



# “One Man’s Trash...”

Your guide to reducing, reusing and recycling

East Central Indiana Solid Waste District

Serving: Grant, Madison and Delaware Counties



(765) 640-2535  
eciswd@sbcglobal.net  
www.eciswd.org

## Resolve to reduce

As 2018 gets underway, many people will be making New Year’s Resolutions. Those might include exercising more, eating healthier, or spending less. For exercise and diet, we’ll leave the tips to others. But, if your goal is to spend less money, we have some ideas that will save you money and reduce your waste.



Credit: Lata Pictures | iStock | Getty Images Plus

- **Buy Less:** This may seem like the obvious one, but put a little more thought into it. Before buying something, ask yourself two questions: “Do I really need this?” and “Do I already have something that would serve the same purpose?”
- **Borrow More:** Before you buy something that you won’t use often, look for somewhere you can borrow it. Get books, movies, and magazines from friends and family or the library. Share yard tools with a neighbor. Rental stores will loan you tools and equipment for a fee so you have what you need when you need it. Why buy and maintain something you only need once?
- **Select Secondhand:** When you need something new — whether it is clothes or a couch — consider something gently used and new-to-you. Look for used goods in secondhand, thrift, or consignment stores. You’ll receive a significant discount off the original price and many items are like new.
- **Think Reusable:** Take reusable bags into the grocery, hardware, and drug store every single time you shop. Keep clean reusable bags in your car. Set them on top of your purse or next to your child’s car seat so you’ll see them before you head into the store.
- **Refill Bottles and Mugs:** Always carry a water bottle or coffee mug with you. Most places will be happy to fill your bottle or mug instead of giving you a disposable cup.
- **Ditch Disposables:** Avoid buying bottled water. Use cloth napkins, towels, and rags in your home. Eat meals on dishes, not paper or plastic plates and bowls.

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### East Central Indiana Solid Waste District

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You'll find more than building supplies, appliances, and fixtures at Habitat for Humanity ReStores.

# Repurposing for good at the ReStores

Habitat for Humanity is well known for its work organizing volunteers to build homes for those in need. But did you know that Habitat also accepts large and small donations of new and gently used items? The Habitat for Humanity ReStore donation centers accept home improvement items, building materials, fixtures, appliances, furniture, housewares, decorative items, and other items. They sell these in their resale stores at greatly reduced prices to help fund the building of Habitat homes. These nonprofit ReStores are independently owned and operated by local Habitat organizations. We have two ReStores in our three-county area — one in Muncie and a second in Chesterfield.

Each ReStore has a donation procedure and list of currently accepted items. Most stores will gladly offer to come to your home or business to pick up large items for donation. To donate surplus or leftover building materials or other home items, go to [www.habitat.org/restores/donate-goods](http://www.habitat.org/restores/donate-goods) and type in your ZIP code. This search will provide the phone number and location of the ReStore nearest you.

If you are planning a remodeling project or cleaning out your attic or storage unit, consider donating your used items to a ReStore. You'll reduce clutter in your home, minimize landfill waste, provide a usable item to someone at a great price, and help fund Habitat for Humanity projects!

## Leftover paint



We get a lot of calls about leftover paint. So, chances are, you have some old paint sitting in your basement, garage, or utility room. Do you know what to do with paint that you don't need?

Latex paint is not hazardous waste. Latex paint is a water-based product and does not contain oil or chemical solvents. **Our three county recycling centers do not accept latex paint since you have other safe and appropriate disposal options.**

If the paint cannot be donated or used, the best option is to dry out the latex paint and dispose of the dried-out paint and can in your household trash. If there is just a small amount of paint in the can, leave the lid off until the paint has dried. With cans that are one-third to two-thirds full, add kitty litter, sawdust, or shredded paper and leave the lid off the can. Allow the paint to harden. In both cases, be sure that the open paint can is not accessible to children or pets. After the paint is dried and hardened in the can, dispose of the can and lid in the trash. To learn more about drying out latex paint, watch the video posted on our Facebook page.

For full cans or larger amounts of paint, call our office at 765-640-2535 for additional tips on drying and disposal.

Remember — enamel, which is oil-based paint, and paint thinner are hazardous waste. Please dispose of them at your county recycling facility.

