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November 2014 Newsletter



2014 Sustainable Business Award Winners

WasteCap Nebraska presented the 2014 Sustainable Business Awards winners during their annual Sustainability Summit held October 28th & 29th at Embassy Suites. Six Nebraska businesses received awards for their innovative "triple bottom line" initiatives, along with five honorable mentions.



We congratulate the following 2014 Sustainable Business Award recipients for their accomplishments:

- **Green Team of the Year Award** was presented to LiveGreen, Nebraska Medicine and the University of Nebraska Medical Center.
- **Service Provider of the Year Award** was presented to Verdis Group.
- **Sustainable Business of the Year Award** was presented to Becton Dickenson & Company.
- **Commonwealth Award** was presented to Arbor Day Foundation.
- **Zero Waste Award** was presented to Goodwill Industries Serving Southeast Nebraska, Inc.
- **Member of the Year Award** was presented to Prairieland Dairy.

Central Community College, Frito Lay, Kaplan University, Sadoff Iron & Metal and Union Pacific Railroad all received honorable mentions.



Landfills are Not a Long Term Solution to Waste

On average, each American throws away 4.3 lbs. of stuff daily. But where is *away*? The garbage trucks haul our trash to a local landfill to be buried. But it doesn't just disappear. Rather, your stuff becomes

1. A Dangerous Greenhouse gas
2. Toxic Leachate or "garbage Juice" that can leak into groundwater
3. Part of a Money Sink Hole & Resource Wasteland

Landfills are one of the largest sources of manmade methane. Methane is a powerful greenhouse gas that traps 73 times more heat than CO₂ in a 20 year period. Cutting methane can reduce climate effects faster than reducing CO₂. Methane is formed when organic materials like food and paper decompose without oxygen, which is what happens in a landfill.

Landfills are lined with plastic to make a "dry tomb". When the plastic liners tear or degrade, polluted water can leach into the groundwater. This leachate can contain household chemicals, pesticides, prescription drugs and plastic particles. Cleaning this up is costly if not impossible and can have serious health, economic and environmental impacts.

Not only do landfills threaten our health and environment, but they contain valuable materials that could contribute to our economy. Nebraskans bury over \$137 million dollars-worth of refuse every year that could easily be recycled and support job creation. Recycling your discards creates over 10 times more jobs than throwing them in the garbage. Robust recycling systems are a vital part of the Zero Waste strategy.

Do your part to keep your stuff out of the landfill. "Reduce, reuse and recycle" continues to be the motto with one new addition....COMPOST!

To learn more, and to see additional Zero Waste Spotlights visit www.wastecapne.org.
For technical details on landfills go to www.gfredlee.com.

FREE Construction & Demolition Waste Recycling Online Course

December 2nd & 9th, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

WasteCap Nebraska in cooperation with WasteCap Resource Solutions is sponsoring a two-day webinar training course for Construction and Demolition Waste Recycling. The sessions will be held on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 from 10am - 2pm and Tuesday, December 9, 2014 from 10am - 2pm. Participants will learn how to develop, manage, monitor, document and promote a successful recycling program for construction and demolition debris.



Participants will receive: three year Accreditation in Construction Waste Recycling. LEED AP's and Green Associates are eligible for 7.5 CEUs through GBCI. Architects are eligible for 7.5 Learning

units through AIA.

This event is partially funded by a grant from Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant, Ayars & Ayars Inc. and USGBC which enables WasteCap to offer this to participants at no charge.

To register: <http://www.wastecapne.org/construction-demolition-waste-recycling-online-course/>

December Green Team Roundtable: Hosted by Bosch Security Systems Inc.

Wednesday, December 10, 2014

Bosch Security Systems, Inc.'s Health, Safety, and Environmental Manager, Wanda Blasnitz, will present information on the facility's Zero Waste to Landfill initiative during WasteCap Nebraska's Green Roundtable on December 10th. In addition, Jacob Hickey of Prairieland Dairy in Firth, Nebraska, will



BOSCH
Invented for life

discuss Prairieland Dairy's composting partnership with Bosch, which initially has reduced 30 percent of Bosch's landfill waste from their Lincoln, Nebr. facility located at 8601 Cornhusker Hwy. The lunch hour meeting will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Cost is \$10 or \$8 for WasteCap Nebraska members. Register online at <http://www.wastecapne.org/december-10-green-team-roundtable/>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nebraska State-Wide Recycling Study Results

Wednesday, November 12, 2014, 1-4 p.m., Norfolk Arts Center, 305 North 5th Street, Norfolk, NE

Thursday, November 13, 2014, 1-4 p.m., Omaha Public Library - Abrahams Branch, 5111 North 90th Street, Omaha, NE

Scrap Metal Recycling Drive to Support LPS

Drive runs the entire month of November at Sadoff Iron and Metal Company and Alter Metal Recycling. For details visit

<https://lincoln.ne.gov/city/pworks/waste/sldwaste/recycle/ard/drive.htm>

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

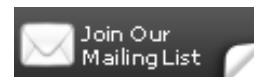
Friday, November 14, 2014, by appointment only. Call 402-441-8021 to schedule.

Wood Waste Collection

Friday, November 14, 2014, Hofeling Enterprises, 2200 Folsom Court, Lincoln, NE, 7:30 am - 5 pm.
Free to bring unpainted wood, pallets, etc. No yard waste or treated lumber will be accepted.



WasteCap Nebraska
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