



An Independent Affiliate of PA CleanWays, Inc.

By the Way

www.westmorelandcleanways.org

Helping people make a difference in Westmoreland County

Fall 2008

Single Stream Recycling Becomes A Reality

One of the more frustrating aspects of this job has been responding to the increasing demand for recycling ... of all materials and from all segments of the community—but not having suitable options available to meet that demand. Every day we receive dozens of calls about recycling paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, electronics, yard waste, and more. While many residents have access to curbside recycling because they live in a mandated municipality, many others do not. Further, curbside programs are often limited in the type of material that is collected. Curbside programs are also limited to houses, which leaves apartment dwellers and small businesses with no reasonable recycling options.

Just one short year ago, we weren't able to answer the demand. While we gladly referred callers to the various drop-off centers around the area, there just weren't enough sites taking all of the material people were clamoring to recycle. Even the information in our 2008 Recycling Guide, updated and published in April, did not satisfy people's demand for more recycling.

Never ones to shy away from a challenge, we began a quest to bring expanded recycling opportunities to Westmoreland County. We called upon our good friends at Recycle Management LLC, now part of the Greenstar North America network of material recovery facilities (MRFs), to discuss some ideas. The stars aligned above us, and they shone Green.

After what seemed like an eternity of planning, and having to keep mum until all the pieces were in place, we announced that single stream recycling was coming to Westmoreland County. (See articles on P. 3 for more information on what single stream recycling is and what materials can be recycled.) Our municipal partners enthusiastically embraced the opportunity to provide additional recycling for their residents, and readily agreed to go with the program. Word leaked out to the public as municipal officials discussed the program at their monthly meetings. Members of the press picked up on the concept, called our office for more details, and wrote newspaper articles about single stream recycling.

With such an overwhelming response, there was no turning back. Plans were put on the fast track to kick off the program as quickly as possible, while ensuring the quality of service we would provide. Beginning in July, new Single Stream Recycling bins were delivered to 40



Left: Example of automated sort line found in state-of-the-art single stream material recovery facility (MRF)

municipal locations, 17 schools, and 16 businesses throughout the county.

The new Westmoreland Cleanways Single Stream Recycling Drop-off Program is a partnership with Greenstar Recycle Management LLC of Neville Island and Waste Management North Huntingdon Hauling District. Westmoreland Cleanways

manages the program, Waste Management provides the bins and collection service, and Greenstar Recycle Management LLC receives, processes and markets the material. Westmoreland County residents, through Westmoreland Cleanways, are very fortunate to have partners like Greenstar Recycle Management LLC and Waste Management North Huntingdon who worked diligently to make this single stream recycling program a reality.

Single Stream Recycling drop-off sites are listed at www.westmorelandcleanways.org. Most of the municipalities that hosted paper recycling bins upgraded to the single stream program. Additional sites have already been added, including:

- * Allegheny Township Municipal Building
- * Arnold Palmer Regional Airport near Park N Ride lot in Unity Township
- * Hempfield Park in Hempfield Township
- * New Stanton Borough at the municipal building
- * Southwest Greensburg Borough at the fire department and municipal garage.
- * Tarentum Borough—Dreshar Stadium
- * Westmoreland County Community College, Parking Lot B and Parking Lot E

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E-Waste Recycling Gets a Boost



Flushed with the success of our **Electronics Recycling** Collection with the Roaring Run Watershed

Association in Allegheny Township on May 24, in which almost 3,000 lbs. of e-waste was collected, we were anxious to bring more e-waste recycling opportunities to Westmoreland County. Our good friends at Scott Electric were not in a position to provide the service at our regularly scheduled collections at



Recycling Program Updates

In addition to Westmoreland Cleanways' programs, other municipalities have expanded recycling drop-off services in their communities. Following are some additional programs that did not make it into our 2008 Recycling Guide or that you may have missed:

