recycling rate of 89 percent. So what does this mean?

A recycling rate shows us how much of our trash we recycle instead of sending to the landfill. A higher recycling rate means that we keep our environment cleaner by recycling many of the items that we use every day. In Pinellas County, we do this by recycling at home and having a Waste-To-Energy plant that burns our trash and produces electricity.

The City of Largo is committed to staying ahead of the curve on environmental issues and continues to provide many ways for residents to get rid of their waste responsibly. From special recycling events such as chemical collections and paper shredding to neighborhood cleanups, Largo leads the way.

Learn how the City of Largo is working to improve the environment, become more sustainable and enhance the quality of life for Largo residents and visitors.

Love  
LARGO FL

*join the conversation*



LoveLargoFL.com

Connect and tell us your thoughts. Get your views heard and scan current topics from residents and the City.



# Largo's world of water

Working around the clock to keep things clean.

Did you know that our storm drains lead directly into our creeks and streams? Or that pet waste in your yard can be carried downstream and spread harmful bacteria? The world of water is connected in ways that we can't usually see, but have a big impact on us. Why? Because we swim and play in the same places we dump, drain and spill.

## How it's all connected

See how you impact our watershed with everyday activities:



# Check out the many ways that Largo keeps our water clean:



## Scoop the poop

Twenty-eight tons of pet waste is produced in Pinellas County every day! When left on the ground, rainwater can carry this waste into our storm drains and into the creeks and streams we live, swim and play in – and even into Tampa Bay. So please, scoop the poop.



## Fight F.O.G.

Fats, oils and grease that are poured down sinks or drains can build up and cause sewers to back up into streets and homes. Fight F.O.G. by putting products such as these in the trash and not down the drain: Butter, oil, shortening, food scraps, gravy, mayonnaise, dressings, sauces and sour cream.



Fixing clogged pipes and drains costs homeowners and taxpayers money. Save by doing your part to fight F.O.G.



## You're not just fertilizing your lawn

When it rains, it pours – right into our drain pipes, ponds and ditches. Rainwater picks up the fertilizers that we use on our lawns and carries these chemicals into our waters. Fertilizer ingredients such as nitrogen and phosphorus pollute our waterways, cause harmful algae blooms and can even kill wildlife. In Pinellas County, fertilizers containing nitrogen or phosphorus cannot be applied during the rainy season (June 1 – Sept. 30). Protect our waterways by fertilizing appropriately.



Removing excess nutrients from our waterways costs taxpayers millions of dollars each year. Save by following best practices for lawn fertilizing.





# Largo recycles water, too

Wastewater can be reclaimed or converted into useful products. By recycling this water, we protect the public and the environment. Largo's Wastewater Reclamation Facility operates 24 hours a day, every day of the year. It can process up to 12 million gallons of water each day. Schedule a tour to see how this amazing facility works by calling 727-518-3080.



## A toilet is not a trash can

An overflowing toilet can ruin your home in an instant. Just a small amount of household waste flushed down the toilet can clog pipes, cause nasty messes in your home and result in expensive sewer backups in our city. Never flush these items down the toilet: tissues, diapers, cotton swabs, band aids, kitty litter, sanitary wipes or feminine hygiene items. If you've got a backed up toilet, call Environmental Services at 727-518-4460.



## Only rain down the drain

Raking your leaves sounds pretty harmless, right? But if we don't bag or bundle our leaves and yard debris, they can end up in our storm drains, harming our water and becoming a costly problem. Grass clippings and litter cause dangerous algae to build up in our waters and can clog storm drains and sewers. Always dispose of yard waste properly.



Fixing storm drains and sewers costs taxpayers money. Save by doing your part to bag yard debris.



## Pool chemicals

Chlorine, diatomaceous earth and plenty of other chemicals we can't pronounce go straight into our creeks and streams when we dump our pool water into storm drains. Drain your pool slowly through your yard to filter out harmful chemicals.

