

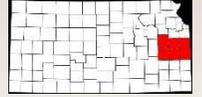


# Lake Region Solid Waste Authority

*Serving Anderson, Coffey, Franklin, Linn, Miami, and Osage Counties*

## Newsletter

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter  
2020



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## Adopt-A-Bike Program

Broken and unwanted bicycles may be drop off at the landfills and transfer stations sites in Anderson, Coffey, Franklin, and Linn counties.

The bicycles are transported to **Ellsworth Correctional Facility**, where salvageable parts are stripped from the donated bikes and assembled into sturdy, functional bikes available to be adopted out into the community.

Bike adoption requests may be submitted electronically at:

<https://lakeregionsolidwaste.org/adopt-a-bike-2/>

Additional questions about the program should be directed to [lakeregion@lakeregionrcd.org](mailto:lakeregion@lakeregionrcd.org) or 785-242-2073.



# America Recycles Day

*Each year on **November 15<sup>th</sup>**, millions of people across the United States take part in America Recycles Day. The day raises awareness about recycling and the purchasing of recycled products.*

The 2019 Presidential Message included the following statement “America Recycles Day is an opportunity to recognize the importance of recycling to our Nation’s economy and environment. Reducing waste protects our natural resources, supports manufacturing, and preserves the extraordinary beauty of our country”.



The roots of **America Recycles Day** originated with Texas Recycles Day in 1994, which began as the brainchild of two employees at the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality: Kevin Tuerff and Valerie Davis.

They presented the concept at the **National Recycling Coalition’s** Congress in 1997, and it was embraced immediately.

At least 40 states participated in the first America Recycles Day with various activities including recycling fairs, compost demonstrations, art from trash, games, and prizes.

By the time the 10th anniversary of ARD rolled around in 2007, more than 3,000 local events in all 50 states were posted on the NRC website.

In 2009 the program was transferred to the **Keep America Beautiful** organization, who has continued to raise awareness about the importance of recycling and offers personal pledges that can be signed, committing to recycling and buying products made from recycled materials

In America the recycling rate has increased from less than 7% in 1960 to the current rate of over 35%. Unfortunately, we have been fixed at that level for several years. America Recycles Day provides ongoing opportunities to increase awareness and hopefully improve this participation rate.

Go to <https://kab.org/programs/ard/> to take the recycling pledge, and view guides, tools, templates, and tips to organize a local event and promote recycling awareness, commitment and action in your community

On November 15<sup>th</sup> remember to use  
**#AmericaRecyclesDay**  
to post on social media.

## Partnership opportunity >>>

# Waste Tire Recycling & Grants

KDHE's 2020 Waste Tire Grant application period opens on **November 15, 2020** and runs until **January 15, 2021**. Applications must be received or postmarked by this date to be eligible. Award announcements are expected in April 2021.



*LRSWA is seeking to partner with communities or civic groups who are interested in implementing community improvement or beautification projects that would install or utilize products made from waste tires. Examples include; benches, picnic tables, rubber mulch, pour-in-place surfacing, etc.*

*Please contact our Regional Coordinator for potential project partnership and grant ideas.*

Did you ever stop to consider...

**Q:** *Are pizza boxes recyclable?*



**A:** For years, conscientious recyclers followed the advice to not put pizza boxes in the blue bin because the greasy cardboard and cheese scraps make it unrecyclable.

However, recently Domino's partnered with its primary box supplier, WestRock, to commission a study into the recyclability of the boxes and they ultimately discovered that neither grease nor "small amounts of cheese" would have a negative effect on the recyclability of the cardboard, nor on the products that were created from that material.

Plus, paper mills have become more adept at screening out chunks of cheese during the pulping process and, as a result, the American Forest & Paper Association recently responded with new industry guidance: **Pizza boxes are recyclable.**

Consumers need only make sure that they empty the boxes of stray slices and crust, plus any chicken wings, sauce containers, pizza savers, and anything else that might be left inside. (Pizza savers, those little three-legged plastic tables that keep the cheese from sticking to the top of the box, are sadly too small to be recycled.)



Contact us >>>

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Coming up >>>

The next LRSWA Board Meeting will be held on **December 10, 2020 @ 9:00 AM** in Osage County (*location TBD*)

If you would like to attend or participate, please contact the Regional Coordinator at [lrswa@lakeregionsolidwaste.org](mailto:lrswa@lakeregionsolidwaste.org)