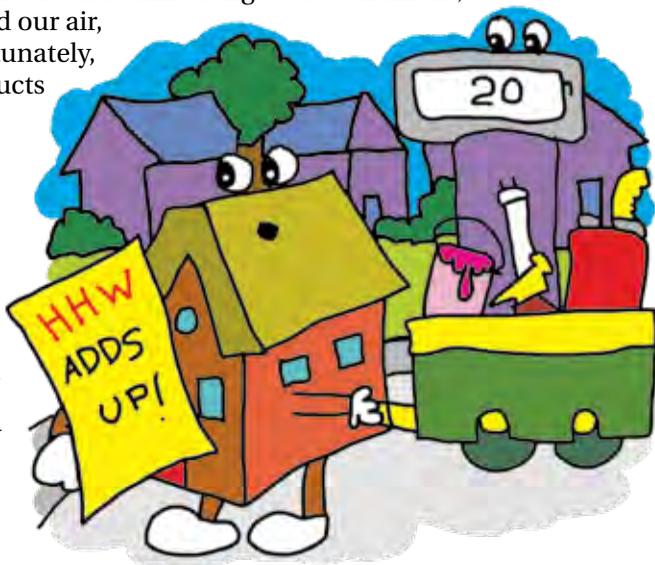




Hazards hiding in your home

CAUTION! WARNING! DANGER! POISON! These words are meant to keep people away, yet many people have several products in their homes labeled with these warnings. Many paints, cleaners, and bug and weed killers contain harmful chemicals and toxins dangerous to humans, other living things, and our air, water, and soil. Unfortunately, these dangerous products sit on the shelves of our storage areas, sometimes forgotten. These forgotten and unneeded items are called "Household Hazardous Waste," or HHW for short. It's a good idea to look at the shelves in your home and responsibly get rid of what you don't need.



One way you can help is to ask your parents if they've thought recently about which products they need and which they don't. Volunteer to help them make a list of all of the hazardous chemicals and products in the house. Mom and Dad will know which products they don't plan to use anymore, and you can note those items as HHW on your list. What should you do with these hazardous products? Bring them to Thurston County's HazoHouse! Remember, never pour HHW down the drain or put it in the trash.

HazoHouse offers a free and easy way for residents to safely get rid of these products. Please bring waste in 5-gallon or smaller containers. Leave products in their original, labeled containers. Never mix hazardous chemicals together.

HazoHouse is located at the Thurston County Waste and Recovery Center, 2420 Hogum Bay Road NE in Lacey. Call HazoHouse at 360-867-2912 if you have any questions.

Here is a list of some of the most common HHW that your family may have sitting on shelves just waiting to be safely cleared away:

- Oil-based paint
- Antifreeze
- Drain opener
- Furniture polish
- Model paint and glue
- Motor oil
- Oven cleaner
- Paint thinner
- Weed and bug killers
- Fertilizer/plant food
- Fluorescent light tubes and twisty CFL light bulbs
- Mercury-containing items

When your family has a job to do around the house, talk about less toxic choices. Many times a homemade cleaner might do the same work for less money. Check online for non-hazardous options. Here are a few examples:

- Instead of spraying weed killer, pull weeds by hand.

- Instead of using chemical fertilizers, create healthier soil by composting food scraps and yard waste.
- Instead of drain cleaners, try baking soda and vinegar, followed with boiling water.
- Instead of window cleaners, use vinegar and water.

And never forget — always dispose of HHW properly and safely.

Did you know?

Each person in the United States produces an average of four pounds of household hazardous waste (HHW) every year. This means a household with five members creates more than 20 pounds per year. For all U.S. households combined, that adds up to about 530,000 tons of HHW per year!

Know your Three Rs!

With summer vacation beginning soon, you are finishing up this year's lessons in reading, writing, math, science, social studies, computers, art, music, gym, and all of the other great things taught in school. You have also been learning about the Three Rs — Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. These lessons help us protect our water, air, and soil throughout the year, but they are especially important to keep in mind during the last few days of school.