**Going beyond the text  
Spreading the word**

As you have learned from the information on these pages, everything is connected. Your home and school are connected to the sidewalks and streets, which are connected to the storm drains, lakes, ponds and oceans. The best way to be a good neighbor is to do your part by being careful where you put waste and by helping spread the word.

Look in the *Tampa Bay Times* for articles and advertisements about conservation and how you can help make your community environmentally sound and less polluted. Using these articles and ads in the newspaper as models, you are going to help spread the word about protecting your community. Think about the dynamics of what you see and read (images, words, placement of items, colors). Think about ways to draw attention to your ad and message. Design an ad for the print edition of the newspaper. Write a fully developed paragraph explaining the main concept of your ad. Share your ad and the information in your paragraph with your class.





City of Largo



City of Largo



City of Largo



City of Largo



Jim Damaske, Times

# SCENIC LARGO:

Connect with your environment  
[LargoParks.com](http://LargoParks.com) • [LargoNature.com](http://LargoNature.com)

## George C. McGough Nature Park

11901 146th St. N, Largo, FL 33774

McGough Nature Park features a nature center with live animal exhibits and hands-on activities for children, a butterfly garden, a boardwalk, a playground and kayak/canoe rentals.

## Largo Central Park Nature Preserve

150 Highland Ave. SE, Largo, FL 33770

The Nature Preserve is a 31-acre nature park virtually surrounded by water and filled to the brim with wildlife. Red foxes, otters, bats, alligators, rabbits and more than 130 species of birds can be found here. The park also offers a two-story observation tower, boardwalks, a ¾-mile asphalt walk/bike/skate trail and a 5-mile kayak/canoe route.

## Largo Central Park

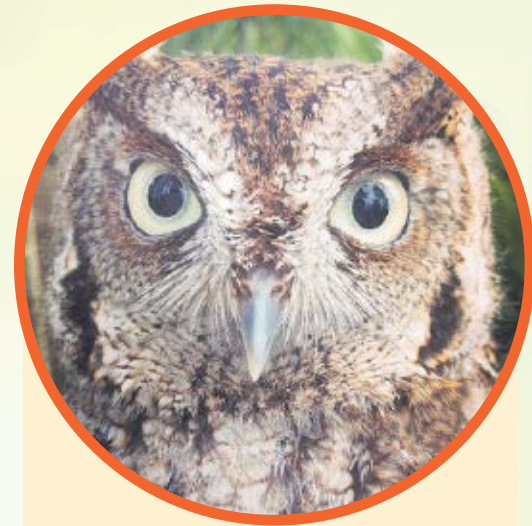
101 Central Park Drive, Largo, FL 33771

Largo Central Park is 70 acres of beauty filled with open fields, an accessible playground with more than 100 play structures and the Largo Central Railroad, featuring miniature trains you can really ride on!

## John R. Bonner Nature Park

14444 143rd St., Largo, FL 33774

Bonner Park, a stop on the Great Florida Birding Trail because of its diverse migratory bird population, also features nature trails, a playground and a kayak and canoe launch.



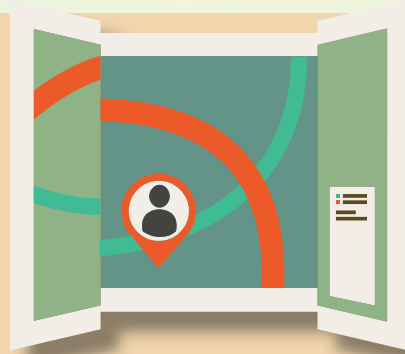
### Meet Goliath

Little Goliath – all of 1 pound – was found inside of an engine compartment and rescued by McGough Nature Park staff. Stop by to meet her and all of her feathered friends at the Narrows Environmental Education Center at McGough Nature Park.



Book park shelters, reserve fire pits and schedule special

events at [Largo.com](http://Largo.com). Find more information about Largo's nature preserves at [LargoNature.com](http://LargoNature.com).



