



RR's Recycling Report

Dear Recycle Raccoon

Dear RR;
What happens to all of the things I recycle?

~Linda

Dear Linda,
The things you recycle get brought to the MRF (Materials Recycling Facility) where they are sorted and bundled. Then the county sells them to companies across the nation that turn your old products into new products. The county shares the money with your parents so they pay less taxes.

The companies that buy our recyclables turn old aluminum cans into new ones



Recycle Raccoon

and plastic bottles get turned into new plastic bottles, plastic building materials, and even carpet! Recycling products as well as purchasing recycled products helps keep the **CYCLE** in **RECYCLE!**



~R.R.

Dear RR;
When you are not out promoting recycling, what do you like to do?

~Chris

Dear Chris,
With all of the presentations, parades, and school events I am always pretty busy! When I do have free time I like to ride my bike or hang out in my apartment above the MRF with my best friend Walt the Worm. To meet Walt, have your teacher get a traveling trunk on composting, or visit my website at www.waukeshacounty.gov/recycling.

~R.R.

Volume 1, Issue 1

2007-2008 School Year

Special Updates:

- ☺ Dear Recycle Raccoon, some of the hardest recycling questions answered
- ☺ Recycling Guide with Recycle Raccoon and all his friends—what *actually* goes in your blue bin?
- ☺ Starting an Earth Club—Easy steps to help your school or community get started

Word Find

Can you find 11 household items in the word find? The last word to find is what you should do with all of these household items! Words go across, down, and diagonal. If you get stuck, the words are listed on the backside of the newsletter! For a full answer key, see our website!

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

Department of Parks and Land Use
1320 W Pewaukee Road
Room 260
Waukesha, WI 53188
Phone: 262-896-8300



What goes in your recycle bin?



All Papers get sorted into a paper bag. Newspapers, schoolwork, & magazines!

My label is O.K!
My lid is not O.K. and it has been thrown in the trash!

I have been rinsed clean!

IN THE BIN

♻️ Aluminum

♻️ Tin

♻️ Plastics #1

♻️ Plastics #2

IN THE PAPER BAG

♻️ ALL CLEAN

PAPER &
Cardboard (Unless there is food residue!)



Start an Earth Club

Want to make an impact on your environment? Think about starting an earth club!

First, to start your club. Figure out what people are interested in. Take surveys to help define 2 or 3 goals for your club. Do you want to reduce waste? Collect recyclables? Start vermicomposting or a rain garden? Raise money for a bigger organization? Maintain a local park or road to keep it free from litter? Collect used items from people who don't need them anymore? The options are as limitless as your imagination.

Next, find a wide variety of people to be in your club. Are there teachers, custodians, or kids in other classes or grades that would like to participate? Most schools have rules

about official clubs needing an adult sponsor. Ask your teacher about these rules.

Establish a structure. Does your club have meetings once a month after school? How often do you work on projects? If you are collecting items, how do you plan to do so?

Advertise and Educate! As soon as you have answered the above questions, let people know! Let people know what they can do and how to do it. Posters, announcements, and other creative ideas will let everyone know how you are helping the earth and how important it is for them to get involved!

Finally, celebrate your successes! Reward people for doing a great job and have a fun get together to pat your group on the back. It could even be a trip to the Waukesha County

MRF to see where all your recyclables go. Thank people for all the help that they gave.

Starting an Earth Club is a lot of hard work. However, the rewards are well worth it all because you know that *you and your friends* made a difference! If you need help, visit our website. Most of the information for this article is from an EPA publication that can be found on our website.

Word Find Words: Can you find them all?

Recycling, PlasticsOne, PlasticsTwo, Aluminum, Tin, Newspaper, Paper, Cardboard, Glass, Phone book, Magazine, Chipboard