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July 2015 Newsletter



August 26 Green Team Roundtable Includes Tour of Habitat ReStore Operations

Habitat for Humanity of Omaha will host WasteCap Nebraska's August 26 Green Team Roundtable at their West Maple Habitat ReStore, 10910 Emmet Street in Omaha. Participants will learn about Habitat ReStore's reduce, reuse, recycle imperatives, and about the construction recycling efforts they have begun implementing during their home-building projects. The presentation will wrap up with a backroom tour of the Habitat ReStore. The meeting runs from 11:30am to 1:00 pm and includes a zero-waste lunch. Cost is \$12 or \$10 for WasteCap Nebraska and Green Omaha Council members.

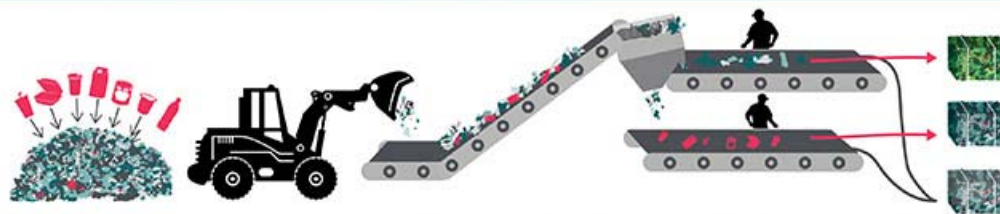
Green Team Roundtables are open to the general public, offering brief presentations by local professionals, as well as discussions on current environmental and social issues of concern to businesses, elected officials and citizens.

Habitat for Humanity of Omaha is a nonprofit, Christian housing ministry that works to eliminate poverty housing and to make adequate housing a matter of conscience and action. Habitat Omaha builds and renovates houses, eliminating vacant lots and abandoned homes in the blighted areas of North and South Omaha. Since its founding in 1984, the organization has partnered with more than 800 families to help address housing issues through homeownership, repairs and community building activities.

To register: <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ebaimesz42c3cc7a&oseq=&c=&ch=>



PACKAGING FLOW IN THE MRF



Where do packages end up? Why do packages flow to commodities?
 What changes to sort processes could improve recovery?

MRF Study Shows Path to Better Recovery

Occasionally you have to question everything you know. After all, things change. Case in point: a recent MRF Material Flow Study proved that recyclable containers should not be flattened prior to their journey on the MRF sort lines. Materials that hold their shape have a higher tendency to flow to the container line and, ultimately, are more likely to be recycled.

Practically speaking, that means operations crews should minimize compaction of incoming containers, and education specialists should teach residents to stop crushing. This was one of several major takeaways from the study, which sought to find ways to optimize the recycling of their packaging after it goes into the bin or cart.

For more findings, check out this infographic:

http://www.cartonopportunities.org/sites/default/files/files/MRF%20Study%20Infographic_FINAL%20V2.r

Webinar to Cover U.S. Zero Waste Business Certification Standards

WasteCap Nebraska is hosting a free webinar on Thursday, August 27 featuring Stephanie Barger, Founder and Executive Director of U.S. Zero Waste Business Council. Participants will learn about the requirements and process for obtaining a Zero Waste Business Certification and will be shown some great examples of how businesses have achieved this designation. The webinar will run from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Stephanie Barger founded the U.S. Zero Waste Business Council (USZWBC) in January of 2012 to meet the growing need for educational resources, peer-to-peer networking and third-party certification for businesses across the nation. Stephanie has more than 25 years of experience in environmental stewardship, employee training, management consulting and business relationship development.



To register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5772603539500846850>

Upcoming Events

August 10, 2015 Deadline for Sustainable Business Awards Applications

Sustainable Business Awards will be presented at our luncheon, Tuesday, October 6th, 2015 at The Country Club of Lincoln. All WasteCap Nebraska members are encouraged to apply. Deadline for applications is August 10, 2015.

Nominations may be made in more than one category. Self-nominations are welcome. Winners will be notified in advance so WasteCap can produce a brief presentation illustrating the achievement.

Sustainable Business Awards Descriptions and application are available at <http://www.wastecapne.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/2015-WasteCap-Nebraska-Sustainable-Business-Award-Descriptions-And-Application.pdf>



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