

# RPHF

**SOLID  
WASTE  
DISTRICT**



## NEWSLETTER

END OF YEAR

November, 2023

### ABOUT US

As a result of House Bill 592, each Ohio county is required to establish or join other counties to form a "solid waste management district." The Ross, Pickaway, Highland, Fayette Joint was established in 1989. Our purpose is to provide various disposal & recycling opportunities to our four counties while offering outreach within communities.


### WE CAN HELP

- Public Recycling Drop-Off locations
- Scrap Tire Collections
- Electronic Collections
- Hazardous Waste Collections
- Educational programs for schools, businesses & organizations
- Grant Opportunities
- Information hub for proper waste disposal

*To learn more, schedule a meeting with our Outreach Specialists!*

## RECYCLING LOCATIONS NEAR YOU

Public recycling drop-off bins are located throughout our four counties. There are currently 32 locations and a total of 94 bins available for residents to use at their convenience free of charge. Visit our website for addresses & service schedules.

 740-420-5452

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





## THE PROBLEM WITH LITTER

It may seem small but it actually is a really big problem! Litter endangers our environment. It pollutes our neighborhoods, decreases property values, and destroys our communities natural beauty. According to ODOT, they spend approximately 4 million dollars per year combating litter near roadsides.

The problem is statewide, but even our little communities struggle with a big litter problem. In 2020, Ross County Litter Control conducted cleanups along nearly 300 miles just in Ross County. This contributed to 831 bags of trash and over 100 large furniture items.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- 42% of Ohioans admit to having littered in the past month.
- ODOT crews collect more than 400,000 bags of other people's trash from along the roadsides each year.

## LITTER KIT PROGRAM

Our litter kits are designed for safe litter collection practices available for community groups or organizations, non-profits & government offices hosting an event in Ross, Pickaway, Highland or Fayette County. The kits include litter grabbers, vests, gloves and bags.



## WISHCYCLING & ILLEGAL DUMPING AT RECYCLING DROP-OFF BINS

**Wishcycling:** putting something in the recycling bin and hoping it will be recycled, even if there is evidence it is not acceptable.

Innocent thought - big impact. The most common wishcycled item are plastic bags. The plastic bag seems

like a small, harmless item to toss in the bins but it wreaks havoc in the Materials Recovery Facility. Bags and film tangle in the machines causing shutdowns and potentially harm to employees.

Illegal dumping is continuous problem we experience. If you see dumping at the bins, contact local law enforcement. It is against the law to dump trash at the recycling sites!







Annually, we host two kids camps in Pickaway County with the Pickaway County Park District and Pickaway Soil & Water Conservation District. A three day camp is for students in 3rd-5th grade. Our one day camp is for younger students in 2nd-3rd grade. Kids participated in hands-on activities related to pollinators, recycling, wildlife, history, STEM projects, archery & more.



# EXPERIENCE EARTH CAMP



# EDUCATION OUTREACH

## PAINT CREEK CLEANUP

Greenfield Junior High students spent a day at Paint Creek removing brush, building benches and cleaning up litter. The District explained the importance of recycling and the struggles we have with litter.



## COMPOST CHEF

A fun afternoon in Canal Park learning about composting! We read "Compost Stew" by Mary McKenna Siddals followed by decorating and constructing chef hats with the special ingredients for compost!

## ROSSCO'S PLEDGE

The District attended the City of Circleville Friday in The Park. Families in attendance made handprint raccoons and took a pledge very important to Rossco. The Pledge states "With these hands, we will help the earth by Reducing, Reusing & Recycling".



## LET'S BUILD AN EDIBLE LANDFILL

Using clear plastic cups and various foods, the kids learned about each layer of the landfill and its purpose. We had an open discussion about the importance of recycling to reserve space in landfills. After much anticipation, the kids were finally allowed to taste their landfill.





## DISCOVERY CAMP

A camp hosted by Fayette County Soil & Water conservation District. The District tagged along to teach kids about waste and recycling. Kids spent the afternoon discussing recycling options in their community and the importance of The Three R's. Kids made their own birdfeeder with carboard & materials from nature.



## ZANE TRACE FFA

The Zane Trace FFA took a day to learn and discuss recycling and how to impact the county in a positive way as they get older. The students conducted a cleanup on area roads near their school.



## ROSSCO RACCOON

Roscco is celebrating 6 months employed with the District & Ross County Litter Control! He has enjoyed his new job and looks forward to meeting more people. He particularly enjoyed the County Fair's and classroom visits.





# POSTER CONTEST

In celebration of America Recycles Day, the District is hosting a Poster Contest for high school students in our four counties. To enter the contest, create a poster using any medium that best represents one or more of the following topics: Recycling, Waste Reduction, Litter Control, Composting, Reuse/Upcycling. Drawings must be submitted by October 27th. One poster from each County will be chosen and copies will be given to elementary classrooms and offices with interest in recycling awareness.

# CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL ARTISTS!



## GREENFIELD AWARDED GRANT

The Village of Greenfield was awarded grant funds through the District & Highland County Community Action to assist with their Scrap Tire Rodeo. 935 tires were collected.



## RECYCLING AT VETERANS PICNIC

The YMCA of Highland County hosted a Veterans picnic and made the ecofriendly decision to offer recycling bins. The District & Community Action loaned the containers for the special event.



## LEESBURG AWARDED GRANT

The Village of Leesburg was awarded grant funds to assist in covering costs for a community clean-up day. Dumpsters were provided to residents to dispose of unwanted items free of charge.



# GLASS PLANT TOUR

The District toured the Rumpke glass recycling facility in Dayton, Ohio. This plant is a unique glass recycling facility that cleans and separates glass collected from all over Ohio and surrounding states. It recovers about 40,000 tons of broken and mixed glass, annually.





## WHAT HAPPENS TO TIRES & ELECTRONICS COLLECTED AT OUR EVENTS?

After tires are collected at our community events, they are taken to Sundown Tire Recycling. The tires are cut into pieces and turned into blasting mats, pylon bases, or caution barrel bases.

Accurate IT, an R2v3 certified E-waste company, strives to use as much of the material as possible that they acquire from our electronics collections. What they can't repurpose is broken down into base commodities and properly recycled. They also certify the data destruction on personal devices such as hard drives.



# COLLECTION TOTALS FOR 2023



*4376 Tires Collected*



*Electronics data TBA*



*55 propane tanks, 40 fire extinguishers, 2307 lbs. of pesticide, 12804 lbs. of paint, 1431 lbs. of batteries. More details available upon request.*