



**WASTECAP NEBRASKA
E-NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2005**

Waste Reduction at WasteCap... In an effort to reduce office paper waste at your office and ours, WasteCap utilizes an electronic newsletter. Past e-newsletters can be found on our website under the "Archives" tab. Check out our website at www.wastecapne.org for the latest events, publications, and new member listings for WasteCap Nebraska.

WHAT'S NEW FOR OCTOBER 2005:

- ◆ New Member Profile-Waverly Computer Scrappers
- ◆ WasteCap Recognizes Members
- ◆ Retrofit Recycling Pick-Up Days
- ◆ America Recycles Day
- ◆ Interim rule for TCE vapors

WELCOME WAVERLY COMPUTER SCRAPPERS

Waverly Self Storage, Inc. is a Nebraska Corporation formed in 1995 by Michael and Marcia Werner. As workers in the Information Technology field, Michael realized the need for companies to move technology out of the data center. Waverly Computer Scrappers was formed as a division of Waverly Self Storage to store, resell, and salvage computer electronics. Waverly Computer Scrappers works with EPA certified companies to properly salvage computer equipment. WSS has one full time employee and several contract part-time personal. They work mostly with corporate accounts but are diversifying by adding small business and home pickup, as well as providing a drop-off location in Waverly for equipment. Waverly Computer Scrappers is looking to expand their business and are planning a state of the art processing center in Waverly in the near future.

WASTECAP RECOGNIZES MEMBERS

Three Lincoln businesses were recognized for their environmental efforts during WasteCap Nebraska's Environmental Excellence Awards Luncheon on September 29th. The awards luncheon was part of WasteCap Nebraska's bi-annual Reduction and Recycling Event, including training sessions, tours of four facilities and a vendor show. Nearly 175 people participated in the event. Awards were given to WasteCap member businesses in three categories: Best Waste Reduction and Reuse, Continued Excellence in a Recycling Program, and Recycler of the Year.

The *Best Waste Reduction and Reuse Program Award* was given to the business that has shown the greatest effort to reduce waste and reuse products. In the case of Garner Industries, their program has resulted in sending zero-plastic waste to the landfill and waste disposal cost savings of over \$17,000 per year. Garner Industries partners with Cornhusker State Industries, a Division of the Department of Corrections that engages in the manufacturing and marketing of a wide variety of products and services produced by inmates within the Nebraska correctional facilities. Through this partnership, Garner Industries is able to regrind their plastic waste and reuse it in their processing. Additionally, in just seven months of 2005, Garner Industries recycled 36,000 pounds of various plastics, 34,000 pounds of metals, 20,000 pounds of cardboard, wooden pallets, steel drums and oil. They have also participated in an energy audit from LES resulting in a suggestion to change over their lighting, which will save over \$20,000 per year in energy costs.

The *Continued Excellence in Recycling Award* goes to the business that has taken strides to continually improve their waste reduction and recycling program as well as dedicate time, personnel and resources to the betterment of these programs. Telesis, Inc. is a locally owned holding company. Its subsidiary businesses are Lazlo's Brewery & Grill, FireWorks Restaurant, Empyrean Brewing Company and Data Security Inc. The main offices for Telesis, Inc. offer desk-side paper recycling, beverage container recycling, and a recycling collection area with containers for newspaper and magazines, batteries, CDs, and toner cartridges. The company also recycles electronic waste, fluorescent lighting, 50-gallon drums and pallets.

The recycling programs at Lazlo's and Fireworks use their team of dedicated employees to overcome the obstacles of limited space to efficiently recycle over one and a half tons of materials each week, including cardboard, glass, tin and plastics. Telesis' Empyrean Brewing Company has also designed their brew house to recycle water throughout their system. This process recycles 3500 gallons of water per week through their system, saving nearly 200,000 gallons of water per year.

In their largest investment for the future, the management of Telesis, Inc. has installed a geothermal climate control system at the Lazlo's South location. This technology has potential savings of 30-50 percent in heating and cooling costs. They are the first restaurant in Nebraska to use this technology and also built the state's first geothermal cold-storage warehouse, located in Waverly.