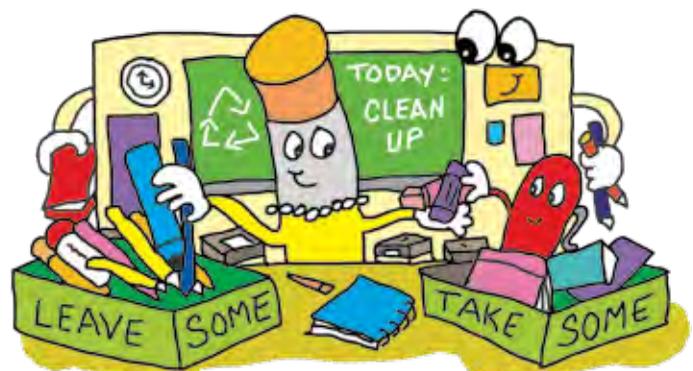
When you and your classmates are getting ready to clean everything out of your desks, talk with your teacher about ways for the class to reduce waste by reusing and recycling as much as possible. You can keep our earth in mind as you prepare for summer vacation.

To encourage reuse, set up a reuse/donation table on desk clean-out day. Some schools call this a "Take Some/Leave Some" table. Students who no longer want usable school supplies can "Leave Some," and any students or teachers who want or need those school supplies can "Take Some" for free. Choose a volunteer to be in charge of taking any of the leftover items to an organization that collects school supplies for kids in need. Binders, book bags, lunch boxes, extra pens and pencils, and unopened craft supplies could all be reused or donated. You could even take up a collection of gently used school clothing. Also, many communities have organizations that accept used books.

Make sure that LOTS of clearly marked recycling bins are set up next to trash cans. Remove used paper from notebooks and recycle it, but keep the unused portion of the notebooks for next year or to use for drawing and writing projects this summer. Used paper with one blank side can be scratch paper or cut into smaller pieces at home to make notepaper.

Don't forget the large spaces inside the school, such as the gym, cafeteria, auditorium, and playground areas. You and your class can look around and pick up trash and recyclables on the last day of school.

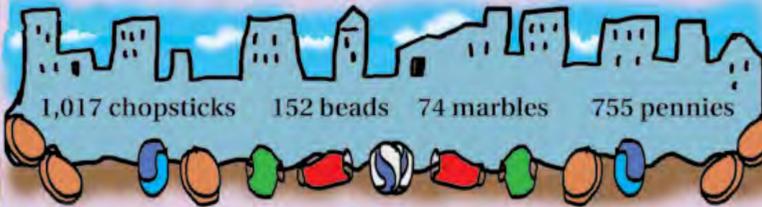
Practicing the Three Rs during the last week of school will leave it in great shape for next fall! Have a green summer!



TIME AFTER TIME

A time capsule is a container that holds articles from a certain place and time. Time capsules are usually buried or built into a sealed place and are meant to be opened much later. They show people in the future what life was like at the time they were hidden.

At the city landfill, a time capsule was found. The objects inside were clues to the year the time capsule was buried. Here is what was found inside:



1,017 chopsticks 152 beads 74 marbles 755 pennies

Add the number of objects. The total number of objects will give you the year the time capsule was buried, but not the reason. The time capsule was buried the year an exciting new product was sold. The pocket-sized product made it easy to store and listen to music, but it could not be used to communicate with other people. After that first year, the product kept changing and improving, so people kept buying new models and discarding the old ones, creating a new kind of electronic waste.

What was the year? _____

What was the product? _____

SCRAMBLED WASTE

Max and Ben are helping their grandparents with the spring cleaning. They have both learned in school that it is important to put each type of waste in the right place. Unscramble the bold words to complete the sentences.

- When cleaning out the basement, they found some old paint and spray cans. To best care for the environment, they should have an adult take them to a **lohhsuedo rahaduzso tawes** center or event.

