



RecycleSmart

WWW.RECYCLESMART.INFO

April 2016

Brush Site is Now Open for the Season

Where: 2471 N. Keystone Road

When: Tuesdays -- Noon to 7 pm; Thursdays and Saturdays -- 9 am to 3 pm.

What: Materials accepted and fees:

- Brush, branches, grass clippings, leaves -- \$5.00/cubic yard or \$1.00/bag
- Untreated construction wood -- \$8.00/ cubic yard
- Pallets -- \$1.00 each
- Stumps -- \$.50/inch up to 18" diameter



The brush site does **NOT** accept dirt, sod, concrete and stumps or branches greater than 18" in diameter. Please separate your grass clippings and leaves from branches and twigs.

Visit www.RecycleSmart.info or call the RecycleSmart Hotline at 231-941-5555.

Upcoming Household Hazardous Waste

Events: *Thursdays April 21 and May 12*



The first of five HHW events will be held on Thursday April 21, with the next HHW event scheduled for Thursday May 12. Both events are from 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm.

Appointments are required and can be made online at www.recyclesmart.info or by calling 231-941-5555.



Clean Out Your Files Week

Continues Through April 22

This is an opportunity for businesses to recycle unwanted paper material at no cost. The recycling container, provided by American Waste, is located at the Sara Hardy Downtown Farmers Market parking lot at the corner of Cass & Grandview Parkway now through April 22. Accepted material includes newspapers, magazines, old files, office paper and unwanted mail. ***This container of paper material will not be shredded.***

Earth for Earth Day

Compost Give-Away

Free compost will be available Saturday, April 23 from 8:00 am until noon (or until the compost is gone).

Self serve, self haul compost is yours FREE at the Sara Hardy Downtown Farmers Market parking lot (Union Street and Grandview Parkway). Compost is courtesy of the City of Traverse City & Grand Traverse County RecycleSmart. ***Bring your own shovel and container.***



Celebrate Earth Day 2016

Friday, April 22

Earth Day is more than just a single day - April 22, 2016. It's today, it's everyday. Right here. Right now.

This Earth Day and beyond, Earth Day Network (www.earthday.org) challenges each of us to make big stuff happen....planting billions of trees for the Earth, divesting from the use of fossil fuels and investing in renewable energy, taking the momentum from the Paris Climate Summit and building on it.

Some of the most important environmental efforts include conserving energy and reducing water consumption. Here are a few lifestyle changes we can each make that can significantly help the environment.

1. **Drive Less.** Many people choose to walk or bike as a way to save money or get fit. It's also a great way to reduce the amount of dangerous greenhouse gases (GHG) we release into the environment. GHG emissions are responsible for a large portion of climate change.

2. **Reduce Food Waste.** We hear a lot about the amount of food we as Americans eat, and much less about how much food is wasted. In the U.S., we throw away

nearly 40% of our food every year. The amount of global food waste produced each year is more than enough to feed nearly 1 billion hungry people in the world. That wasted food often ends up in landfills and turns into a very potent greenhouse gas called methane.

3. Use Less Food Packaging. Food packaging makes up nearly 2/3rds of the total packaging waste in the U.S. (think cheese stick wrappers, juice pouches, lunchable trays and boxes). That's a lot of garbage going to landfills across the country. We use less food packaging and create less garbage when we do things such as: carry our own travel beverage cup; bring our own leftover container to restaurants; buy in bulk and consciously avoid single serving, disposable items. When shopping, it's a good idea to look for items with little to no packaging or packaging made from recycled materials.

Watch this two-minute video, *The Story of A Spoon*, to learn how an item we use came into existence and what happens to it when we no longer have use for it.



RecycleSmart is the Resource Recovery program of Grand Traverse County, Michigan

Operated under contract by Iris Waste Diversion Specialists, Inc.

231-941-5555 | recyclesmart@grandtraverse.org | www.recyclesmart.info