## LARGO PARKS



11 miles of trails



4-mile Green Trail

# 20 PARKS



**100s**  
of Pokemon Go stops

**500**  
acres of green space



# Environment

## AIR QUALITY INDEX



Take a deep breath in. Now exhale. How we live can directly affect the cleanliness of our air and how well we can breathe. Every day the air quality index (AQI) tells you how clean or polluted your outdoor air is, along with associated health effects that may be of concern. Visit [airnow.gov](http://airnow.gov) and enter your ZIP code to find out how healthy the air is in your neighborhood.

## GOTTA CATCH 'EM ALL



Make sure to keep your Pokemon's environment clean by putting trash and recycling where they belong, and by bringing a bag to pick up any trash you might find at your favorite PokeStops and PokeGyms.

## STERLING TREE CITY USA



Largo is a Sterling Tree City USA. A community that achieves Tree City USA status meets the core standards of sound urban forestry management. Sterling communities are regarded as leaders and innovators in community forestry. By planting the right tree in the right place, city employees make sure that our residents and our environment come first.



Planting the right tree in the right place can save homeowners and business owners some serious dollars by providing shade and lowering their electric bills.

## IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING



Report illegal dumping in your neighborhood. Dumping trash into our ditches, creeks and roadways reduces property values and harms wildlife. Even worse, dumping chemicals and other toxic substances can severely impact the health of wildlife, pets and humans. Report these activities online at [Largo.com](http://Largo.com), by email at [stormwater@largo.com](mailto:stormwater@largo.com) or by phone at 727-587-6718.

Find the following words in the word search puzzle:

Air	Nature	Trash
Cities	Park	Tree
Conserve	Recycle	Water
Health	Trails	Wildlife

C S W P U H T F B D R O T U Z  
 L H A A T U Q V X R N U R H R  
 C R E L T U P J N W Z S A F S  
 K Q A M K E H K I E D L S A S  
 G E I V I H R L M T J K H C E  
 H R H U I C D E L C Y C E R I  
 A V I R K L A E T R A I L S T  
 C Z O A I V E L R E E R T G I  
 O I A F K H J V S U M S G T C  
 N Z E R F P L H K F T O M Q G  
 S I X N J U G M R T W A F G B  
 E H M D O M A L B Z T T N X L  
 R G Q G M J W D N I D I F T T  
 V A V G F V E E Z H L H U K R  
 E J Y J Z G Y Q Q W J M X C D

## RECYCLING & THE ENVIRONMENT

Recycling just 1 ton of paper can save:



20 trees



7,000 gallons of water



60 pounds of pollutants

3

Cubic yards of landfill space

Enough energy to power the average home for six months

## Going beyond the text Exploring ecosystems

As you have been discovering on the pages of this Newspaper in Education publication, everything in the natural world is connected. An ecosystem is a biological community of interacting organisms and their physical environment. In other words, an ecosystem is a community of living and nonliving things that work together.

The City of Largo is an ecosystem. The parks noted on these pages are ecosystems. Even Pokemon's world is an ecosystem. Think about all of the different parts of an ecosystem. Research one type of ecosystem and make a list of all of the interacting organisms in that system that you can think of. Next, look for articles, photos and advertisements in the *Tampa Bay Times* about your community. Make a list of all of the parts of your ecosystem. Choose some of the most important parts and create a cartoon depicting your personal ecosystem.



# One Cart. Zero Bags.

Did you know that you don't have to put your recycling into bags? Actually, plastic bags can get caught in sorting machines and bring a whole recycling plant to a stop. Do your part and leave the bags out!



Recycle right and save. Keeping costs low is important to any business. Help yours run smoothly and lower costs by keeping plastic bags out of the recycling stream.

## WORD SCRAMBLE

Directions: Unscramble the words below

DARCBARDO \_\_\_\_\_

NOCRATS \_\_\_\_\_

TEBTLOS \_\_\_\_\_

ONCSTNARIE \_\_\_\_\_

AGSLS \_\_\_\_\_

MLTEA \_\_\_\_\_

PAREP \_\_\_\_\_

CLATSIP \_\_\_\_\_

BERCLAYCLE \_\_\_\_\_

ASJR \_\_\_\_\_

NACS \_\_\_\_\_

Unscramble the hidden message!

