

Solid Waste Reporter

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Awards

presented at 16th Governor's Conference


By Jim Hill
Division of Natural Resources


The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources' 16th annual Governor's Conference on Environmental Education and Litter Control was held March 18-20 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Charleston. The theme of this year's conference was "Educating Today for a Better Environment Tomorrow."


Keynote speaker Dan Drake, the assistant U.S. attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice, discussed "Trash and Social Influence."


The following awards were presented at the conference.


Make It Shine Clean County Awards


 Marion County
\$500 from Columbia Gas Transmission
Karl Brock

 Greenbrier County
\$400 from Amherst Industries
George Jones

 Webster County
\$300 from West Virginia Coal Alliance
Ben Green

 Jefferson County
\$300 from West Virginia Coal Alliance
Ben Green

 Tyler County
\$200 from West Virginia Soft Drink Association
Larry Swann

 Pocahontas County
\$100 from West Virginia
Contractors Association
Mike Clowser

Make It Shine Community Awards

- City of Point Pleasant
- City of Dunbar
- City of Bridgeport

America Recycles Day Essay Award (The Dick Vande Linde Award)

Jennifer Curran, Woodrow Wilson High School.

Environmental Teacher Awards

- Elementary Division:
Joyce Jarrell-Hicks, Glenville Elementary, Glenville
- Middle School Division:
Linda Lilly, Park Junior High, Beckley
- High School Division:
Robert Morris, Clay County High School, Clay

Keep America Beautiful Award

Divide Elementary School, Outlook

West Virginia Appreciation Award

Senior Trooper Kenneth Tawes

*The 17th annual conference will be held
March 17-19, 2002, at Pipestem Resort State Park.
For information on next year's event, contact:*

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Oglebay facility features 'green architecture'

By Tammy Bonar
Ohio County SWA

The developers of the Schrader Environmental Center are showing visitors that it is possible to make environmentally sound decisions from the ground up by using "green architecture" to build models of sustainable design. The facility is located at the Brooks Nature Center in Wheeling's Oglebay Park.

The building uses fiberglass for thermal insulation; wood products (because they use less energy to manufacture); steel products from local suppliers; Homasote (which has twice the insulation of wood); and low-e insulating glass for the windows. All of these components help to conserve energy in the building and during the manufacturing process.

The building maximizes heat gain through southern exposure. Also, the developers used geothermal transfer, which heats the building by sending the air underground and using the natural heat of the earth to "preheat" the air. This, in turn, uses fewer fossil fuels to heat the building.

The building is composed primarily of recycled products. Metal building products made from recycled steel and aluminum were used as roof panels, studs, columns and beams, bar joists, floor decks, exterior and interior railings, and aluminum windows.

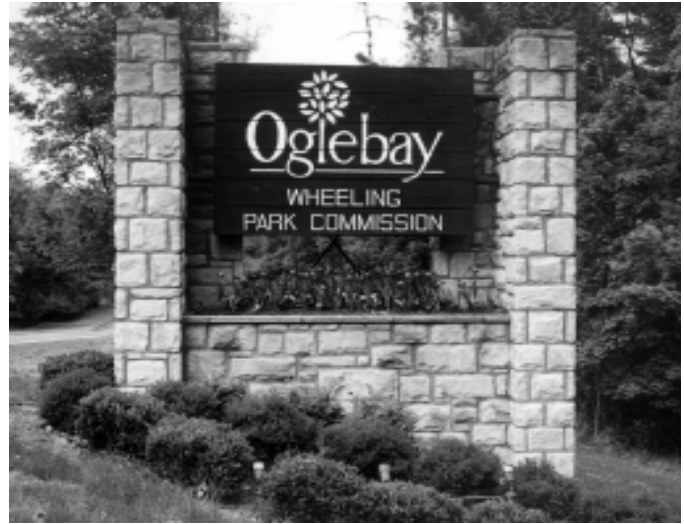
All building insulation is fiberglass thermal insulation composed of up to 40 percent recycled glass. This also helps reduce energy fuel consumption.

Trex Wood Polymer Lumber, made from reclaimed plastic and scrap wood fibers, was used for all exterior decking and interior finish trim.

And who would think to put newspapers on the floors and walls? Homasote, a product made from postconsumer newsprint, was used for all of the interior wall panels and structural floor decking.

Panels called volcanic Perlite, which are totally inorganic and contain no man-made mineral fibers, were used for the ceilings. This material is completely fireproof, nontoxic, and recyclable. Since it has no mineral fibers, it will not contribute to "sick building syndrome," which is believed to be caused by harmful fiber dust.

The bathroom floors are extremely durable, slip-resistant, weather-resistant, and long-lasting. Sound like an advertisement for a tire? It should—the bathroom floors are made from a process that uses more than 2 million tires per year. Use of this process is growing by 30 percent each year.



Oglebay Park is home to the Schrader Environmental Center, which showcases how "green architecture" can be used to construct a building completely with recycled materials.

