



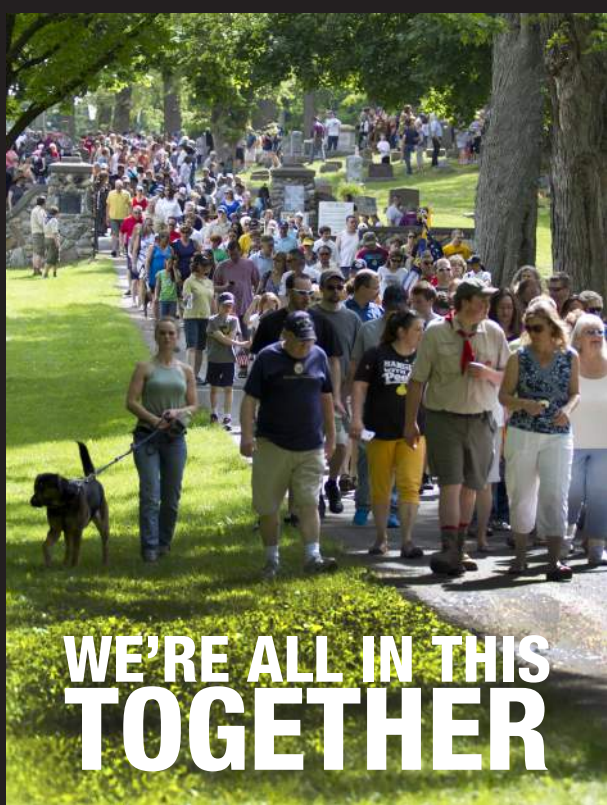
**WESTERN WASHTENAW RECYCLING AUTHORITY  
SEPTEMBER 2014 NEWSLETTER**



# PARTNERS

Every week, when you participate in our curbside recycling program, or drop your items in our bins, you make a difference in our local quality of life. Each truckload of recyclable materials represents another step toward the goal of preserving the environment we share. Your efforts, over the last twenty years, have kept millions of cubic feet of recyclables out of our landfill.

We are partners. What we've done together has changed the world for the better.



**WE'RE ALL IN THIS  
TOGETHER**

# PHILOSOPHY

“Sustainability” is not just a buzz-word to us. It’s the most important part of our philosophy. We believe that the cumulative effect of each individual’s efforts to recycle brings us all closer to a more sustainable way of living. We’ve put our philosophy into practice by converting to the more efficient “Single Stream” processing, and have increased our output by 100%. By making it as easy as possible for local residents to join us in reducing the amount of trash in our landfill, we are helping to preserve the environment for future generations.

The Western Washtenaw Recycling Authority’s state-of-the-art processing facility is the place where our ideas about sustainability become reality.



**WE LOVE RECYCLING**

# Growth

Since our switch to single stream processing, participation in our recycling program has shown considerable growth. In Chelsea alone, over TEN TONS of recyclable material is collected by WWRA trucks each week. After processing recyclables collected from all local sources, WWRA bales and ships over 600 Tons of materials per month—a 100% increase over the monthly output from the older dual stream processing system. In addition, the Michigan Humane Society clothing donation bins, found at our WWRA bin sites, have collected over 50,000 pounds of clothing this year.



# Clean-up Day

Clean Up Day 2014 was a huge success. Hundreds of western Washtenaw residents helped WWRA and our member municipalities to keep tons of unsuitable items out of the landfill.

Here are some of the numbers from the event:

- 1,140 vehicles in six hours
- 909 tires collected
- 1,500 gallons of used oil
- 3,400 pounds of car and truck batteries
- 120 yards of rigid plastics
- Two 53' trailers of E-Waste
- Two 53' trailers of household hazardous materials



# Eat Rinse Recycle

WWRA's facility does not process Styrofoam.

The only way to reduce the amount of Styrofoam in our landfill is to stop it at the source. To that end, WWRA has ordered paper take-out boxes to be distributed free of charge to local restaurants as part of our Eat Rinse Recycle initiative. By presenting local restaurateurs with a viable alternative to Styrofoam, WWRA hopes that they will adopt this more environmentally friendly method of packaging.

These recyclable containers are made of paper, and are waterproofed with a layer of food-grade wax. When your local restaurant packs your order in one of our containers, just Eat, Rinse, and Recycle!



# I RECYCLE

Committed recycler and fitness guru Jon Oesterle, of Chelsea, is this month's I RECYCLE celebrity. Look for him on our postcard, our website, and our social media.

Every month, on our postcard and other media, we'll feature a different western Washtenaw County celebrity whose commitment to recycling will inspire us to continue our efforts toward reducing the amount of recyclable materials that needlessly end up in our trash.

If you see Jon, make sure to yell "I RECYCLE," he loves that. . .

**I RECYCLE**

**Jon Oesterle Recycles**  
*"I do everything I can to help the environment."*

Did you know that the average person recycles only 50% of the recyclables they generate?

Find out more about recycling at [www.irecycles.org](http://www.irecycles.org)

**WESTERN WASHTENAW RECYCLING AUTHORITY**

**DO YOU?**

# USED OIL

In addition to paper, cardboard, plastic, and aluminum/tin cans, WWRA recycles used oil. We heat our facility with various types of donated oil, including:

Engine Oil  
Transmission Fluid  
Brake Fluid  
Gear Oil  
Clean Cooking Oil (no particles).

We have two 4,000 gallon storage tanks with 4,000 gallons on hand, at the moment. Drop off your used oil at our main headquarters, and help keep our facility comfortable this winter!





## Phil's Notes

You're doing a great job! We'd like to offer these tips for an even better recycling experience:

Blue glass bottles are not recyclable at this time.

Please bend aluminum can lids to help our processors identify them in the stream.

Please rinse all containers. It can get a bit smelly at our facility if you don't.

Garbage is not magically transformed into recyclables when you throw it in the recycling bins!

You, the citizen, are paying for the disposal of this trash.



**“When people put non-recycleables in our bins, those items still end up in our landfill.”**

**Phil Bolyard**  
*Director*



## JOIN THE CONVERSATION WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

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