The ***Recycler of the Year*** Award was given to the business that has shown great dedication in their recycling program. This business exemplifies the WasteCap business membership by striving to improve waste reduction and recycling programs, utilizing WasteCap's Master Agreements for recycling services and supporting WasteCap through attending special events. The award was given to Bryan LGH Medical Center for their efforts to install balers, allowing the organization to recycle over 100 tons of cardboard per year as well as their many other environmental efforts.

Bryan LGH also recycles over 400,000 pounds of paper each year through their confidential document destruction program. In 2004, as a result of construction and demolition at the hospitals, Bryan LGH recycled over 30 tons of various metals and nearly 8500 fluorescent light tubes and 2600 pounds of ballasts were also recycled. The hospitals have also been involved with the Hospitals for Healthy Environment (H2E) program. Through the H2E program, nearly all mercury-containing equipment such as blood pressure testing equipment and thermometers, have been replaced with digital or electronic devices, creating a virtually mercury-free hospital environment.

WasteCap Nebraska is proud to recognize the efforts of our members to improve their waste reduction and recycling programs. These efforts are great examples of how recycling and waste reduction programs can create positive economic savings for businesses.

RETROFIT RECYCLING PICK-UP DATES

WasteCap Nebraska members receive discounted fluorescent lamp, ballast, electronic and battery recycling services through Retrofit Recycling (800-274-1309) and Environmental Compliance Enterprises (466-2268). Please let us know if you need an updated price sheet. Pick up dates are subject to change, please call 5 to 7 business days ahead of time if you wish to schedule additional pick ups.

Week of October 31st

Week of November 14th

AMERICA RECYCLES DAY IS NOVEMBER 15TH

History of America Recycles Day

America Recycles Day had its genesis in a program developed in



1993, by the Texas Recycling Coalition, called Texas Recycles Day. The national

America Recycles Day (ARD) campaign was born as an all-volunteer, nonprofit,

annual event in 1997. America Recycles

Day events take place, annually, on or

around November 15th, with the goal of

educating and encouraging Americans

about recycling and buying recycled.

ARD has grown substantially in

participation over the years and has grown to include participants

filling out pledges to recycle and reduce their waste more in the

coming year. Last year, residents in every state of the nation

participated in America Recycles Day and pledged to recycle.

This year we want to include you in celebrating this national

program by filling out a pledge card.

Why fill out a Pledge Card

The Lincoln City Recycling department in partnership with

Wastecap Nebraska is working to promote this nation wide event

by encouraging local business men, women and their employees to

promote their personal and business recycling efforts.

By completing a pledge card each employee is entered into both the local and national prize drawing.

Local drawing:

Youth:

\$100 gift card to Best Buy
One year's Worth of Curbside
Recycling
Home Recycling Center

National Drawing

Youth:

Trek Model 4300 24 speed
bicycle

Adult Drawing:

\$100 gift Card to Russ's
Market
One year's Worth of Curbside
Recycling
Lottery Tickets
Home Recycling Center

Adult:

Ford Escape Hybrid (18 or
older)

How to Participate

Simply inform your employees about this program and have them submit a completed pledge form into a drop-box that can be picked up at the WasteCap office. Pledge cards will be collected between November 1st and November 18th with the local winners being announced on Monday November 21st.

If you have any questions about this promotion and optional program please feel free to contact Carrie Hakenkamp at 436-2384.

Senators ask EPA to adopt interim rule for TCE vapors

Oct. 11 -- Six U.S. senators have written a letter to the Environmental Protection Agency asking it adopt a health protective interim standard for exposure to trichloroethylene vapors.

The senators noted that TCE, a solvent used for cleaning metal parts, is a widespread contaminant found in at least 325 of the nation's more than 1,200 Superfund sites, and that the chemical has been linked to cancer and damage to the nervous and immune systems.

The EPA published a health risk assessment report in August 2001 that called for increasing protections from TCE, but the EPA is asking the National Academies of Science to re-evaluate TCE's toxicity. The process "may take years," the senators complained in their Oct. 5 letter to EPA Administrator Stephen Johnson.

In the absence of a national standard, standards set by states and the federal government vary at sites across the country. "Today, thousands of Americans may be exposed to unhealthy levels of TCE," the senators wrote.

TCE vapors from hazardous waste sites can seep into nearby basements and homes.

The senators signing the letter were Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y.; Barbara Boxer, D-Calif.; Christopher Dodd, D-Conn.; Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J.; Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn.; Gordon Smith, R-Ore.; and Ron Wyden, D-Ore.

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