ARLGO RCYECSEL

Hidden message: LARGO RECYCLES

Word scramble answers: CARDBOARD, CARTONS, BOTTLES, CONTAINERS, GLASS, METAL, PAPER, PLASTIC, RECYCLABLE, JARS, CANS



### MIXED PAPER

If you can tear it, you can recycle it!



### PLASTIC BOTTLES AND CONTAINERS

From water bottles to margarine tubs, just look for the recycle symbol.



### GLASS BOTTLES AND JARS

All unbroken glass bottles and jars are recycled.





### METAL CANS AND CONTAINERS

Cans, foil and trays: There are so many types to recycle!



### CARDBOARD

Just flatten clean, grease-free cardboard and put it in your cart, never outside of it.

### MILK AND JUICE CARTONS

Any paper cartons of any size can be placed in your blue cart.



### AINERS

t look for

### Going beyond the text Earth-friendly packaging

Look through the advertisements in the *Tampa Bay Times* to find a product that is available in different types of packaging. Do some research on the Internet about the recyclability of the various containers, such as plastic, paper or glass. Which product and type of container uses the least amount of packaging for the most amount of product? Which is the most Earth-friendly packaging? Can you redesign the wasteful package to be more eco-friendly yet still serve the purposes of the advertiser? Write a letter to the editor sharing your ideas.

cyclable.





# Beyond the blue

The City of Largo helps recycle a lot more than just what goes into your blue cart. Keeping the planet clean is everyone's job, and there are even more ways you can help.

## DROP-OFF CENTERS



Don't have curbside recycling at home? Check out our two free 24-hour drop-off recycling centers. We take all of the items that go in any blue cart. Visit us at 1551 Starkey Road or at 16080 U.S. 19 (behind the shopping center).

## YARD DEBRIS



The City of Largo can recycle yard waste such as leaves, tree trimmings and grass clippings. Bundle or bagged yard waste will be picked up at your curb at no cost to you. This helps keep debris out of our storm drains and keeps our waters clean.

## C.O.R.E.



The Cooking Oil Recycling Effort helps us recycle used cooking oils and fats so they don't block up our drains and sewers. Cooking oil poured down the drain doesn't just go away. Instead, it gels and turns solid, right inside our drains. Plus, it's pretty smelly. Recycle your oil at the Starkey Road drop-off recycling center (1551 Starkey Road) or dispose of cooled cooking oils and grease in the trash.

## FREE MULCH



More than 100,000 pounds of unwanted yard waste is recycled into high-quality mulch every year in Pinellas County. We chop, clean and deliver mulch to sites all over the county for you to use at your home. Pick yours up at the Starkey Road drop-off recycling center (1551 Starkey Road).



Repairs from overflows can be really expensive. Make sure to keep your drains and pipes clear by recycling or properly disposing of cooking oils and fats.



Yes, we do mean free, as in no cost. Don't spend hundreds of dollars buying mulch when you can help the environment and your wallet by using recycled mulch.



Visit [LargoRecycles.com](http://LargoRecycles.com) and watch our ideas about what to recycle and how our facility processes it all.



## No such thing as 'away'

When we throw our trash away, it actually goes somewhere. It is piled up together at landfill sites to make sure that harmful toxins don't spill into our environment, but with millions of pounds of trash thrown "away" every year just in Largo, how long until these sites are all full? Just remember that when you trash it, it doesn't disappear.



# Test your Recycle IQ!

1 What color are Largo recycling carts?  
Blue or Brown

2 Yard clippings can go in your recycling cart.  
True or False

3 Plastic bags can go in your recycling cart.  
True or False

4 Recycling one ton of paper can save  
how many trees? 1 5 20 10,000

5 Empty aerosol cans go in your recycling  
cart. True or False

Did you know...

It can take one glass bottle  
**MORE THAN  
4,000 YEARS**  
to decompose?

How many did you get right? Want a better score?  
Check out [LargoRecycles.com](http://LargoRecycles.com) or follow us on  
Facebook to learn more about how you can pitch in.