# Paper recycling hacks

Look around your home or workplace. Check the trash cans and recycling bins. What do you see? Probably a lot of paper! In 2016, 67.2% of paper and cardboard products were recycled. While that recycling rate is very good, the American Forest and Paper Association has set a goal of 70% recycling by 2020. We can do more to meet that goal! Here are some simple recycling hacks to improve your paper and cardboard recycling efforts:

- Place a basket, bag, or box near the chair where you read magazines or newspapers. When you and your family are done reading, recycle.
- As you sort and open your mail, set aside the envelopes and unwanted mail. When you are done sorting, recycle that stack of unneeded paper.
- Use both sides of printer paper. Some printers make it simple to make double-sided copies. If you have that feature, use it. If you don't, save paper that only has printing on one side and use it to print drafts or scribble notes. When you have used both sides of each sheet, then recycle it.
- Don't forget about unneeded folders and old homework papers. You can recycle those, too!
- Recover your boxes: cracker, cereal, and other food boxes (remove and discard plastic liners); tissue boxes; shoes boxes; gift boxes; and corrugated shipping boxes. Be sure your boxes are clean and contain NO food or grease. That means your pizza box should go into the trash — not the recycling!
- Capture and recycle the empty paper tubes that once held wrapping paper, toilet paper, or paper towels.
- Learn more about paper recycling at [www.afandpa.org/our-industry/paper-recycling](http://www.afandpa.org/our-industry/paper-recycling).



Credit: piotr\_malczyk | iStock | Getty Images Plus



Credit: vhwppixel | iStock | Getty Images Plus

## Recycle at work!

Are you interested in setting up a recycling program at your business? Are you wondering how to get started? We can help. Although most of our programs are geared toward residential recycling, we can meet with you and your staff to discuss what items can be recycled locally and how to set up a collection system. For more information, call our office at 765-640-2535.

For more tips on workplace recycling, visit Keep America Beautiful's website at <http://recyclingatwork.org>.

## Devices to discard?



Since the Indiana E-Cycle program began, Hoosier households, small businesses, and public schools have recycled more than 141,373,171 pounds of electronic devices.

Smartphones, tablets, game systems, laptops, and even TVs are popular holiday gifts. E-readers and MP3 players had their moment, but they have been joined by new gadgets, such as wireless speakers and earbuds, smart watches, fitness trackers, and more.

If you have older devices which you no longer need, don't throw them into the trash! All electronics, no matter how small, contain chemicals and metals that can harm the environment when mixed with household trash. That's why electronics have been banned from landfill disposal in Indiana since 2009. Plus, these metals and other components can be used to create new electronics. Sell or donate usable and unwanted electronics. No takers? Recycle them, along with any electronics that no longer work, at the recycling center in your county: East Central Recycling in Muncie; the Grant County Recycling Center in Gas City; and the Madison County Recycling Center in Anderson.

To learn more about electronics recycling, visit [www.eciswd.org](http://www.eciswd.org) or <https://in.gov/idem/recycle/2352.htm>.



# County Recycling Centers

## Delaware County

East Central Recycling  
701 East Centennial, Muncie  
Open: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to  
5 p.m., and Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon  
For additional information, please call  
765-282-1900.

### *Materials Accepted:*

**Household Hazardous Waste:** oil, oil-based paint, cleaners, mercury, pesticides, solvents, glues, pool chemicals, and similar items

**Rechargeable, Button, and Automotive Batteries**

**Computers and Electronics:** computer components, TVs, VCRs, radios, CD players, tablets, cameras, telephones, cell phones, and related equipment

**Tires:** all types (may be a charge)

**Appliances:** all large appliances

**Household Recyclables:** newspaper, magazines, other paper, cardboard, glass bottles and jars, numbers 1-7 plastic containers, and aluminum and steel food and beverage cans

**Yard Waste:** grass clippings, leaves, and brush

## Grant County

Grant County Recycling Center  
3939 Garthwaite Road, Gas City  
Open: Tuesday and Thursday, 8 a.m. to  
4 p.m.; Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Saturday, 8 a.m. to 1  
p.m.  
For additional information, please call 765-677-6044.

### *Materials Accepted:*

**Household Hazardous Waste:** oil, oil-based paint, cleaners, mercury, pesticides, solvents, glues, pool chemicals, and similar items

**Rechargeable, Button, and Automotive Batteries**

**Computers and Electronics:** computer components, TVs, VCRs, radios, CD players, tablets, cameras, telephones, cell phones, and related equipment (may be a charge)

**Tires:** all types (may be a charge)

**Appliances:** all large appliances



Credit: monticello | iStock | Getty Images Plus

**Household Recyclables:** newspaper, magazines, other paper, cardboard, glass bottles and jars, numbers 1-7 plastic containers, and aluminum and steel food and beverage cans

**Yard Waste:** grass clippings, leaves, and brush (fees apply)

## Madison County

Madison County Recycling Center  
2031 Mounds Road, Corner of Mounds & Scatterfield Roads,  
Anderson  
Open: Tuesday and Thursday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Wednesday, 10  
a.m. to 6 p.m.; second and fourth Saturdays of each month, 8  
a.m. to noon  
For additional information, please call  
765-641-7978.

