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RECYCLING PROGRAM ANNOUNCES EARTH WEEK EVENTS

Uniontown, PA – New offerings and community favorites will combine for an eventful Earth Week of programming at the Fayette County Recycling Convenience Center.

Observed April 21 to 27, 2024, Earth Week is an international celebration of the modern environmental movement to save our Earth from pollution, global warming and other climate crises. Earth Day, observed every April 22, is the United States' biggest day for community cleanups, reforestation efforts, recycling initiatives and more.

Keep Fayette County Green, the county's local Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Affiliate and county-based recycling program, marks each Earth Week with special events designed to educate residents and support local causes.

"Earth Day is our favorite holiday, because we have the chance to reach more people who may not know about our services and encourage them to engage with the organizations who support our mission to keep Fayette County green," Fayette County Recycling Coordinator/Stormwater Manager Sheila Shea said. "We've partnered with some great people to offer new events for Earth Week, all culminating in our annual Spring Cleaning Hard-to-Recycle Day."

While Shea's facility accepts hard-to-recycle and specialty items all year long, the Spring Cleaning Hard-to-Recycle Day event offers more collection options than what are typically offered, Shea added.

"It's a chance for us to remind residents that they don't have to wait for special events to bring us their electronics and tires," Shea said. "It also catches residents at a time when household spring cleaning and community cleanups yield more unwanted stuff than the rest of the year. If we can prevent one old television or one bag of litter from ending up along our roads and waterways, or ending up in a landfill, we're doing our part to protect our earth."

The 2024 Keep Fayette County Green Earth Week schedule is, as follows:

- April 22 Sadie Saves the "Earth Day" 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Join Fayette County's newest
 Recycling Ranger Sadie Hixenbaugh, 10, of Masontown Elementary, as she takes on the NexTrex
 Recycling Challenge. All plastic bags and other film plastics collected on Earth Day will help Sadie
 achieve her goal of earning a "buddy bench" for her school's Peer Buddies Program. For a list of
 acceptable plastics, visit www.nextrex.com/view/recyclingchallenge.
- April 24 Lions Club Day at the Recycling Center noon to 4 p.m.; Hosted in partnership with the Uniontown Lions Club, this special Earth Week event will feature collection of used eyeglasses and hearing aids for recycling, vision screenings, brooms and bags for sale, Lions Club

- education and more. The first 100 guests will receive free hand sanitizer, courtesy of the Uniontown Lions Club.
- April 25 Compost Workshop; Hosted in partnership with the Pennsylvania Resources Council, this workshop is designed to help attendees start their own backyard composting projects.
 Registration is required and availability is extremely limited. Email emilys@prc.org for more information or to join the waitlist for future programming.
- April 26 Inaugural Shredding Event 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Hosted in partnership with state Rep. Charity Grimm Krupa's office, this event launches the recycling center's document-shredding program using its new industrial shredder. All binders, binder clips, paperclips and plastic folders must be removed from shred materials. Call 724-438-6100 for more information.
- April 27 Spring Cleaning Hard-to-Recycle Day 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; This annual event allows
 residents to recycle electronics; appliances, scrap metals and other white goods; furniture,
 mattresses and box springs; passenger and light truck tires (on and off the rim); fluorescent
 bulbs, foam products, plastic bags and other specialty items. No household hazardous waste
 accepted. Small fees apply to some items.

For more information about Keep Fayette County Green, the Fayette County Recycling Convenience Center or any Earth Week events, email sshea@fayettepa.org. Keep up with the Fayette County Recycling Program by following "@FayetteCoRecycling" on Facebook.

To learn more about Fayette County, visit <u>www.fayettecountypa.org</u>.

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