## Going beyond the text Saving our planet

There are ongoing conflicts between human usage of Earth's resources and what plants and animals need to survive. What exactly is a conflict? Things human beings do affect the entire planet. Simple things such as not wasting resources, not littering and recycling can be a big help. Look through the *Tampa Bay Times* for articles or pictures that indicate conflict between how humans use the environment and the needs of plants or animals. Read the articles, and think about the main ideas and conflicts presented. Explain in a fully developed paragraph the information presented. Is there a solution to this conflict? What issues are presented? Create a visual display that represents either or both sides of the conflict. Share your display and article with your class.

Answers: 1) Blue; 2) False; 3) False; 4) 20; 5) True

# Energy:

## Are there different kinds?



We all use energy. Brushing our teeth, cooking dinner, using our cellphones and getting around town – we need energy for all of these activities. But did you know there are different kinds of energy?

Renewable energy is energy that uses less of our natural resources than other types of energy. Solar and wind power are two examples of renewable energy.

## Burn more energy – by playing!

We all need to burn energy in our bodies, too. ExerPlay is a fully interactive game room for kids of all ages, located at the Highland Recreation Complex. Light-up walls, dance floors and virtual bikes all await you.



Using renewable energy can help our city stay clean and save money, but there are plenty of ways for you to save energy and money at home, too:

- Keep lights off if you aren't in the room
- Turn the water off while you are brushing your teeth
- Wash your clothes in cold water
- Collect rainwater in barrels to water your lawn
- Plant trees in front of windows to keep heat out

## WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH \$3,500?

By carpooling with one or more people, you can cut down on spending and rack up the savings.

### Did you know...

Recycling a  
**6-FOOT-TALL STACK**  
of newspapers will save the life of  
**ONE**  
**35-FOOT TALL TREE.**



The average person  
**SAVES**  
**\$3,500 A YEAR**  
by carpooling



**75%**  
of drivers travel alone



Driving alone can release more than  
**12,000 POUNDS OF CO<sub>2</sub> PER YEAR**





# Check out the many ways that Largo helps keep our city energy-wise:

## LEED buildings

LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. LEED-certified buildings are "green," or resource efficient. They use less water and energy, reduce greenhouse gas emissions – and, as an added bonus, they save money.

## Moving Largo

Creating more ways to get around, and making those ways easier to use, is key to Largo's future. The City of Largo is dedicated to things like a citywide urban trail, adding and expanding sidewalks and even celebrating Walk to School Day. With miles of bike trails, you can drive less and bike more in Largo.



Visit [Largo.com/ComDev](http://Largo.com/ComDev) for more details on how to Move Largo.

## Energy Maintenance

The City of Largo is a proud supporter of Energy Star, the U.S. Green Building Council and the Florida Green Building Coalition, striving to make sure that everything the City does is energy efficient.



**Largo's Highland Recreation Complex is a beautiful example of what LEED can be.**

# WANT TO SAVE MORE ENERGY? START RECYCLING!

## RECYCLE:

## TO:

One aluminum can . . . . ▶ power **THREE HOURS OF TV**

One plastic bottle . . . . . ▶ power a **LIGHT BULB FOR SIX HOURS**

15 glass bottles . . . . . ▶ power a **LAPTOP FOR 31 HOURS**



The more we recycle, the more our products are worth in the end, creating more savings for every pound we put in our cart. Save money – recycle more!

## Going beyond the text Being energy efficient

Look in the *Tampa Bay Times* for pictures of appliances that use energy. For each appliance, answer the following questions. Is this a necessity or a luxury? What are the advantages and disadvantages to 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 e-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. Share your energy conservation ideas with your classmates.



## Top 10 ways to save at home

Looking for more ways to save energy, money and the environment at home?

