

Chasing Arrows

the RIRRC newsletter for
Rhode Island's municipal
recycling officials

April 2016 Edition

IMPORTANT DATES

All month: Various e-waste recycling events by Indie Cycle 

April 9    
Coventry
*Shredding & drug takeback
(for Eco-Depot participants only)
hosted by the Town of Coventry*

April 9 
Eco-Depot @ RIRRC

April 16   
Eco-Depot
Middletown

April 16  
Spring Recycling Day
Newport (open to all)

April 22 ~ Earth Day 
Cleanups all month long!

April 23 
Eco-Depot
Foster
*Other recycling opportunities for
Foster & Scituate residents only*

April 23 
NBC 10's Shred-It Event
Cardi's West Warwick

April 30  
Eco-Depot
Cumberland

May 3 ~ Save The Date!
-Quarterly Municipal Meeting
RIRRC Boardroom, time TBD
-RI's Bye Bye Mattress Program
Press Conference w/ MRC
RIRRC @ 10:30am, location TBD

Visit our Upcoming Events page for the latest updates!

2016 Eco-Depot Schedule 
*****Updated 3/23/16*****



This 6.5 lb electric motor fell from the conveyor belt and came within 3 ft. of hitting MRF staff.

Unwanted: Scrap metal in the MRF

Yikes! On March 8, an electric motor weighing 6.5 pounds rolled off a conveyor belt in the MRF, falling about 15 ft. to the floor below. It came within 3 ft. of hitting a MRF staff member working on the floor. As we discussed in last month's edition of Chasing Arrows, safety is very important to us. It's challenging when things are out of our hands, like this motor ending up in a recycling bin or cart. Please keep promoting your scrap metal drop-off programs to keep scrap metal out of the MRF.

'Tis the season (already) for small camping-sized propane tanks entering the MRF. In the past 2 weeks, there have been two fires in the baler. Again, no injuries or damage to report, but it's a good time to educate residents on proper disposal of propane tanks through the Eco-Depot (see the calendar on the left).

Other odd and dangerous items found in February:

- A rock as tall as a 2-liter soda bottle
- Loose dirty diapers
- A crushed propane tank

And if only we could make it up: multiple deer carcasses came through over the winter.

Please
help us
keep our
workers
safe!



By the Numbers

4 months of automated collection with carts
15.47% increase in recycling tons
-7.80% decrease in trash tons
4.5 percentage point increase in recycling rate

3 months of No Bin, No Barrel
18.28% increase in recycling tons
2.44 percentage point increase in recycling rate

Important Due Dates

- We'll be sending out contract addendums shortly. Executed copies are due back to RIRRC by August 1, 2016, so get them to your council for signature soon. Let us know if you didn't get it via email.
- The Mattress Recycling Council's deadline for registration is April 5 in order to receive your container by the program start date of May 1. Contact Justine Fallon to register. RIRRC will no longer accept mattresses for

This & That from RIRRC

- Annual documents: the FY17 solid waste caps, 2015 Annual Municipal Data Comparison Chart (formerly the Municipal Matrix), 2015 Municipal Summary (Detail) and 2015 How is my City or Town Doing? were emailed out. Please save these in a safe spot. The Annual Municipal Data Comparison Chart will now be sent out quarterly based on the quarterly A-Z updates.



- Earth Day tip fee waivers are available from RIRRC. Visit our Earth Day page for complete details and to download the forms. Don't forget to send us your pictures to share!

- Lots of recycling events going on during the month of April to share with your residents, including shredding! Check the first page of this newsletter or our events page for details. Don't forget to share your events with us!

Upcoming Conferences & Trainings:

- April 12-13: NERC's Spring Conference: Recycling is Not Broken in NJ
- May 16-17: NRRA's 35th Anniversary Annual Conference in NH
- June 20-24: Maine Compost School: This comes highly recommended by RIRRC for those cities & towns who manage or may start a compost site!

Upcoming Webinars:

- 4/14: How Communities Can Transform Waste Streams through Policies and Programs
- 4/28: Preview of the Soon to Be Released Nationwide Public Service Campaign to Reduce Wasted Food

News Bits from Rhode Island

- [East Providence plans campaign to raise recycling rate](#)
- [Cheap oil, tainted loads, reduce recycling profit](#)
- [Helping Mother Earth](#)
- [Warwick: Free drop-off program for mattresses starts 5/1](#)
- [ecoRI: E-waste producer responsibility law isn't working](#)

Tidbits

Catch up:

Projo Articles

Sarah Kite-Reeves: "Trash Tutorials"

- ⇒ [In R.I., plastic bags can't go in recycling bins](#)
- ⇒ [RIRRC accepts foam products](#)

Krystal Noiseux: "5 Things"

- ⇒ [5 things to know about wasteful K-Cups](#)
[See the first 3 tips on Instagram!](#)
- ⇒ [5 tips for spring closet cleaning](#)
- ⇒ [Winners and losers in recycling matchups](#)

Columns can be accessed online for free, for 30 days following original publication.

Katherine's Corner

A picture is worth a thousand words

In the land of social media, content rules! BUT powerful imagery isn't far behind. Since Twitter's 140 characters (or less) limit turned the social networking world upside down in 2006, less text and more pictures has become an industry best practice. We're in luck; our industry is a goldmine for creating narrative through images. Some of you may have a huge gallery of images to use to compliment your social media posts. For those with fewer images on hand, free high-quality stock images are only a click away. An important note: most images on the internet have copyrights attached to them. Although it's tempting to find images from a search engine, using copyrighted images as your own is a legal no-no. My suggestion, try these sites: [Pixabay](#), [Unsplash](#) and [Public Domain Pictures!](#)

RIRRC has over 1,000 images of common recyclable and non-recyclable items... just ask!

As always send your comments, questions and feedback my way.

Stay connected,
Katherine

Like us.



Subscribe.



Follow us.



Follow us.



Follow us.