### *Materials Accepted:*

**Household Hazardous Waste:** oil, oil-based paint, cleaners, mercury, pesticides, solvents, glues, pool chemicals, and similar items

**Rechargeable, Button, and Automotive Batteries**

**Computers and Electronics:** computer components, TVs, VCRs, radios, CD players, tablets, cameras, telephones, cell phones, and related equipment (may be a charge)

**Tires:** all types (may be a charge)

**Appliances:** Freon-containing appliances only, such as refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, and water coolers (may be a charge)

**Household Recyclables:** newspaper, magazines, books, other paper, cardboard, glass bottles and jars, numbers 1-7 plastic containers, and aluminum and steel food and beverage cans



Credit: OZ Media | iStock | Getty Image Plus

# Cunning Crafts

Are you a crafter? You don't need to buy fancy and expensive art paper to make crafts, such as jewelry, gifts, or party favors. You can use paper you already have in your house — magazines, shopping bags, candy wrappers, paper towel tubes, wallpaper scraps, and more. Online, you'll find more ideas than you can complete in a lifetime. Search for "how to use waste paper creatively," and you will get thousands of results in seconds. For ideas on using magazines and newspaper in everything from home décor to cleaning hacks, check out <https://experthometips.com/2015/07/23/37-new-ways-to-use-old-magazines-and-newspapers>. If you are interested in fun crafts to make with kids, try <https://feltmagnet.com/crafts/best-crafts-using-newspaper>. So, start your "search" engines and get busy!

# Children of the Dump

## *Trading trash for education*

Collection and treatment of waste poses little risk to most of us in the United States. However, many people in developing nations find their health and safety compromised through uncontrolled dumping. Most affected are those who make a living as informal recyclers and others who live at or near the dumps.

According to the International Solid Waste Association (ISWA), roughly 40% of the world's waste is deposited into open dumps. The 50 biggest sites affect the daily lives of 64 million people, mainly in the developing world. Emissions from persistent organic pollutants, heavy metals, and volatile organic compounds pose serious and ongoing health risks. Open burning, animal feeding, and uncontrolled disposal of hazardous and medical waste, as well as manual on-site sorting by informal workers, increase health risks and aggravate negative environmental impacts.

Dumpsites provide a small but steady income to entire families who make a living by scavenging recyclable materials. A typical worker earns one or two dollars a day. They must be ready whenever a truck arrives to handle more waste from which they can pick anything of value. Families build homes from materials at the dump, and entire villages form there.

Photographer Timothy Bouldry has given a voice to the people who make a living scavenging these waste dumps. He spends time living close to the people he photographs, building trust and portraying the human face of this crisis. Children working and playing inside active, filthy dumpsites live with constant danger and face daily risks to their health and well-being. The ISWA Scholarship Programme was created to do something about this by preparing and educating the next generation of youths who would otherwise follow their parents' footsteps into the trash. Initial funding of \$20,000 targeted 40 children who sort garbage in dumpsites known as Nueva Vida and La Chureca in Nicaragua. As Timothy explains about La Chureca, "At one point there were 258 families living there, with seven people in each household — that's around 1,800 residents living on the open dump."

The initial funding was sufficient to provide 40 children with two years of tuition, books, uniforms, transportation, family allowances, administration, and psychological counseling. The family allowances are necessary because in some cases, the child is one of the key people working to provide for the family.

For more information and to see many moving photographs, visit [www.timothybouldry.com/iswa](http://www.timothybouldry.com/iswa) and [www.iswa.org/programmes/iswa-scholarship-programme](http://www.iswa.org/programmes/iswa-scholarship-programme).



### **Meet Roberto and Aracellys**

Roberto is only 11, but he is very aware and serious like an adult. Trash is sorted, weighed, and sold in front of the house where his mother raises her four children alone since the father abandoned the family. Now it's Roberto who earns an income for the family and watches over his sister as they work together in the trash dump of La Chureca. Both children are recent recipients of ISWA Scholarship Programme funds, and they are really excited to begin school. According to photographer Timothy Bouldry, "When I went over the contract with the mother, she could not read, nor spell the names of her children. This too is a common scenario at trash dumps, which supports the importance of education for the coming generation of informal recyclers."