- ◆ Mon Valley Refuse Disposal Authority-sponsored drop-off sites
 - ◇ Monessen: Parente Boulevard next to Monessen City Garage
Newsprint, magazines, catalogs and cardboard
 - ◇ North Belle Vernon Borough:
 - * St. Sebastian Church Parking Lot
Newsprint, magazines, catalogs
 - * Belle Vernon Musical Society Club Parking Lot
Cardboard ONLY
- ◆ Mount Pleasant Borough (with Allied Waste Services of Scottdale)
 - ◇ North Church Street adjacent to the N&N Store
 - ◇ Borough Maintenance Facility, Kennedy & North Depot Street
 - ◇ Willows Park
 - ◇ Municipal Building Parking Lot, Etze Avenue
 - * Acceptable Material: Paper (Newsprint, office paper, magazines, shredded paper, mail inserts), corrugated cardboard, #1 through #5 plastic containers, glass, aluminum and bimetal cans.
 - * Unacceptable Material: Styrofoam, food wrappers, cereal boxes, food waste, plastic toys, metal or plastic coat hangers, #6 and #7 plastic.
 - * **FOR RESIDENTIAL USE ONLY—NO COMMERCIAL RECYCLING—PLEASE!**

other times of the year.

Serendipity played a role in solving that problem, when Ned Eldridge, president of eLoop llc in Murrysville, called Westmoreland Cleanways to offer his company's services. eLoop llc is dedicated to the collection of electronics within communities across the region. eLoop assures that the material is not exported or placed in a landfill. Their complete recycling system turns end of life electronics back into commodity grade materials like metal, glass and plastics.

Ned offered to provide his services at our community collection events, and we readily agreed. Ned and his eLoop crew participated in our Tire/Battery/Appliance Collection held on June 7 in Murrysville. Participants properly recycled 234 pieces of electronics including computer components, CRTs, television sets, and more.

Westmoreland Cleanways is pleased to add eLoop llc to our family of vendors offering valuable recycling services to residents. Look for eLoop at the Westmoreland Fairgrounds collection on September 13 and at the Bushy Run Lions Building in Claridge on October 4.

Other vendors offering recycling services at those collections will be:

Dan's Tire: Passenger/lite truck tires \$1.75 off rim/ \$2.75 on rim; additional charge for larger tires. Vehicle batteries NO CHARGE

Appliance Warehouse: \$20 for any freon appliance

Salandro's Refuse, Inc.: scrap metal NO CHARGE

eLoop llc: Ewaste recycling; fees apply. Call 724-836-4129 for details.

We also accept household batteries, cell phones, and CFL bulbs at all collections.

What Exactly Is Single Stream Recycling?

Our partner, Greenstar Recycle Management LLC, operates a state-of-the-art single stream recycling processing plant on Neville Island in Pittsburgh, and services almost all of Western Pennsylvania. The plant is capable of processing 20,000 TONS of recyclables each month.

Single Stream recycling incorporates the latest recycling processing technology to make it possible to collect all kinds of recyclable at one time, mixed together. The material can then be taken to a single stream material recovery facility, or MRF (pronounced MURF), where it is sorted optically and mechanically into individual commodities.

Single stream recycling affords many advantages, some obvious and some not-so-obvious. Significantly higher volumes of material are collected because it is so easy and convenient for the public to use. Collection costs are lower because only one truck is needed to collect everything. Processors achieve a much cleaner end product, making it more valuable to the end-user. The processor can also collect enough of the less common items to make them worth collecting.

Manufacturers are more willing to adapt their manufacturing processes to use recyclables because they can be assured of a steady supply of material. After all, if it doesn't get to an end user, it can't be considered recycled. And that's the bottom line.



What Material Can Be Recycled?

