



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 22, 2019

EARTH DAY EVENTS WIDESPREAD IN FAYETTE COUNTY

Uniontown, PA – Spring has sprung in Fayette County, and with it comes opportunities for citizens to “redd up” their communities.

In honor of Earth Day (April 22) and the nationwide Great American Cleanup, Fayette County officials will host a cleanup event beginning 10 a.m. April 23.

Fayette County recycling coordinator and stormwater manager Sheila Shea said volunteers are asked to meet in front of City Hall in Uniontown for their assignments, which will include working alongside county officials to pick up trash downtown and along the Redstone Creek.

Crews will work along Penn and Locust Streets and Gallatin Avenue, as well as the portion of the creek which runs behind the Fayette County Courthouse, Shea added.

On April 27, cleanup efforts will continue as the county hosts the first of its annual Hard-to-Recycle events from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Fayette County Fairgrounds.

Fayette County has partnered with local municipalities and PA Cleanways for the series.

Large and small appliances; tires (passenger or light truck, off rim); and scrap metal will be accepted for \$2 per item. On-rim tires will be accepted for \$3 each.

Computer towers and monitors; laptops; computer accessories and printers will be accepted free of charge. Televisions will also be accepted for free, but at a limit of two per vehicle.

No paint, fluorescent bulbs, batteries, used motor oil or other hazardous materials will be accepted. Fayette County will conduct its annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day June 22 at the fairgrounds.

Additional Hard-to-Recycle events will take place May 11 at Brownsville Drive-in; June 1 in Uniontown; June 8 in Fairchance; and Sept. 21 at the Farmington Volunteer Fire Department fairgrounds.

For citizens who cannot attend the various events, Shea said there are plenty of other ways to get involved this Earth Day, including analyzing your personal impact on the planet.

“As you start to consider Earth Day activities for work or at home, start by taking a long, hard look at your current energy usage,” Shea said. “There may be some simple ways that you can create a more sustainable lifestyle.”

Shea also suggested becoming an advocate by voicing your support for environmental causes to your local legislators; volunteering at a local, eco-friendly charity; planting trees to create new habitats for wildlife, help clean the air and replace resources; starting a garden; doing some in-home spring cleaning; “going dark” for a day by unplugging from electronics and all non-essential appliances; switching to LED or CFL light bulbs to reduce energy usage; helping reduce your company’s carbon footprint by developing a company initiative; educating yourself on environmental issues; switching some energy sources to solar power; organizing a carpool to reduce vehicle emissions; cutting back on plastics; challenging your friends to get more people involved; or by signing up for various classes.

“There are lots of local Earth Day Activities for adults that feature classes on recycling, gardening, composting and more,” Shea said. “Check with local environmental organizations to see what is available in your area.”

In Fayette County, the Penn State Extension office is continuing its agriculture awareness initiatives through multiple classes and demonstrations with its master gardeners.

Interim Area Master Gardener Coordinator Valerie Sesler said vegetable garden demonstrations are planned for upcoming dates at Cameron Park in Connellsville.

“We were approached by the Connellsville Garden Club about installing three examples of raised-bed gardening,” Sesler said. “Along with the gardens, we will be working with the Carnegie Free Library to deliver programming throughout the summer incorporating these demo gardens.”

Additionally, a rain demonstration garden will be restored in Ohiopyle. Sesler said the garden was installed several years ago, but has become “badly neglected.”

“As a master gardener class project for this year, we will revamp that garden and use it to demonstrate how a rain garden should function, what plants to use and how to maintain it,” she said.

For more information on the upcoming master gardener classes and demonstrations, visit www.extension.psu.edu.

For more information about upcoming Hard-to-Recycle events, call 724-430-4884.

To learn more about Fayette County, visit www.FayetteCountyPA.org.

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This communication is part of the Fayette County PR Initiative, which is funded through the 2016 Fayette County Local Share Account (LSA) in cooperation with the Fayette County Board of Commissioners, Fayette Chamber of Commerce, The Redevelopment Authority of the County of Fayette, The Redstone Foundation and other partners. This funding has been designated for the continued promotion and marketing of Fayette County, PA.

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