

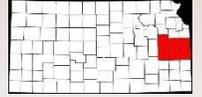


Lake Region Solid Waste Authority

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

Newsletter

3rd Quarter
2022



Celebrating Community Recycling Projects



This year, there were eight organizations within the Lake Region who applied to the KDHE Waste Tire Grant Program, where five were awarded funding.



The **City of Williamsburg** (Franklin County) was awarded \$3,430 to purchase benches and tables for the City Park and Lou Coppoc Field Park.

According to Nola Burgess, City Clerk, "The city residents have enjoyed the benches while watching their children play at the parks or as a rest stop while using the walking trail.

With the heat this summer the benches in the City Park have been a big hit under our big shade trees. The tables provided a great place for family picnics and a gathering spot to sip a cool drink."



USD 269 Wellsville (Franklin County) was awarded \$17,333.62 to install a new PreK playground with rubberized mulch as the surface.

Superintendent Ryan Bradbury shared that "the new playground and surface provides a more modern and safe environment for recess for our PreK students. Feedback from students, staff, and parents regarding the playground has been extremely positive. We were very thankful to have received the grant funding that supported this project."



With \$3,349 in grant funding, **USD 367 Sport & Fitness** (Miami County) was able to add much needed seating to their indoor pool area, as well as additional tables in their outdoor picnic area.

Kelly Farr, Operations Director, stated "Our passion for teaching kids a life

skill such as swimming can now be observed by more parents and grandparents than ever before. Grants like the KDHE Waste Tire Grant create a ripple effect that can positively impact entire communities and we are grateful to have been chosen."

Holy Trinity School in Paola (Miami County) was awarded \$9,680 to upgrade their playground surface.

Nearly 150 volunteer hours were invested to remove 7,640 square feet of old wood mulch and replace it with 33 tons of recycle rubber mulch. Plus, much of the old mulch was repurposed and reused around the school garden and outdoor seating area.

According to Greg Ruether, who helped organize the project and complete the grant application, "Thanks to a host of volunteers and a grant from KDHE, we were able to transform the Holy Trinity Elementary School playground surface and improve the safety for the children's play experience. Diverting rubber tire material from the typical waste stream is an added benefit."



In the words of one kindergartner "It's really squishy and I like jumping on it."

What to do with all those leaves this fall?

The autumn chill is just around the corner, where the leaves will start to fall off the trees and accumulate on your lawn or property. What are some options for dealing with them?



Blowing leaves into the street (or your neighbor's yard) isn't considerate or helpful. They will just end up blocking and clogging storm drains and causing flooding when it rains.

If you don't want to do any raking or bending over, then leave those leaves in place and just continue mowing your lawn. The blades of the lawnmower will chop the leaves into small pieces, which will break down quickly in the lawn, feeding the soil for next year.

However, with just a bit of effort to collect and relocate the piles, leaves make an excellent free mulch for flower and vegetable beds. Unlike animal manures and woody debris, leaves don't have to be composted before they can contribute to soil health. Pile the leaves up to four inches deep to make a cozy winter blanket for your plants.

Remember that leaves are not trash and they should not be put out with the regular debris for collection. If you aren't going to reuse or compost the leaves at home, then they need to be collected in bags and/or bins and taken to local city or county yard waste disposal area.

Within the Lake Region, grass clippings, leaves and plant are generally accepted at the transfer station, where they can be stockpiled, composted, and used as ground cover. The public may be granted access to the compost pile.

Credit to Gemma Alexander "What To Do With Autumn Leaves"

Did you ever stop to ask...

Can I recycle my mail?

In addition to recycling as much paper mail as possible, waste **reduction** is also very important.



Take your name off the direct mail lists. Below are links that will help you to eliminate unwanted mail, so you don't have to recycle it!

www.directmail.com/directory/mail_preference/

www.stopthejunkmail.com/

www.41pounds.org/

www.kskor.org/Residential

Coming up >>>

The next LRSWA Meeting
will be held on
Oct 20, 2022 @ 9 AM
(in Osage County)

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

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The Lake Region SWA is happy to be a member of the following Kansas organization.



Contact us >>>



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