

Break in the New Year

Happy New Year! Resolutions, and therefore, recycling, are often top-of-mind in January. During the month of January, the M.e.t. receives approximately 90% of its glass recyclables for the year. Many people resolve to recycle but often fall short of their goals. We'd like to help out, and we have a really easy way to start recycling...

Start with glass. Glass is a great way to start recycling because it is so easy to identify—you don't have to look for symbols on the container, just look at the color. Separate into clear, green and brown glass, take off the lids and bring them to us!

Put all your glass recyclables in bins near the trash and take them to one of our 12 recycling centers whenever it is full.

After you get into the habit of recycling your glass, you can add other items like plastic bottles or aluminum cans. Take it step-by-step and you may find that by the end of the year, you're a pro at recycling!

A Tulsa Revolution

The Recycling Revolution, a year-old Tulsa company that specializes in commercial recycling pickups, is helping reduce the number of recyclable materials that go to local landfills. The holidays have been TRR's busiest time so far, with majority of their pickups consisting of champagne bottles.

Working with many local bars and restaurants, TRR is stunned each week at how many items they have saved from going to the landfill. Says co-owner Ginger Fast, "We are trying to fill a gap in the recycling services available in Tulsa, and the fact that the company is growing is a

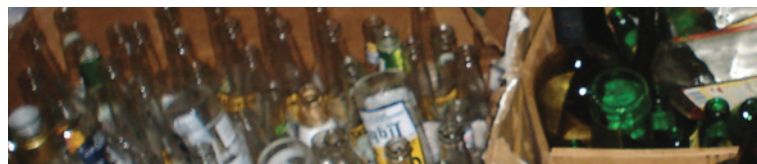
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Above: Workers sort through and dispose of toxic household products at the Spring 2009 Fairgrounds Pollutant Collection.

tribute to Tulsans becoming more environmentally conscious."

Though TRR doesn't require their clients to sort their glass—they want to make it as easy as possible—Fast says that it does make their jobs easier when it is sorted by color. Consider recycling your glass and you can help protect our environment one bottle at a time. For more information on the Recycling Revolution, visit their website at www.therecyclingrevolution.com.



Above: Sorting glass bottles by color makes recyclers' jobs easier.

A Local Saint

Saint-Gobain Containers began almost a hundred years ago in Sapulpa as Liberty Glass. One of Sapulpa's largest employers, Saint-Gobain employs nearly 350 people. Not only does it have a huge impact on Sapulpa's economy, but also on local environmental efforts.

Saint-Gobain uses local, recycled glass in their products. Using local, crushed glass (cullet) is not just environmentally friendly, but makes financial sense. For each 10% of cullet they use, the energy needed for melting is reduced by 2.5%. Saint-Gobain also recycles many other items used in glass production like plastics and cardboard, and is constantly finding new ways to increase efficiency and reduce costs.

Glass never decomposes, so it can be recycled an infinite number of times. By producing glass with local cullet, and their recycling efforts, Saint-Gobain has proven that being green is not just good for the environment, but also for our economy, by creating jobs and supporting local businesses.

Upcoming Events

Enviro Expo

April 22, 2010. Visit metrecycle.com for more information.

Fairgrounds Pollutant Collection

April 17-18, 2010 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Tulsa State Fairgrounds, Gate 7 (15th & Sandusky)

Accepted Items: household cleaners, pesticides, fertilizers, automotive fluids, cooking oil, batteries, fluorescent lightbulbs, small ammunition, smoke alarms, aerosol paint, hobby paint, pool chemicals, items containing mercury, and unused or out-of-date prescription medications.

NOT Accepted: latex paint, tires, computers, radioactive waste and commercial waste.

Green Scene



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