### **Meet Esteysi**

Esteysi is eight years old and works in the trash dump, La Chureca, every day with her mother and her 14-year-old brother. The family works in shifts from morning into the night, risking the dangers of climbing over a wall. The wall was built and the dump is patrolled by police in an attempt to keep people out. Photographer Timothy Bouldry says, "Arrests are made regularly; police have shot at informal recyclers; and people have died during conflicts over whose right it is to be there. The mother explains that there is a lack of jobs, as well as a lack of education in the family, and that all of them need to work together in order to afford their livelihood." The ISWA Scholarship Programme is going to put Esteysi and her brother in a private school.

# Planning at home makes recycling easy

1. Know what you can recycle.
2. Look around your home. How many trash cans do you have? Where are your largest trash cans? Where is most of your trash created? The kitchen, the bathroom, the home office, or the garage? For convenience, place recycling containers where you produce the most trash, since that is probably also where you will have the most recyclables.
3. Make room near your trash cans for recycling “bins.” These might be tote bags, baskets, plastic totes, or boxes. You might even repurpose an unneeded trash can. You don’t need to buy special bins. Be sure that everyone in your home knows which bins are for recycling.
4. When your recycling bins are full, empty the loose recyclables into the recycling cart or bin.



Credit: Minute 1 Stock / Getty Images Plus

An empty basket makes a perfect recycling bin for the bathroom or family room.

## QUOTES REQUOTED



THERE ARE  
THREE THINGS:  
TO WALK, TO SEE,  
AND TO SEE  
WHAT YOU SEE.

BENTON MACKAYE  
1879–1975

# Life is disorganized, but your home doesn't have to be

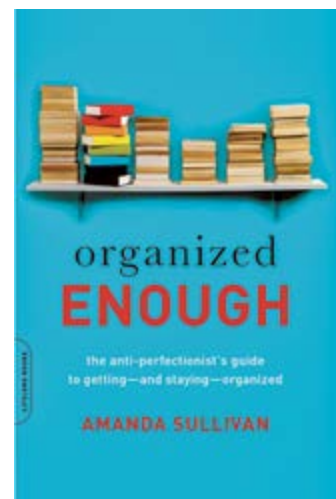
Organization can appear daunting, especially when our lives are lacking it. Its absence takes the form of an overflowing closet or that pile of paper perpetually lying on the desk. Amanda Sullivan recognizes the struggle of keeping a clean living area and explores the numerous ways organization can be achieved. Structured strategies and tips for making your space more livable are presented in her book, *Organized Enough: The Anti-Perfectionist's Guide to Getting — and Staying — Organized* (Da Capo Press).

In a society driven by consumption, many are hesitant to get rid of things. However, rather than solely accumulating possessions, a home should maintain a constant flow of material. Items that go unused or unseen are taking up valuable space. Sullivan progresses through each space of the home, providing clutter-reducing methods along the way. From the kitchen cabinets to the bedroom, she depicts how the concept of FLOW can be used to improve your life. The acronym FLOW stands for, “Forgive yourself. Let stuff go. Organize what’s left. Weed constantly.” By adhering to these principles, a person can begin to overcome disorganization within their space. At first, getting organized may involve purging, which is due to all the time that was previously spent bringing items in without getting rid of any. For instance, it may not be necessary to hold onto every T-shirt since high school in order to maintain a functional wardrobe.

Along with organizing the things in your life, Sullivan highlights the benefits of developing habits for routine household activities. Rather than allowing the pantry to run entirely out of food, she suggests building grocery shopping into your weekly routine. This will give structure to the kitchen, allowing it to maintain a healthy input and output. Habits can be manifested in other aspects of life to help maintain organization within the home, such as having a designated laundry day. Adherence to the schedule allows you to own fewer clothes while always having something clean to wear.

Sullivan discusses the ways in which, once begun, organization can remain when life gets in the way. By creating good systems on the front end, such as having an order in which the mail is opened and bills are paid, you do not have to spend time thinking about what needs to be done. In the absence of this decision-making process, the amount of time spent completing household tasks is reduced. Structuring time each evening where 10 minutes is devoted to tidying up any clutter or piles that have been strewn across the living room can be a valuable habit in maintaining an organized environment. Being mindful of how you handle organization can benefit you in setting up schedules that work in your life.

The insight provided by Sullivan in *Organized Enough* can help turn a messy space into a home. By incorporating the concept of FLOW and building habits and systems into your life, the goal of becoming and staying organized is achievable.