These easy tips can really save:

- 1 **Clean green** – Use all-natural cleaning products that are gentler on the environment (and you).
- 2 **Cold shoulder** – Wash clothes in cold water instead of hot.
- 3 **(M)eat less** – Producing meat puts more strain on our environment, so eat less meat and more veggies to reduce your impact on the planet.
- 4 **Rinse and repeat** – Grab a reusable water bottle instead of a disposable plastic one.
- 5 **Bright ideas** – Use energy-efficient lighting. Replace incandescent bulbs with CFL or LED bulbs.
- 6 **Plastic is out** – Forget the plastic bags at the grocery store. Instead, bring your own reusable bags.
- 7 **Shade tree** – Plant trees in front of windows to keep the cool in and high bills out.
- 8 **Wild and native** – Plant native plants in your garden. They require less water and fertilizer because they are adapted for our climate.
- 9 **Social butterfly** – Join clubs and groups that talk about sustainability issues to keep learning more.
- 10 **Recycle** – It's as simple as that!

# Stay connected to learn more about these special events:



### ShredFest:

**Free** document shredding for residents. Bring up to five boxes of paper to be shredded and recycled on site!



### Touch-a-Truck:

Ever wanted to sit in a giant recycling truck? Or see the inside of our amazing fire trucks? Touch-a-Truck is your chance! Learn what it's like to drive these cool vehicles you see all around the city.



### Chemical and electronics collection:

Drop off used motor oil, cleaning supplies, light bulbs and paint, as well as electronics such as TVs and batteries. This free service helps us recycle and keep Largo clean, green and safe.



### Neighborhood cleanup:

We send a team of people, trucks and trees out to neighborhoods across the city to help clean up. We offer free trees to plant in your yard and the chance to get rid of old electronics, bulky furniture and yard debris. Plus, we clean up roads, ditches and overgrowth.



Our special events calendar can keep you up to date on these and other great events we have throughout the year. [VisitLargo.com](http://VisitLargo.com) for more information.

# CONNECT with Your City

[largo.com/social](http://largo.com/social)



# Need help?

If you need help solving a problem or want to know more, here's who can help:

I want to ...	Who to contact	Contact Information
Learn more about recycling, sustainability or garbage	Largo Recycles or Solid Waste	LargoRecycles.com Recycle@Largo.com 727-587-6760
Book a park shelter or find a special event	Recreation, Parks & Arts	LargoParks.com SpecialEvents@Largo.com 727-586-7415
Report a sewer backup	Environmental Services	Largo.com/EnvironmentalServices 727-507-4460
Report potholes	Streets & Stormwater	StreetsandDrainage@Largo.com 727-587-6718
Report dumping into waterways	Streets & Stormwater	stormwater@largo.com 727-587-6718



## Volunteer all year

Getting involved is important. There are plenty of ways to help your community and have a great time, too. Learn more about these opportunities at [Largo.com/Volunteer](http://Largo.com/Volunteer):

- Largo Recycles Green Team
- Largo Library Supporters
- Recreation, Parks & Arts volunteer program
- Volunteers in Policing
- Friends of the Nature Park
- Largo Citizen's Academy



More than \$16 billion is spent every year on bottled water. That's enough to buy more than 160,000 new Porsches or more iPods than were sold in all of last year. Save your cash by choosing a reusable water bottle.



### Going beyond the text Making good choices

Though many of us know the difference between making "green" and "not-so-green" choices, we are often convinced by highly effective advertising to make choices that may be harmful to the environment. Sometimes the ads focus on convenience or economics.

Look at the advertisements in the *Tampa Bay Times* and select several examples of ads that may result in a negative result for the environment. Analyze your selections carefully, making brief notes on the arguments or techniques used to influence buyers. For example, is the product created using non-sustainable resources? Will use of the product create an excessive amount of non-recyclable materials?

In a small group, discuss your findings. On a piece of construction paper or poster board, create an ad that might convince the best-informed of readers not to purchase this product.

### Be a recycling hero

Schedule a free recycling presentation today for your school, work or organization! Groups of any size will enjoy activities and prizes while learning about recycling and sustainability. Visit [LargoRecycles.com](http://LargoRecycles.com) for more information and to request a presentation.



