

decatour county
RECYCLING



SUMMER 2021
NEWSLETTER

SUMMER = BBQ

Let's consider some ways to REDUCE our waste as we enjoy cooking and outdoor activities this season.



WE HAVE A SUMMER FULL OF HOLIDAYS
MAY 31ST, MEMORIAL DAY
JULY 4TH, INDEPENDENCE DAY
SEPTEMBER 6TH, LABOR DAY



Crush cans and squash bottles before you put them into your recycling bin. This will significantly increase the amount of space available in your recycling bin.

Have a few smaller tubs or receptacles (labeled boxes) around your BBQ area where your guests can dispose of their bottles and cans. If you make it easy then people will happily do this. It will also save you the clean-up operation the next day!

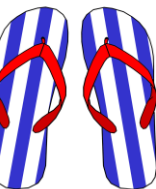
Before you go shopping for food, work out how many **people you need to cater for** and write a list to avoid over purchasing and wasting food.

The meat purchased in a grocery store is packaged on plastic trays. These trays may now be recyclable, but it's still better to avoid the packaging if you can. Why not **buy meat from the local butcher?** They can put it altogether in bulk hence saving on the packaging.

Avoid using disposable plates and cutlery. Instead invest in some nice plastic ones that can be reused. This not only stops the unnecessary contribution to landfill but will also save you money in the long run.

Store any left over food in reusable containers and enjoy for lunch the next day.

Compost food scraps or use a worm farm.



Tips from Recycle Ann Arbor, Dexter, MI

Beyond reducing material waste, you can practice reducing other wastes as well this summer.

- Capture rainwater to water your plants.
- Take cooler showers.
- Walk and bike to your destinations.
- Draw the blinds during the hottest part of the day to reduce heating up your home.
- Turn off lights and other electronics as much as possible since they emit heat.
- Switch to LED bulbs indoors - they use less energy and release half as much heat into the surrounding environment as compared to incandescent bulbs!

We hope these low-waste summer tips have motivated you to keep the environment in mind throughout your summer activities! Remember that if you're just getting started on your low-waste journey these changes will take time. Start off with one or two things that work for you and next summer implement a few more. We hope you have a happy, safe, and sustainable summer!

It's Plastic Free July!

Plastic Free July is a global campaign to motivate and encourage individuals, businesses, and whole communities to reduce single-use plastic.

When you sign up for the Plastic Free July challenge, it doesn't mean you'll go completely plastic-free during July - it means you'll pick an individual challenge that works for you. Whether you are just beginning to think about reducing single-use plastics or you are ready to approach your local government about taking action - the Plastic Free July campaign has resources for you! They also share success stories and tips from people around the world who are participating in the challenge.

Check out plasticfreejuly.org to sign up and join millions of others around the world who are working to reduce single-use plastic!



POLYWOOD
All Weather Furnishings



**DON'T FORGET TO STOP BY WTRE RADIO'S BOOTH AND
ENTER TO WIN A SET OF ADIRONDACK CHAIRS FROM
DECATUR COUNTY RECYCLING! MADE RIGHT HERE IN
INDIANA FROM RECYCLED MILK JUGS (Polywood)
PURCHASED FROM VINYL SOLUTIONS**

- UPCOMING EVENTS

- DECATUR COUNTY FAIR – JULY 8TH – JULY 15TH
 - Be sure to enter to win our Adirondack Chair Set at WTRE's Booth.
- AUGUST 7TH ELECTRONICS RECYCLING AND SHREDDING
DECATUR COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS 9:00 AM TO 11:00 AM

WATCH FOR DETAILS ABOUT OUR FALL HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS
COLLECTION

TOX – A – WAY DAY

IN SEPTEMBER AT THE FAIRGROUNDS!

ENJOY YOUR SUMMER!

