

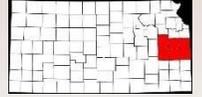


Lake Region Solid Waste Authority

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

Newsletter

1st Quarter
2021



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Coming up >>>

The next LRSWA Board Meeting will be held on **April 22, 2021 @ 8:30 AM** (Location TBD)

If you would like to attend or participate, please contact the Regional Coordinator at lrswa@lakeregionsolidwaste.org

Earth Day

Each year on **April 22nd**, millions of people around the world take part in Earth Day celebrations to demonstrate support for environmental protection.



First celebrated in 1970, Senator Gaylord Nelson created Earth Day as a way to force environmental issues onto the national agenda. Twenty million Americans demonstrated in different US cities, and it worked! In December 1970, Congress authorized the creation of a new federal agency to tackle environmental issues - the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Since then Earth Day celebrations have grown. In 1990, Earth Day went global, with 200 million people in over 140 nations participating, according to the **Earth Day Network** (EDN), a nonprofit organization that coordinates Earth Day activities.

By 2000 Earth Day had leverages the power of digital media to build millions of local conversations and involving hundreds of millions of people in 184 countries and 5,000 environmental groups.

Today, the Earth Day Network collaborates with more than 17,000 partners and organizations in more than 193 countries. According to EDN, more than 1 billion people are involved in Earth Day activities, making it “the largest secular civic event in the world.”

On May 14th 2020, the Earth Day Network announced that the theme of **Earth Day 2021** is “Restore Our Earth.”

Celebrating Earth Day serves as a conscious reminder of how fragile our planet is and how important it is to protect it. We need a healthy Earth to support our jobs, livelihoods, health, and happiness. A healthy planet is not an luxury - it is a necessity.

Part of the Earth Day mission is to empower and expand the environmental movement at an individual level, where anyone can take action and make a difference. Start making your plans for Earth Day 2021 and organize or participate in a local clean up event....

[https://cleanup.earthday.org/pages/find-a-cleanup.](https://cleanup.earthday.org/pages/find-a-cleanup)

Lake Region offers fun and informative lessons and activities for grades pre-K through middle school. Invite us into your classroom to give students a better understanding of what happens after trash leaves the curb or how their choices have a lasting environmental impact.

KDHE Solid Waste Grant

We are seeking to partner with communities or municipalities within the Lake Region who are interested in enhancing existing **recycling, composting, and waste reduction programs**, or the start-up of new programs.

The priority of this grant is to fund projects that purchase equipment and promote waste reduction efforts. Funding for projects that improve or expand recycling and composting efforts will be prioritized. Preference will be given to projects that increase public participation.

The grant may pay up to 75% of the total cost of the project with a minimum local match requirement of 25% of the total project cost (3:1 grant:match ratio).



The 2021 grant application period opens on **March 15, 2021** and runs until **May 15, 2021**. Applications must be received or postmarked by this date to be eligible. Award announcements are expected in July 2021.

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

Adopt-A-Bike Program



Broken and unwanted bicycles may be drop off at the landfills and transfer stations 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 can be directed to 785-242-2073 or lakeregion@lakeregionrcd.org

Did you ever stop to consider...

Q: Are egg carton recyclable?

A: It depends on which type of carton you have.

 **Cardboard** egg cartons CAN be recycled just like other types of cardboard.

They are also great in a **compost pile** since they break down quickly and will help create rich fertilizer for your flowers or garden.

 **Foam** cartons, however, are NOT part of our recycling programs.

The technology for creating new products from foam cartons/polystyrene is available, but the market for recycling is very small and specialized. In addition, during transportation and sorting, foam is easily contaminated and degraded due to its light weight.

Regardless of their ability to be recycled, egg carton are perfect to be **reused** or made into endless different **crafts or household items**. Examples include reusing them as a palette for paints, to organize beads or small screws, for starting seedlings, as packing materials, or to transport small desserts.



Contact us >>>

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