## About NIE

The Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education program (NIE) is a cooperative effort between schools and the Times Publishing Co. to encourage the use of newspapers in print and electronic form as educational resources – a “living textbook.” Our educational resources fall into the category of informational text, a type of nonfiction text. The primary purpose of

informational text is to convey information about the natural or social world.

Since the mid-1970s, NIE has provided schools with class sets of the daily newspaper plus award-winning original curriculum supplements, teacher guides, lesson plans, educator workshops and many more resources at no cost to schools, teachers or families. Each year, more than 5 million newspapers and electronic licenses are provided to Tampa Bay teachers and students free of charge thanks to our generous individual, corporate and foundation sponsors. NIE teaching materials cover a variety of subjects and are correlated to the Florida Standards.

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

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## Florida Standards

This publication and its activities incorporate the following Florida Standards for middle and high school students.

**Language Arts:** LAFS.6-12.L.1.1; LAFS.6-12.L.1.2; LAFS.6-12.L.2.3; LAFS.6-12.L.3.4; LAFS.6-12.L.3.5; LAFS.6-12.L.3.6; LAFS.6-12.RH.1.1; LAFS.6-12.RH.1.2; LAFS.6-12.RH.1.3; LAFS.6-12.RH.2.4; LAFS.6-12.RH.2.5; LAFS.6-12.RH.2.6; LAFS.6-12.RH.3.7; LAFS.6-12.RH.3.8; LAFS.6-12.RH.3.9; LAFS.6-12.RI.1.1; LAFS.6-12.RI.1.2; LAFS.6-12.RI.1.3; LAFS.6-12.RI.2.4; LAFS.6-12.RI.2.5; LAFS.6-12.RI.2.6; LAFS.6-12.RI.3.7; LAFS.6-12.RST.1.1; LAFS.6-12.RST.1.2; LAFS.6-12.RST.1.3; LAFS.6-12.RST.2.4; LAFS.6-12.RST.2.5; LAFS.6-12.RST.2.6; LAFS.6-12.RST.3.7; LAFS.6-12.RST.3.8; LAFS.6-12.SL.1.1; LAFS.6-12.SL.1.2; LAFS.6-12.SL.1.3; LAFS.6-12.SL.2.4; LAFS.6-12.SL.2.5; LAFS.6-12.SL.2.6; LAFS.6-12.W.1.1; LAFS.6-12.W.1.2; LAFS.6-12.W.1.3; LAFS.6-12.W.2.4; LAFS.6-12.W.2.5; LAFS.6-12.W.2.6; LAFS.6-12.W.3.7; LAFS.6-12.W.3.8; LAFS.6-12.W.3.9; LAFS.6-12.W.4.10 **Science:** SC.6.N.1.5; SC.6.N.2.1; SC.6.N.2.2; SC.7.E.6.6; SC.7.L.17.1; SC.7.L.17.3; SC.8.N.4.1; SC.8.N.4.2; SC.912.E.6.6; SC.912.L.17.11; SC.912.L.17.12; SC.912.L.17.13; SC.912.L.17.14; SC.912.L.17.15; SC.912.L.17.16; SC.912.L.17.17; SC.912.L.17.18; SC.912.L.17.19; SC.912.L.17.20; SC.912.N.1.1; SC.912.N.4.2 **Health:** HE.6.C.1.3; HE.6.C.2.6; HE.6.P.8.1; HE.7.C.1.3; HE.7.C.2.6; HE.7.P.8.1; HE.8.C.1.3; HE.8.C.2.6; HE.8.P.8.1; HE.912.C.1.3; HE.912.C.1.5

## Going beyond the text Becoming an upcycler

Recycling is a great way to help protect the environment, but sometimes recycling is not possible. Upcycling, or creative reuse, means taking something that would have been thrown away and finding a new use or purpose for it. There are many different ways to repurpose and reuse items. How creative can you be? Look in the *Tampa Bay Times* for items that cannot be recycled. How can you repurpose or reuse them? Make a chart showing your ideas. Share your information with your class and family. Take the activity a step further and create your own upcycling project. Send photos of your projects to [ordernie@tampabay.com](mailto:ordernie@tampabay.com).