

CARLTON COUNTY

RESOURCE AND RECYCLING NEWSLETTER

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Fresh produce and other goods can be purchased at farmers markets and at CSA farms. Supporting local food benefits all involved.

Celebrate Earth Day, every day

Earth Day was founded in 1970 as a day for environmental education and awareness and is observed April 22. While there are a number of reasons to celebrate on the official Earth Day, it will make a much larger impact to celebrate every day as if it were Earth Day. Here are a few ways to make a difference.

Buy, eat local food

Take advantage of food and goods sourced within 50 miles of farmers markets in Carlton County. Find there fresh fruits and vegetables, eggs, meat, jams and jellies, honey, breads and baked goods, artisan crafts, and bedding plants. Consider buying local foods through farms in the area, as well.

- *In Carlton:* Starting the first Tuesday in June, open on Tuesdays from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. Located at the Four Seasons Complex parking lot, 90 Chestnut Ave, Carlton.
- *In Cloquet:* Starting the first Saturday in June, open Saturdays from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Located at 904 Hwy 33 S (Premiere Theatres parking lot), Cloquet.

- *In Moose Lake:* Starting the last Saturday in May, open Saturdays 8 a.m. - noon. Located in Moose Lake, next to the S Moose Horn River bridge, along the river in Earl Ellen's Park.
- Join a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Farm: visit csaguild.com to find local farms.

Conserve energy in your home

- Turn lights and appliances off when leaving a room.
- Replace fluorescent light bulbs with LED bulbs, which use less energy.
- Use ENERGY STAR, energy efficient products and appliances.



Construction Class Teacher Chris Gustafson advised students as they worked on building the new recycling center in Mahtowa.

New recycling center in Mahtowa soon to be operational

Construction class students in Wrenshall have been working hard to complete the new recycling center in Mahtowa, under the direction of teacher Chris Gustafson.

After a few setbacks with materials and weather, the center should be operational by mid-May.

Earth Day, continued from page 1

- Seal and insulate to reduce the amount of heating and cooling needed, as well as costs.
- Turn down the heat on the thermostat during the winter and use the air conditioner less in the summer.

Calculate your carbon footprint

Learn the impact you have on the Earth by figuring out the carbon used in your house, how you get around, and what you eat.

- Carbon Emissions Calculator: <http://www.ei.lehigh.edu/learners/cc/carboncalc.html> (other calculators available online)

Storing food to prevent waste

Spoiled or forgotten food can account for a large portion of the food gone to waste at home. To combat this, try some of these food storage tips.

- Keep apples, bananas, citrus, and tomatoes away from other produce since they give off ethylene gas. The gas makes other produce ripen/deteriorate faster.
- Untie all bunches (herbs, greens, etc.) to allow the produce to breathe.
- For best results, keep your fridge between 37° F and 40° F, and your freezer between 0° F and 2° F.

Information from <http://makedirtnotwaste.org/>



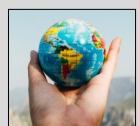
Disposing of food waste

What: Carlton County's public food waste drop site

Where: Carlton County Transfer Station, 1950 Highway 210, Carlton, MN

How: Get info and free compostable bags from cashier

When: Regular Transfer Station hours (see page 4)



Share with us how you're celebrating Earth Day!

Email us a photo or on social media sites, use the hashtag:

#EarthDayEveryDay



Borrow recycling, trash bins for variety of events

Generating waste at graduation parties, sporting events, and the like, is inevitable. Oftentimes, a venue lacks the proper infrastructure for the disposal of trash and recyclable materials. Through the Carlton County Event Recycling Program, anyone may rent receptacles **free of charge** for the collection of plastics, aluminum, glass, and paper recycling; organics (food waste); and trash.

If you would like to rent these receptacles, please visit co.carlton.mn.us/254/Recycling. There, you'll find the application form and more information about the event recycling program.

Our office can also help with planning and preparation for your event to reduce the amount of waste generated.

Effects of backyard burning

As warmer weather arrives and spring cleaning gets added to the to-do list, remember that burning household garbage is dangerous to your health and to the environment. In addition, it is also illegal.

Even seemingly harmless items like paper, junk mail, and packaging pose a risk in giving off toxic emissions.

Dioxin, a potent carcinogen and endocrine disrupter, is the main health concern. In Minnesota, burn barrels are more common in rural areas. As such, there is the chance for dioxin to settle on agricultural crops as well as in streams and lakes, ultimately ending up in the food we eat.

To find out more, visit www.pca.state.mn.us/w4ffypw.



Photo courtesy of Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Follow us on social media

Carlton County Zoning & Environmental Services is on Facebook: www.facebook.com/CarltonCountyZoning/.



We also have a Pinterest page! This can be found at www.pinterest.com/carltonco/.



Get waste reduction updates on Facebook, as well as tips, tricks, and projects on Pinterest. Find us on the web at <http://co.carlton.mn.us254/Recycling>.

Carlton County Recycling Center hours

STAFFED Recycling Centers

*Barnum, Carlton, Esko,
Moose Lake, Perch Lake*

Hours, year-round

Wednesdays

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Thursdays

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Fridays

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Saturdays

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Accepted Materials at Staffed Centers:

Glass jars and bottles, plastic bottles, jars, jugs, and tubs, tin cans, aluminum cans, newspapers, magazines, boxboard, cardboard, and office paper

UNSTAFFED Recycling Centers

*Blackhoof, Cromwell,
Holyoke, Kettle River,
Mahtowa, Wright*

Open 24/7, year-round

Accepted Materials at Unstaffed Centers:

Glass jars and bottles, plastic bottles, jars, jugs, and tubs, tin cans, aluminum cans, and newspapers

Transfer Station 1950 Hwy 210, Carlton

Hours April 1 - October 31

Monday - Friday

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Saturday

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Accepted Materials at Transfer Station:

Glass jars and bottles, plastic bottles, jars, jugs, and tubs, tin cans, aluminum cans, newspapers, magazines, office paper, boxboard, cardboard, car batteries, medical sharps, used motor oil and filters, antifreeze, and food waste

All recyclables **MUST** be clean, removed
from bags, and sorted into the proper bin.
Thank you for your help in preventing contamination!

Household Hazardous Waste Facility opening soon for season

The Household Hazardous Waste Facility at the Transfer Station will reopen May 8 and will be open through mid-October, **Tuesdays and Saturdays, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

As you spring clean, bring these common items to be properly disposed of, free of charge:

- Latex paint
- Oil paint
- Stain and varnish
- Pesticides
- Gasoline & other fuels
- Solvents
- Mercury thermometers and thermostats
- Pool chemicals
- Fluorescent lightbulbs
- Rechargeable batteries
- Cleaners
- Items with unlabeled/unknown contents

Visit our website

Go to ***co.carlton.mn.us/254/Recycling***

to find the transfer station price guide, an interactive map of the recycling centers in the county, more information on the Green Schools Project, and other useful resources.



Have a specific question?

Call 218-384-9178.