



## COLLECTION EVENTS

### PICKAWAY COUNTY

May 4, 2024

Pickaway County Highway Dept.

8 am – Noon

*Tires & Electronics Accepted*

### ROSS COUNTY

June 1, 2024

Ross County Fairgrounds

8 am – Noon

*Tires & Electronics Accepted*

### HIGHLAND COUNTY

September 28, 2024

North High Business Center Lot

8 am – Noon

*Tires & Electronics Accepted*

# MID-YEAR NEWSLETTER 2024



## DISTRICT AWARDED RECYCLE OHIO GRANT

Ohio EPA's Recycling and Litter Prevention program supports communities, nonprofits, businesses and academic institutions that initiate or expand recycling programs, encourage sustainable practices, stimulate economic growth and support litter prevention efforts through four different grants. The District applied for a litter grant to help cover the material costs of the Litter Kit Program. This program allowed for residents & organizations to borrow supplies such as safety vests, bags, gloves and grabbers for free. For more information, please email [lgrooms@pickawaycountyohio.gov](mailto:lgrooms@pickawaycountyohio.gov).

## SECONDHAND STATIONARY

Our District office will accept unwanted office and school supplies! Items can be used/partial but must be in good condition. Your donated supplies will be kept at our office and are free for any student, teacher or club to use. Our goal is to keep usable material out of the landfill!



# ADDITIONAL RECYCLING OPPORTUNITIES

## Rumpke Partners with Hefty Renew

Rumpke and Hefty have partnered to expand the list of items that can be recycled in our drop-off bins through the Hefty ReNew program. Through this program, residents and businesses can now recycle plastic food bags and liners, as well as bubble wrap, foam block packaging, and more. Simply fill the bag with those items, and when it's full, tie it up and then place the bag in the recycling bins. People who participate can purchase Hefty ReNew orange bags at their local Kroger store. The Hefty ReNew™ program is intended to complement, but not replace, current recycling routines. Therefore, residents of our District need to continue putting paper, cardboard, cartons, glass and plastic bottles, tubs, cups, aluminum cans, and steel cans in their Rumpke bins or community drop boxes loose and unbagged.



## Household Hazardous Waste

We offer a free disposal voucher for residents of Ross, Pickaway, Highland or Fayette County. To request the voucher, call or email the District office. We will ask you a few questions to verify proof of residency and an email a copy of the voucher. Residents are responsible for transporting their items to the facility. Acceptable materials include but not limited to gasoline, motor oil, oil base paint, lawn/garden chemicals, household cleaning products, batteries and smoke detectors.



## Solid Waste District Plan

Ratification is currently in process, the policy committee has given the SWMD's communities the opportunity to approve or reject the draft plan. Once the plan is ratified, the policy committee submits the ratified plan to Ohio EPA for review and approval or disapproval. From start to finish, preparing a solid waste management plan can take up to 33 months. To date, we have received back 20 approvals. We have started to follow up with the entities to remind them to vote on the plan.



# 5TH GRADE BILLBOARD CONTEST



## Ross County

Aubrey Stirewalt, a fifth grade student at Unioto Elementary, won the contest in Ross County. Her billboard is visible at 19980 US23 North 500Ft S/O Crouse Chapel.



## Pickaway County

Alexa Russel, a fifth grade student at Logan Elm, won the contest in Pickaway County. Her billboard is visible at US 23/Hagerty Road in Circleville.



## Highland County

Maddie Burke, a fifth grade student at Hillsboro, won the contest in Highland County. Her billboard is visible at 318 Rt 138 & Rt 28.



## Fayette County

JJ Tilley, a fifth grade student at Miami Trace, won the contest in Fayette County. His billboard is visible at 195 St. 22 W .5mi E/O Rt 35- Washington Court House.



# VERMICOMPOSTING

First grade students at Westfall learned all about nature's best recyclers - Worms!

Earlier in the school year, the first graders learned how to recycle properly in Pickaway County by participating in our Paper Making Program. After learning the basics of recycling, they were ready to learn about our recycling helpers!

By using foam coolers, newspaper, soil and food scraps, the students built worm bins to observe in the classroom. The worm bins will be cared for by the students until their school garden is prepared this Spring.

"The kids found a lot of entertainment and excitement learning about worms! This is my favorite program that the District offers. We appreciate the Westfall First Grade teachers for scheduling and continuing this activity" said Lauren Haubeil-Grooms (District Educator).



## DON'T BE A LITTER BUG!

Preschool students at Unioto Elementary learned all about the importance of recycling and litter control. Lots of high-fives and fist-bumps were exchanged with Rossco Raccoon.

Each classroom created a different style of litter bug. Classes that made bees, butterflies and ladybugs used toilet paper rolls. Students making caterpillars and ants used egg cartons.



The Preschool students hosted an Art Show for Grandparents Night and the litter bug crafts were included. Students were encouraged to remember "Don't Be a Litter Bug!"

The District visited five separate classrooms and enjoyed the activity. Thank you Miss. Trina for coordinating this program. Go Tanks!



## ADOPT-A-ROAD

The Lean Six Sigma Green Belt, from Pickaway Ross CTC hat volunteered to do huge cleanup of Crouse Chapel Road in Chillicothe. The students collected 28 bags of trash. The District and Ross County Litter Control is very proud of their efforts and impact the group has on the community!



There are nearly 50  
Billion pieces of litter  
along U.S. roadways &  
waterways!



## HUNTINGTON STUDENT AWARDED SCHOLARSHIP

The District offers a scholarship for graduating seniors that demonstrate environmental stewardship in Ross, Pickaway, Highland or Fayette County, Ohio majoring in environmental studies pursuing a two or four year degree at an accredited institution.

Sarah Lute, a student from Huntington High School, was awarded the scholarship. She is attending Bluffton University in the Fall and is majoring in Environmental Science with a minor in pre-law. Ms. Lute has been an advocate for the recycling program at Huntington High School and has a passion for a eco-friendly lifestyle. She has won awards at the State Fair with environmental stewardship projects and devotes much of her time volunteering in her community.



# EARTH DAY EVERY DAY

## 4-H GROUP VOLUNTEERS

Each year, Zane Trail 4-H group volunteers to conduct a clean-up along Marietta Road. This year the group of young environmental stewards collected two bags of garbage from the roadway. The District greatly appreciates the continued efforts to keep our community clean!



## ROSSCO ATTENDS EARTH GATHERING & RIVER CLEAN-UP

Earth Gathering is a juried-invitational art festival with an Earth Day theme designed to enlighten, entertain, and inspire the public with Earth-friendly art, music, food, products, and ideas. In conjunction with the festival, the District sponsored the annual Scioto River Clean-up hosted by Ross County Litter Control.

