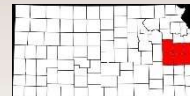


Lake Region Solid Waste Authority

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

Newsletter

4th Quarter
2023



Mission

Facilitate proper solid waste management, advocate for waste reduction and landfill diversion, and encourage the public to recycle.

Vision

Provide our communities with accessible facilities and services for the effective management of solid waste, household hazardous waste, and recycling. Increase public awareness and program participation through engaging community partnerships, plus active educational and outreach efforts.

Values



KDHE Grant Funding Available for Waste-Tire Derive Products

The application period for the 2024 Waste Tire Grants from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment - Bureau of Waste Management opened on November 15th.

These grants are specifically available to local units of government and public and private schools (K-12) for the purpose of purchasing waste tire-derived products, such as pour-in-place surfacing, loose-fill rubber mulch, and tables and benches.

Our Regional Coordinator is available to help with project review and application preparation. **Submission deadline is January 15th, 2024.**

More details about the grant can be viewed the official website at

<https://www.kdhe.ks.gov/710/Waste-Reduction-Grant-Guidelines-Forms>



Adopt-A-Bike for Christmas

Put a smile on a child's face for Christmas, where this year's gift giving can involve recycling and a bicycle!!

The Lake Region has an Adopt-A-Bike program that provides **FREE bikes** to eligible children. Participating counties include Anderson, Coffey, Franklin, Linn, Miami, and Osage.

Application are available at local ECKAN offices or can be downloaded at <https://lakeregionsolidwaste.org/adopt-a-bike-2/>

Contact the Lake Region RC&D office at (785) 242-2073 or email them at lakeregion@lakeregionrcd.org with any questions.



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2024 President’s Environmental Student and Teacher Awards

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking applications for the **2024 President’s Environmental Youth Awards (PEYA)** and **Presidential Innovation Awards for Environmental Educators (PIAEE)**.

PEYA recognizes outstanding environmental stewardship projects from students in grades K–12 that promote environmental awareness and encourage community involvement.

PIAEE recognizes outstanding grade K–12 educators who integrate environmental education and place-based learning into school curricula and school facility management across the country.

Applications for both awards are due no later than **Monday, January 15, 2024**. Projects eligible for the awards can apply to a variety of environmental topics, including (but not limited to):

- Climate change
- Environmental justice
- Water infrastructure
- Lead in drinking water
- A reduction in contributions to ocean and marine litter
- Recycling solutions
- The use of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) to teach environmental education.
- Environmental sustainability and agricultural practices
- Healthy school environments
- The reduction of food waste and loss and excess food recovery efforts

Application and eligibility information is available at

<https://www.epa.gov/education/presidents-environmental-youth-award>

<https://www.epa.gov/education/presidential-innovation-award-environmental-educators>

Coming up >>>

The next LRSWA Meeting will be held in Linn County on **January 18th, 2024**

If you would like to attend or participate, please contact the Regional Coordinator

Contact us >>>

Shay Hanysak

Regional Coordinator

913-952-2841

lrswa@lakeregionsolidwaste.org

Did you ever stop to ask...

Can I recycle my paper food cartons?



Frozen food boxes and other containers meant to be frozen are made of *paper*, but they also include a *plastic* coating that allows them to withstand freezing temperatures and resist moisture. The coating makes the cartons water-resistant and durable to prevent the paper fibers from breaking apart in a wet environment.

Unfortunately, this coating also poses challenges for sorting facilities since they cannot separate out these containers or pull apart the paper fibers for recycling.

Examples of these items include ice cream containers and frozen dinner boxes. These items need to be thrown away in the trash.