The rest of the building's flooring is made from either cork oak trees or a nylon fiber. by a company called Nylon 6ix. The cork oak trees, found in the forests of Portugal, are a 100 percent renewable resource. The trees are about 20 years old when they are first harvested. In nine years, the trees are completely regrown and ready for another harvest. Another plus for these cork floors is that the inner cell space is filled with air and actually helps to remove pollutants from the air.

The nylon fiber, made by the Nylon 6ix Company, can be recycled over and over again. The nylon is recycled into new carpet, and the plastic backing material is processed into useful recycled products. None of the material ends up in the landfill.

The Schrader Environmental Center is not just a structural example of being a "steward of the Earth," but its activities and exhibits inside also promote environmentally conscious decisions. EarthTrek is an exhibit that explores Earth as an ever-changing, self-maintaining, and biologically diverse planet. Within this is TimeTrek, a 3.5 billion-year journey through time; Ecosphere, an example of how Earth supports a wonderful diversity of life; and Connectionville, a participation poll that shows visitors how their decisions affect Earth.

Why go to so much trouble to create a structure with so much environmental integrity? We can get a better understanding by knowing the mission statement of the Environmental Education Department of Oglebay Institute. "Our mission is to focus upon environmental awareness, appreciation, and action, while serving the advancement of environmental education to all people of all ages on a local, regional, national, and international scale. We hope through our efforts, to develop informed and responsible stewards of the Earth."

Pocahontas facility recycles nearly 800 tons per year

By Sandy McClure
North Central West Virginia Recycling
Cooperative Inc. (NCWVRC)

Bill Shaffer has owned and operated Pocahontas Recycling for eight years. He has no other paid employees, but his father-in-law, son, and wife assist with the recycling center. Although his wife works during the day, she bales newspapers in the evening.



William Shaffer, son of Bill Shaffer, Pocahontas Recycling's owner, stands in front of plastic bales that are ready for distribution.

A visitor will immediately notice the facility's neat and clean appearance. The area is well landscaped and maintained. Cleanliness is taken seriously inside the center, too. This is also a quality that follows through in the material that the company processes.

The facility is the only recycling center in Pocahontas County. Pocahontas Recycling also serves surrounding communities in Randolph and Greenbrier counties.



It serves as a drop-off and a buy-back center for area residents.

Pocahontas Recycling recycles aluminum cans, scrap aluminum, brass, cooper, radiators, insulated wire, cardboard, newspapers, glass,

plastic, metal cans, and scrap metals.

The company services five Pocahontas Solid Waste Authority recycling drop-off sites. Seven caged trailers are located throughout the county and at the five county schools.

Pocahontas Recycling recycles nearly 800 tons of materials per year.

"I sell all my materials in West Virginia," Shaffer proudly stated. "My metals go to Rhamco in Taylor County, my aluminum cans to Dailey Recycling in Rainelle, and all my other materials are marketed through the North Central West Virginia Recycling Cooperative."



Stacks of recycled products and scrap metals await their next use at Pocahontas Recycling's Storage facility. The company collects about 800 tons of materials each year.

He added: "Without DNR grant monies, a small business in a rural county could not exist. There is no way I could make it without their assistance."

Babcock receives recycling award

By Sandy McClure
NCWVRC

Allan W. Babcock was awarded the sixth annual Larry Bailey Award by the North Central West Virginia Recycling Cooperative Inc., (NCWVRC). This award began after the death of board member Larry Bailey from Lewis/Gilmer County Solid Waste Authority.

Each year, the NCWVRC board members give the award to the member who has exhibited outstanding support of recycling in north central West Virginia. In past years, the award has been presented to Charles Kinsey, Taylor

County Solid Waste Authority; Lee Fauley, Refuse Control Systems; and Larry Brown, Weston Transfer. Babcock was the first recipient of this award in 1997. He was a "founding father" of the Regional Recycling Cooperative that began in 1992. The original mission of the NCWVRC was to find an economical means to provide recycling to rural north central West Virginia. Babcock remains a loyal friend to recycling and the mission of the NCWVRC.

Environmental student group organizes at Marshall University

By Amy Byrd, President
Marshall Environmental Students' Association

The Marshall Environmental Students' Association (MESA) was founded in the spring of this year. It is a result of the forethought of Dr. Mike Little, adviser to the Marshall University (MU) environmental science program, and the interest of several environmental science students.

MESA's mission is to further environmental education and to raise awareness for MU and the community on the importance of environmental issues. By fostering relationships within the private and public sectors, we hope to make opportunities available for students to gain professional experience. This will enhance their education opportunities and benefit both the community and the students.



MESA honors seniors at its first graduation banquet in April.

Our initial act as an organization was to visit Shepherd College to meet with the members of the Shepherd Environmental Organization (SEO) and Jim Hill from the Division of Natural Resources (DNR) to gain some insight on running an environmental organization. We coordinated efforts with Shepherd College students to create the foundation for the West Virginia Collegiate Environmental Network (WVCEN). While in Shepherdstown, we also toured the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Conservation Training Center.

