

MEDIA CONTACTS

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FAYETTE COUNTY INCREASES RECYCLING EFFORTS

Uniontown, PA – Fayette County will host its 26th annual Spring Hard-to-Recycle event 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 5 at the Fayette County Fairgrounds.

The event is organized in cooperation with the Fayette County Office of Recycling and Solid Waste, PA Cleanways, Special T Metals LLC, Dan's Tires, Lynn Capan and the Goodwill Recycling Center.

Fayette County Commissioner Vincent Vicites started the Hard-to-Recycle event in 1992, while serving as county recycling coordinator. He said the event has collected "tons and tons" of items over the past 25 years.

"As a result of the years of collection of the hard-to-recycle items, we have been able to clean up our county and go a long way in preventing illegal dumping," Vicites said. "I am very encouraged by the amount of Fayette County residents that participate in the events at the fairgrounds."

Unused electronics, appliances, scrap metal and passenger/light truck tires will be collected at the fairgrounds. In a coordinated effort, Goodwill Recycling Center will collect used kerosene and motor, hydraulic, fuel and transmission oils from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. that same day.

Paint, household chemicals and pharmaceuticals will not be accepted. Disposal fees are \$2 per appliance or tire. There is no charge for televisions or electronics.

Fayette County Commissioner Angela Zimmerlink said that because recycling saves energy, conserves resources, protects the environment and reduces landfills, the annual event is a "no-brainer."

She said the county hopes to plan additional hard-to-recycle events at various venues to accommodate all residents.

"We all must do our part and not only understand the benefits of recycling but, more importantly, understand that failure to recycle will only put our county in a much worse condition," Zimmerlink said.



Fayette County Commissioner David Lohr said he believes the event helps keep the things weekly collection services won't pick up from ending up "over the hillsides."

"When you drive through the beautiful wooded areas of the county, many times you drive up on TVs, computer monitors, et cetera," Lohr said. "I hope people would not be so self-centered and they would take advantage of recycling."

The Fayette County Fairgrounds is located at 132 Pechin Road, Dunbar, PA 15431. Goodwill Recycling Center is located at 105 Romeo Lane, Uniontown, PA 15401.

The recycling efforts are part of multiple ongoing initiatives to beautify Fayette County.

During a March commissioners meeting, Zimmerlink announced that the county has been awarded a 2018 Dr. Pepper Snapple/Keep America Beautiful Public Space Recycling Grant.

Through the grant, 24 recycling bins will be delivered in May and placed in each of the three county parks and the Fayette County Fairgrounds.

Vicites said the grant will help the county maximize its recycling efforts in its public parks, which will help increase recycling tonnages countywide.

"As a former recycling coordinator, I understand how important it is to increase our recycling efforts in the county," Vicites said. "We need to fast track the implementation of the bins in the parks to capture these additional recyclables, and the grant award will be a big help."

Lohr commended recycling coordinator Sheila Shea for obtaining the grant. He said she has great ideas and "a good handle on" the recycling initiative.

"I was very pleased that Dr. Pepper's program provided us with recycling containers for our three county parks and the county fairgrounds," Zimmerlink said. "I urge everyone to dispose of their cans, bottles and plastics so that we all can be environmentally responsible and stimulate our economy and do so very easily, because all you need to do is put it in the recycling bin rather than the garbage can."

For additional information on the Dr. Pepper Snapple/Keep America Beautiful grants, visit www.kab.org.

For additional information on the Spring Hard-to-Recycle event, contact recycling coordinator Sheila Shea at 724-430-1210, ext. 4307, or sshea@fayettepa.org.

To learn more about Fayette County, visit www.fayettecountypa.info.

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