The following material can now be recycled at any Westmoreland Cleanways Single Stream Recycling Drop-off Bin:

- * Corrugated cardboard (flattened, please)
- * Chipboard (cereal boxes, the "gray" stuff)
- * Newspaper (including shiny inserts)
- * Magazines/Catalogs
- * Office paper / Shredded paper (leave in bags)
- * Junk mail and other office waste
- * Telephone books / softback books / hardback books with covers removed
- * Aluminum cans / Bimetal (steel or tin) cans
- * Plastics #1 through# 7*. Look for the resin code in the recycling triangle somewhere on the container.

Quick Facts

- * NO GLASS—it contaminates single stream material
- * *Signs on the bins say Plastics #1 and #2. We expanded the list of items after the signs were printed!!!
- * Items do not have to be sorted or removed from bags before depositing into bins
- * Staples, paperclips, and wire bindings do not have to be removed from paper.
- * Please rinse food containers to deter insects and vermin

WESTMORELAND CLEANWAYS QUARTERLY CALENDAR FALL 2008

SEPTEMBER

- 6 "Talkin Trash" with 1480 WCNS Radio
8:30 a.m.
- 6 Backyard Composting Workshop
Donohoe Center, Greensburg
9 a.m.—Noon
- 11 Westmoreland Cleanways Annual Meeting 6 p.m.
- 11 Westmoreland Cleanways Monthly Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- 13 Tire/Battery/Appliance/Electronics Collection
Westmoreland Fairgrounds
8:30 a.m.—Noon

OCTOBER

- 4 "Talkin Trash" with 1480 WCNS Radio
8:30 a.m.
- 4 Tire/Battery/Appliance/Electronics Collection
Bushy Run Lions Bldg./Claridge
8:30 a.m.—Noon
- 9 Westmoreland Cleanways Monthly Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- 11 Backyard Composting Workshop
Donohoe Center, Greensburg
9 a.m.—Noon
- 11 Household Hazardous Waste Collection
Westmoreland Fairgrounds
9 a.m.—2 p.m.
- 18 Backyard Composting Workshop
Oak Hollow Park, North Huntingdon
9 a.m.—Noon
- 22 Backyard Composting Workshop
Winnie Palmer Nature Reserve, Latrobe
6 p.m.—8 p.m.

NOVEMBER

- 1 "Talkin Trash" with 1480 WCNS Radio
8:30 a.m.
- 13 Westmoreland Cleanways Monthly Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- 15 America Recycles Day

DECEMBER

- 5 Westmoreland Cleanways Appreciation Dinner
Ferranti's Lakeview Restaurant, Greensburg
6:00 p.m.
- 6 "Talkin Trash" with 1480 WCNS Radio
8:30 a.m.

Call our office for details on any event
724-836-4129

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What We're All About

Westmoreland Cleanways is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to protect, restore and maintain the environmental qualities of our county for the benefit of all who live, work, and visit herein. Westmoreland Cleanways accomplishes its mission by sponsoring and promoting programs that address the proper disposal of solid waste through recycling, special collections, and the cleanup of illegal dumpsites and littered areas. We educate the public through presentations, print media and the web.

Westmoreland Cleanways initiates and facilitates programs by bringing together a network of volunteers, industry leaders, and state and local government representatives to provide services in the most efficient and economical manner. We are funded by the county commissioners, member fees, private donations, sponsorships and grants. Volunteers donate time, energy and expertise to carry out our mission.

Volunteers and new members are always welcome. Won't you call our office, visit us on the web, or attend a meeting to learn more about how you can be a part of Westmoreland Cleanways?

~ MEETING NOTICE ~

Regular meetings are held at 6:30 PM in the Westmoreland Conservation District Barn, 218 Donohoe Road, Greensburg, on the second Thursday of every month (except July & December). Call 724-836-4129 for information. Everyone is welcome.



We hope you enjoyed our newsletter. To support our activities, please become a member. Return this coupon and your payment to Westmoreland Cleanways, 226 Donohoe Road, Suite 101, Greensburg, PA 15601-7470.

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Individual \$5 Lifetime Individual \$100

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Additional contributions are greatly appreciated.

Memberships and contributions are tax deductible, as defined by law

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