

WOOD You Recycle?



2nd Quarter 2020

24/7 Residential Recycling Drop-off Sites Closed When Full



Throughout the last several weeks, Wood County's recycling drop-off sites have experienced high volumes of recyclables, materials being left outside of bins, and illegal dumping. With many residents sheltering at home, spring cleaning has been in full force, generating significant waste and recycling. The Wood County Recycling Drop-off sites have been overwhelmed with materials, not all of which are accepted in the recycling program. We have reinstated our Community Groups to help maintain the sites, but we need your help to continue to make the program successful!

Please flatten all cardboard boxes. Large boxes especially, when not broken down, severely limit the amount of room in the bin for other people's recycling. Recycling

processing centers are desperately seeking clean paper and cardboard in-bound material to be recycled into essential items like delivery boxes, tissues, and paper towels. Residents using the program can help conserve natural resources and support this necessary stream by recycling unsoiled, flattened cardboard and mixed paper including: newspaper, office paper, junk mail, paperback books, magazines, cereal boxes, and cardboard rolls. Please visit our [website](#) for specific

items accepted in the County's recycling program.

Do not bag recyclables! Processing facilities will not recycle any materials that are bagged. If it looks like trash, it gets treated like trash. Place your recyclables into the bins clean and loose.

Please do not place materials on the ground. If the bins are full, wait until they are next emptied to recycle. Many of the sites have signage indicating they are temporarily closed until the bins are next serviced. All sites are emptied on Wednesdays with the exception of Perrysburg Township which is dumped on Wednesdays and Saturdays. At this time, we do not have the resources to add additional bins or service days to the program. Please be considerate to the host community and neighboring property owners by placing all materials within a bin.

Finally, we want to extend our appreciation to the Community Groups and local governments who have stepped up to keep the recycling sites clean during the coronavirus pandemic. Recycling and waste management are essential services that we need and want in our communities and we are grateful to those who have contributed to the continuation of these services.

As of Wednesday, May 14, the Bowling Green Recycling Center has re-opened. Please [contact](#) them directly for questions about materials accepted.

Upcoming Solid Waste Management District Policy Committee Meeting

The next Policy Committee Meeting has been moved to Monday, August 17, 2020 at 8:30am. Attendants must wear a mask, scarf, or face covering while in the Courthouse building. Agendas will be disseminated prior to the meeting for all Policy Committee members.

Wood County Landfill Re-Opened to the Public

The Public Drop-off area of the Wood County Landfill was reopened on Friday, May 1, 2020. This area had been closed since the Governor issued the Shelter-in-Place Order. All people coming to do business at the Landfill are required to wear a mask, scarf, or covering on their face while at the payment window. Please be prepared with your own mask. Social distancing will be enforced. Normal hours have resumed: Mondays – Fridays from 7:00am to 3:30pm and Saturdays from 8:00am – 12:00pm.



For pricing and questions, please contact the landfill at (419) 354-6704.

Virtual Educational Programming Available

The SWMD wants to bring environmental education to your students and groups! We have several programs and presentations about waste reduction, recycling right, natural resources, landfill education, and more! Most presentations



Recycling 101

can be adapted into a virtual format. If you had a program scheduled that was cancelled due to coronavirus, please contact Hannah Smith, Recycling Outreach Coordinator, to coordinate a virtual presentation. We are hoping to be able to resume outreach and education during this time, virtually. Additionally, the 10th Annual Billboard Contest has been postponed. We will reach out to participating schools again for contest rules and entry submissions when the contest resumes.

Aluminum - a Recycling Success Story

Recycling is one of the best means for industries and individuals to conserve resources and energy. It takes little more effort than throwing something away, yet its impact is immense. Aluminum is a prime example of the importance of recycling. To create aluminum, bauxite ore is mined by clear-cutting forests and grasslands to create an



open pit. This process reduces wildlife habitat and biodiversity while creating carbon emissions and erosion. To purify the bauxite ore, it is then refined at a facility using water, heat, and chemicals for extraction. The refining process creates one ton of waste per ton of aluminum. This by-product waste includes arsenic, chromium, and radioactive radium and uranium. In third world countries where the bauxite ore is often mined, these by-products are not disposed of in an environmentally-sound manner, polluting nearby soil and waterways and affecting the health of nearby populations. Refining also demands high energy input and emits greenhouse gases such as sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide. This resource-intensive process is necessary to create the aluminum we use to drink from, cook with, as well as make bike frames, ladders, staples, car rims, airplanes, and more. Because of the economic and environmental costs for creating virgin aluminum, it is essential to keep this valuable material in the recycling stream where it can be processed into new items. This material can be recycled indefinitely with no loss of quality. According to the International Aluminum Institute, 75% of all aluminum ever produced is still in use. The aluminum can placed in the recycling bin today can be back on the shelf in less than 60 days!

2020 Policy Committee Members

Doris Herringshaw, Ed.D., *Chairman*, Wood County Commissioners (term - permanent)

Mike Aspacher, *Mayor*, City of Bowling Green (term - permanent)

Ron Bechstein, *Representative*, Plain Township (term - permanent)

Lana Glore, *Director of Environmental Health*, Wood County Health Department (term - permanent)

Nicki Kale, *Public Representative* (term - 2 years, expires 11/30/2021)

Judy Hagen, *Citizen Representative* (term - 2 years, expires 12/31/2021)

Lori Carson, *Industrial Representative* (term - 2 years, expires 12/31/2021)

Wood County Solid Waste Management District
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[Visit our Website](#)