- In the closet, Ben found a coat that was too small. He can **nadote** it so that someone else can use it.

- In the garden shed, Max found an old, rotten tire. His grandfather wanted to burn it. But the brothers know that burning tires is bad for the air. Max asked his grandfather to **lecercy** it instead.

- The garage contained a bunch of old newspapers and glass jars. They placed them into the recycling **ract**.

- Some moldy cardboard was also found. Max decided to throw that into the **srhat** because it was too wet and damaged to be recycled.

RUNAWAY RUN-ONS

Instructions: Read each run-on sentence. Fix it by creating two simple sentences or rewriting it to make one compound sentence with a coordinating conjunction or one complex sentence with a subordinating conjunction.

- Audrey and Isaac planned a garage sale they wanted to raise money for summer camp.

- Ella put the old cell phones in a box, her mom took the box to the van.

- The cell phones can't be dropped off for recycling until Saturday Audrey put a reminder on the refrigerator door.

- Layla rides her bike to the library Nathan walks.

- Layla gets to the library first she finds a table.

- Alejandro goes to the library to return Carl Hiaasen's book, *Flush*, he stops to tell the girls about the book.

- Put unwanted school supplies in this basket recycle used paper in the blue bin.

- Mr. Dylan's class will pick up the baskets, Mrs. Hamm's class will collect the blue bins.

- Diego sorted pens and pencils Jin stacked paper and index cards.

- Nikki's mom cleaned out the garage she found old bug spray and weed killer.

- John got mulch in his shoe at recess the mulch was made from old tires.

Taylor and her friends bought T-shirts at their neighbor's garage sale. Each shirt cost a different amount. Use the clues to figure out how much each shirt cost.

- Taylor's shirt cost three times as much as Landon's shirt.
- Lilly's shirt cost \$2.50.
- Taylor's shirt cost \$3.50 more than Lilly's shirt.
- Julia's shirt cost \$1.25 more than Landon's shirt.
- The shirts cost a total of \$13.75.

POLLUTION SOLUTION

Pollution above the ground can affect the roots of plants and the animals that live deep in the soil. This experiment will show you how pollutants can seep into the soil. For this experiment, you will need a colander, a sink, a clear plastic tub, rocks of different sizes from outside, water, a pitcher or beaker, and food coloring.

- Put the rocks into the colander. Run water over the rocks to clean them. Remove all of the dirt.
- Put the rocks in the clear plastic tub with the smallest on the bottom and largest on the top.
- Pour a small amount of water over the rocks in the tub. Where does the water go? Write down your observations.
- Empty the water and rocks into the colander.
- Refill the plastic tub with rocks, again putting the smallest rocks at the bottom and the largest at the top.
- Put water into a pitcher or beaker. Mix several drops of food coloring into the water. Does the food coloring change the water? How? Write down your observations.
- Pour the water and food coloring solution slowly over the rocks in the tub. How far does the liquid sink? At the lowest point, is the water clear or colored by the food coloring? Write down your observations.
- Carefully lift the tub and look at the bottom. What do you see?



Questions:

- If the rocks are like soil and the food coloring is like pollution, how do you think pollution might affect the soil?

- Once pollution is mixed with water, do you think it would be hard or easy to clean the water?

- What kind of living things might be affected by pollution in the soil?

- List some kinds of waste you have at home that could mix with water and seep into the soil.

PUZZLING CLUES

Questions:

- Which clue did you use first? _____
- Was there any clue that you didn't need? _____
- Whose shirt cost the most? _____
- Whose shirt cost the least? _____
- How much did each shirt cost?

Julia _____ Landon _____ Lilly _____ Taylor _____

Don't go overboard!

Be a smart recycler

“Going overboard” means losing control and doing too much of something— even a good thing. For example, if you ate so many yummy apples that you got sick to your stomach, you “went overboard” eating them.



Eating apples is good for you. But losing control and eating so many that you feel sick is NOT!