## Are ink cartridges on their way out?

Do you have a printer? If so, you know that ink isn't cheap. New inkjet cartridges can range from \$10 to \$40 each, depending on the make and model of your printer. Of course, the number of printed pages you'll get from those cartridges varies widely. Manufacturers keep the upfront price of their printers low, often under \$100, and make most of their profits from selling inkjet cartridges. Although this can be frustrating, these printers provide low-maintenance, high-quality printing for small businesses and in-home use.

Generally, users who print more pages per month have leaned toward laser printers which use toner cartridges. Toner cartridges alone can cost well over \$100 but produce many times the number of printed pages as an inkjet cartridge.

As disposable products, both laser toner and inkjet cartridges are not ideal from an environmental perspective. However, both are easy to recycle through printer manufacturers, office supply stores, or cartridge remanufacturers, many of which buy empties from organizations and businesses.

Consumers now have a third option which results in far less waste. Both Epson and Canon make inkjet printers that utilize refillable ink reservoirs. Canon markets this feature as "Mega Tank," while Epson's goes by "Eco Tank." While these printers sell for \$300–\$500, a \$12 bottle of ink can replace about 30 inkjet cartridges. Consumer Reports states that these models "offer a much better return on investment than regular inkjet printers. The typical user (roughly 35 pages per month) starts saving money after about two years of use — and after two-and-a-half years, they're cheaper to own and operate than every printer in our ratings."

### Not recycling cartridges? ***Start now!***

- You can recycle cartridges with the manufacturer. Information on how to recycle is typically included with the new cartridge and is also available online.
- Office supply stores accept cartridges for recycling. Many of these stores give you a credit (or rewards dollars) for your empty cartridges.
- Many organizations recycle cartridges as a fundraiser. Check with organizations that you and your family like to support to see whether they currently accept cartridges for recycling.
- Cartridge remanufacturers will accept your used cartridges. Once collected, some cartridges will be cleaned, inspected, refilled, and resold. Other cartridges are used for parts. The remainder are recycled or disposed.
- When you purchase new ink or toner, consider buying remanufactured cartridges. When you do, you will save money on ink and toner and support a closed-loop recycling system!



# What happens to cans?



Creating new aluminum cans from old ones uses 95% less energy than making them from ore.

Make a resolution this year to recycle all of your beverage cans. By putting your beverage cans into the recycling cart, you give them new life. Aluminum can be recycled repeatedly without any loss of its original properties. So the soda can you drop into the recycling cart today may become a new can, an electrical cable, or even a bicycle tomorrow.

Over 75% of the 800 million metric tons of aluminum manufactured since production began in the 1800s is still in circulation. About 32% of it is contained in aluminum siding, gutters, and other construction materials, about 28% can be found in machinery, and another 28% is used in transportation products, such as airplanes, automobiles, boats, ships, and trains. The Ford F-150 light truck now has an all-aluminum body and many luxury cars use aluminum in both the frame and body thanks to its strength and environmental advantages.

While aluminum ends up in all of these products, let's trace back the path of an aluminum beverage can. Ultimately, cans are recycled and returned to store shelves as new cans in as few as 60 days, which means you could purchase separate cans made from the same recycled aluminum six times per year!

First, aluminum beverage cans are collected curbside from homes, as well as from recycling bins in workplaces, schools, and public spaces. They are also collected at recycling drop-off centers and scrap metal yards.

After collection, cans are separated from other recyclables at a material recovery facility (MRF). As material moves along the conveyor belt at the MRF, aluminum cans are pushed away by a reverse magnet called an eddy current, which sends the cans into a holding bin. The cans are then crushed, baled, and shipped to a processor.

At the processing center, bales are broken down and the crushed cans are shredded into pieces about the size of a walnut. The shreds, which move along another conveyor belt, are screened to remove any non-aluminum materials and then passed through hot air to remove paint. The aluminum shreds are fed into a furnace where they are converted into molten metal and poured into a mold. Once cooled, this new ingot of aluminum weighs 36,000 pounds. It takes 1.5 million cans to produce each ingot!

The ingot of aluminum is heated just enough so it can be rolled into a coil. The finished coil is approximately 9 miles in length! Coiled aluminum is then shipped to can manufacturers who use this coil to make new cans and lids.

Finally, those cans are filled and returned to store shelves, where the process begins again.



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***We want your suggestions, questions and comments!***

We are also available to speak to your club or organization about solid waste, waste reduction, recycling and composting.

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