In March, representatives from MESA attended the DNR's Governor's Conference on Environmental Education. Students attended workshops on composting, recycling, grant applications, and the "Save Our Streams" monitoring program. We also worked with students from Shepherd College, WVU, and Glenville to draft a WVCEN constitution and began planning for the next year. This network is intended to be an "umbrella" organization for all higher education institutions in the state. The purpose is to link all of the colleges and universities together to share information on internships, state policy practices, jobs, and conferences.

On April 12, MESA held a graduation banquet for seniors leaving the program. The environmental science program's first graduate was the guest speaker. We hope to make the banquet an annual tradition for the program.

We are excited to start our second semester with MESA and have set some goals. We have adopted Four-Pole Creek as part of the "Save Our Streams" program. We will be monitoring it in the months to come. We also plan to continue with educational outreach on campus and in the local schools. We hope MESA will facilitate positive results for MU, the students, and the state.

Great Paper Cha\$e funds Taylor youth projects



By Sandy McClure
NCWVRC

The Great Paper Cha\$e is a countywide mixed grade office paper recovery program for Taylor County. The Great Paper Cha\$e began in 1995 as a brainchild of garbage service provider Lee Fauley. With office paper prices soaring, he was searching for a means to increase office paper volumes and give something back to the community for its recycling efforts.

Fauley decided upon mixed grade office paper because a dry-pulp deinking mill was located in Fairmont, which meant that he could easily get his paper to market.

The Great Paper Cha\$e committee was formed by Fauley and the North Central West Virginia Recycling Cooperative (NCWVRC). Various local community leaders were chosen to form a board of directors. The grant pool consisted of \$50/ton for office paper collected and marketed in Taylor County. The program would fund Taylor County youth programs in schools, organized sports, service groups, or any group of "kids" in the county. The monies raised must directly benefit children.

The three objectives of the Great Paper Cha\$e are:

- to help youth-oriented programs in Taylor County
- to save energy and natural resources through recycling
- to meet waste reduction goals as set forth by the West Virginia Code

Today, two additional "equal" donors make each ton of marketed office paper worth \$150 to Taylor County youth programs. To date, the program has awarded 46 grants totaling more than \$15,125.

Colleges forming environmental network

By Sarah Lynne Inman
Marshall University

About two dozen college students sat on folding chairs or benches around a campfire. They were roasting hot dogs and enjoying a cool evening amid laughter and stories. But it wasn't your usual country get-together. It was the first meeting of two groups that would form the foundation of the West Virginia Collegiate Environmental Network (WVCEN).

WVCEN was founded last fall by members of the Marshall University Environmental Students' Association (MESA), Shepherd Environmental Organization (SEO), and several students from Glenville College. We met formally at the Division of Natural Resources' (DNR) Governor's Conference in Charleston to begin drafting a constitution and determining the direction and goals of the group. We plan to meet again in the fall to finalize the constitution and budget,



Students from Marshall University, Shepherd College, and West Virginia University draft a constitution for the Collegiate Environmental Network.

elect officers, and begin official business.

The main goals of the WVCEN are to provide an alliance of environmental students across the state to share information and promote internships. Students from different colleges and universities can discuss classes, programs, and internship and job opportunities. The WVCEN also plans to find corporate sponsors to provide funding for

internships, education, and special projects for members. We also will be attending the annual conferences of the Association of W.Va. Solid Waste Authorities and the DNR Governor's Conference, along with our own conference each year.

For more information, contact me (sl.inman@marshall.edu), Matt Mullenax of the SEO (mmulle01@shepherd.edu), or our DNR sponsor Jim Hill (jhill@dnr.state.wv.us).

Thirteenth Annual AWVSWA Conference—October 25-27



Snowshoe Mountain Resort
Pocahontas County
Snowshoe, West Virginia 26209

The Association of W.Va. Solid Waste Authorities will hold its 13th annual educational conference Oct. 25-27 at majestic Snowshoe Mountain Resort in Pocahontas County. The conference will open with a tour of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory at Greenbank and a ride on the Cass Scenic Railroad. The group will be treated to a "Taste of West Virginia" buffet.

The conference features presentations on mandatory garbage collection, the Collegiate Environmental Network, a legislative update, "Mosquitos and Diseases in Used Tires," "Landfills, Utilities and Garbage Haulers," and composting.

Lodging reservation deadline is Sept. 25. For reservations: 1-800-441-4386; indicate you are with the AWVSWA (Group Number: 8806-1). Conference registration deadline is Oct. 1; a late registration fee of \$25 will be charged for registrations received after this date. For more conference details, please contact: Edgar Hooper, Coordinator, phone: 304-233-8669; e-mail: HooperEnvirocare@aol.com or Judy Lewis, Registration Chair, phone: 304-424-1960; fax: 304-424-1967; e-mail: jlewis@wvu.edu

The Solid Waste Reporter is a broad-based source of information on solid waste management issues for West Virginians. Representatives of the following organizations contribute to this newsletter through editorial planning and preparation and/or financial support: the West Virginia University Extension Service, the Solid Waste Management Board, the Association of West Virginia Solid Waste Authorities, West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, West Virginia Division of Environmental Protection, and the West Virginia Public Service Commission.

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