The same thing goes for recycling. We all have learned that recycling is good for the planet. But did you know that some people “go overboard” when they recycle? They want to do the right thing and recycle. This is fantastic! But sometimes they aren't sure if something is recyclable or not and

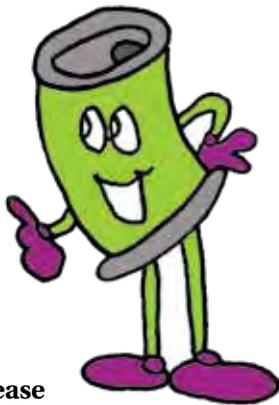
they toss things into the recycling bin that cannot be recycled. Sometimes people leave a lot of food in recyclable bottles or cans they place into the bin. This makes a big mess! This yucky mix of recycling and garbage takes hard work, time, and money to separate. Sometimes the mess is impossible to sort out. Then the recycling is ruined and may have to be sent to a landfill.

This is why it is important to know what to recycle and how to prepare it before placing anything into the recycling bins at your home, in your school, or at a drop-off center.

Be a smart recycler. Don't “go overboard.” And help your family members, classmates, and friends be smart recyclers, too!

WHAT should I recycle?

- Aluminum cans, such as pop and juice cans
- Steel cans, including food, soup, pet food, and “tin” cans
- Pots and pans
- Plastic bottles and jars with a bottom that is wider than the top
- Plastic dairy tubs, such as cottage cheese or yogurt containers
- Plastic buckets, such as kitty litter buckets (remove handles)
- Clean plastic plant pots
- Glass bottles and jars – **For home collection, please put glass in a separate container that you provide.**
- Newspapers
- Magazines and catalogs
- School papers, printer and copier paper, and mail
- Paperboard, such as empty cereal and gift boxes
- Corrugated cardboard, such as shipping boxes



WHAT should I NOT recycle?

- NO clear plastic tubs (like hummus or salsa containers).
- NO plastic clamshell boxes that held salad, fruit, or takeout.

- NO plastic bags of any kind.
- NO Styrofoam™ (polystyrene foam) of any kind – There is a special container for collection at the Recycling Center at the Waste and Recovery Center.

HOW should I prepare my recycling?

- Empty and rinse food and drink containers. Turn containers upside down and let them drip dry.
- Break down and flatten boxes.
- Recycle only clean paper products. Remember — paper and boxes soaked with grease or covered in sticky, spilled food should go into the trash.
- Don't bag your recycling. Put clean recyclables loose into the cart or blue bin.



WHY should I recycle?

- Recycling keeps usable resources out of landfills.
- Making new products from recyclables uses less energy and creates less pollution.
- Recycling helps create jobs.

WHERE should I recycle?

- If you live in a house, you can recycle in bins you take to the curb.
- If you live in an apartment, condominium, duplex, or mobile home park, you can recycle by taking a few steps out your door to the recycling containers. Most complexes have recycling containers right next to each garbage dumpster.
- All families can choose to take their recyclables to any of our three facilities in Thurston County. Look for the large recycling containers.

Thurston County Facilities

Waste and Recovery Center – Recycling Center
2420 Hogum Bay Road NE, Lacey
Open daily

Rochester Drop-Box Facility
16500 Sargent Road
Open Tuesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays only

Rainier Drop-Box Facility
13010 Rainier Acres Road SE
Open Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays only

Please be sure to follow the label instructions on the bins. Place recyclables loose in the bins — not in paper or plastic bags. Also, if you go to drop off your recycling and find that one or more bins are full, PLEASE do not leave your recycling on the ground. Either come back another time or try one of our other locations.

Remember!

Plastic bags of any kind cannot be recycled curbside or at our drop-box sites. Many local grocery, department, and home improvement stores accept plastic bags and plastic wrap in recycle bins at the front of their stores.

To find a recycling location nearby, visit PlasticFilmRecycling.org.



**Thurston County
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Solid Waste Division**

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