

Town of New Holstein

2023 Fall Recycling Newsletter

The Town of New Holstein will be holding our annual large item drop off at the following:

Location: Town of New Holstein Town Hall and Garage; 1465 Tecumseh Rd.
Date: October 14, 2023
Time: 10:00 AM to 12:00 noon

This drop off is a service for the residents of the Town of New Holstein only. Please be prepared to show proof of residency. Our town employee, Bob Pendleton, will be at the drop off site to aid in unloading your items. Any goods with Freon will not be accepted unless properly tagged. Tires and electronics will also not be accepted.

So many decisions we make in our everyday lives have a major impact on the planet. The average American produces about 4.4 pounds of trash per day. Here are some tips for ways you can make small changes that are eco-friendly and will have a lasting effect on the environment.

- 1. Use a reusable bottle/cup for beverages on- the-go.** You might already have a reusable water bottle, but do you use it all the time: You can put that reusable bottle to use, save money and reduce waste. By taking your own water with you, you'll also reduce your chances of purchasing more expensive beverages on-the-go. This will eliminate the one-time use containers they come in. While most cans and bottles can be recycled, they require a lot of energy to be produced, shipped to the bottling facility and then to the store for purchase.
- 2. Use reusable grocery bags, and not just for groceries.** Just like a reusable water bottle, you may already have a reusable grocery bag, though it's often forgotten at home. Try writing BAGS on the top of your grocery list to help you remember, or keep them in the back seat where they aren't as easy to forget.
- 3. Purchase wisely and recycle.** You can reduce the amount of waste you produce by purchasing products that come with less packaging and/or come in packaging that can be recycled. "Containers labeled with a 1 or a 2 are almost always accepted because they are the greatest value resins."
- 4. Compost it!** Did you know as much as 25% of the items in your trash could potentially be removed from the waste stream and composted in your backyard? Your fruit and vegetable scrapes, egg shells, coffee grounds, grass clippings and leaves can all be composted. While composting requires more effort than the previously mentioned lifestyle changes, it will provide you with a beneficial return on your investment of time and effort.
- 5. Avoid single-use food and drink containers and utensils.** Whenever possible, try to avoid single-use coffee cups, disposable utensils, straws and napkins.
- 6. Buy secondhand items and donate used goods.** Before you go buy something new, consider buying it used which can also save you lots of money. By purchasing secondhand items you'll be supporting local charities in addition to saving items from ending up in the dump.
- 7. Shop local farmers markets and buy in bulk to reduce packaging.** Shopping at your local farmers market is a win-win. First, you'll be supporting local farmers while also getting fresher ingredients than you might find in the grocery store. You can also majorly reduce packaging waste by shopping at stores that sell food in bulk. Come prepared with your own containers.
- 8. Curb your use of paper: mail, receipts, magazines.** In today's digital world, most companies offer bills by email, and some even offer incentives to do so. More stores are offering e-receipts, too, which are great because they're harder to lose if you need to make a return. Consider digital subscriptions for your favorite magazines and/or newspapers that you can read on your tablet or computer.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jo Muellenbach