



**Athens-Clarke County  
Solid Waste Department  
Recycling Division  
(706) 613-3512**

**Spring 2009**



## Buying recycled in tough economic times

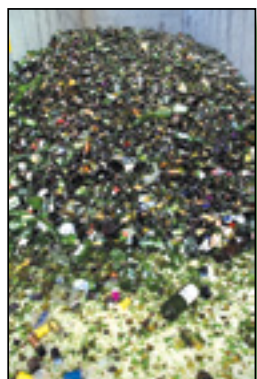
Most people believe their part of recycling ends once they separate recyclables and place them on the curb or in drop-off bins for collection. But recycling isn't just about sorting materials and then – POOF! – the recyclables magically disappear. There is no recycling fairy finishing your eco-deeds and turning your materials into new products. Fully supporting a recycling program means having the knowledge and ability to identify and purchase “new” products that are made from recovered materials. Unless we make smart decisions by purchasing recycled products, we aren't closing the loop on recycling. This should help you get to know what it means to truly recycle and close the recycling loop.

### Keys to Buying Recycled:

When used by itself, the chasing arrows (the recycling symbol) indicates the material might be recyclable if



local facilities exist for that type of material. This symbol alone does NOT indicate the material contains recycled content.



written as text next to this symbol.

This paperboard label will often have text next to or below it explaining the amount of post-consumer recycled content in the paperboard item. Post-consumer content means an item is made from material that has passed through the hands of consumers.



Higher amounts of post-consumer content material are better for recycling programs because that means the material was (1) purchased by a consumer, (2) used by the consumer, (3) re-

Manufacturers sometimes use the chasing arrows inside a circle to indicate the presence of recycled materials. Additionally, a percentage can be listed inside the chasing arrows to indicate the amount of recycled content or may be



cycled by the consumer, and (4) traveled through the recycling system to be made into new “post-consumer” content material. The challenge with “buying recycled” is that not all materials that contain recycled content are labeled, so do your homework before you shop and get to know brands that use recycled content.

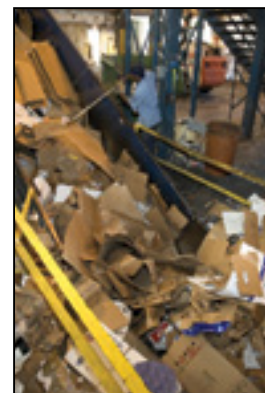
Fully supporting recycling programs, from recycling to buying recycled products, is especially important during these hard economic times. Recyclables provide raw materials to business and industry (markets). Due to the global financial credit crisis, those markets have been shrinking, meaning there is less demand for the material. In mid-October, the Asian markets ceased taking recyclables from the United States which has caused a drastic decline in market prices. The decline in pricing has led to lay-offs and other cost-saving measures to keep recy-



cling businesses afloat. So your action to recycle AND buy recycled can help the local, state, national, and global economy. Over 1.1 million people have jobs in the United States because people like you make the decision every day to RECYCLE and BUY RECYCLED products. So do your part and shop smart to help the environment and the economy!

Here are some recycled product resources:

- ◆ California Integrated Waste Management Board: [www.ciwmb.ca.gov/rpc](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/rpc)
- ◆ Recycled Plastic Products Directory: [www.americanchemistry.com/s\\_plastics](http://www.americanchemistry.com/s_plastics) (click on “Learning Center,” then “Recycled Plastic Products Directory”)
- ◆ Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines: [www.epa.gov/cpg/](http://www.epa.gov/cpg/)



## GreenFest 2009!

### “Green” Challenge

Through Friday, April 10

Open to: All residents

Contact: ACC Recycling Division, (706) 613-3512

Challenge yourself and your family (or classroom) to make easy lifestyle changes for the environment in 2009! Each action you implement will earn you and/or your family (or classroom) “green points.” A total of 150 points or more enters you into a drawing for prizes. Registration form and activity guide are available at the ACC Recycling Division, 699 Hancock Industrial Way, or on these websites: [www.acc-recycle.org](http://www.acc-recycle.org) or [www.athensgreenfest.org](http://www.athensgreenfest.org).

### Garbage! The Revolution Starts at Home

Friday, April 3 - Sunday, April 5

Location: Ciné, 234 West Hancock Avenue, Downtown Athens

Showtimes: Listed at [www.acc-recycle.org](http://www.acc-recycle.org) and [www.athenscine.com](http://www.athenscine.com)

Open to: All ages

Contact: (706) 353-7377

Fee: FREE

Join in the panel discussion after the show



about what we can do locally to reduce our household waste. *Garbage! The Revolution Starts at Home* is a feature documentary about how the family household contributes to environmental problems, including water, air, soil, and marine pollution. For more information about the movie, visit [www.garbagerevolution.com](http://www.garbagerevolution.com) or join the Facebook group, “Garbage the Movie.”

### Reduce, Reuse, Rerun – Junk Yard Jog 5K!

Saturday, April 11

Little Landfill 1-Mile Fun Run, 8:30 a.m.; Junk Yard Jog 5K, 9 a.m.

Location: Athens-Clarke County Landfill, 5700 Lexington Road

Open to: All ages

Contact: Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful – Register online at [www.KeepAthensBeautiful.org](http://www.KeepAthensBeautiful.org)/KACCB or call (706) 613-3501, ext. 312.

Fee: \$15 registration before April 8, \$20 thereafter. **Registration is required.**

Support Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful and the ACC Landfill

Buzzards in our efforts to educate citizens about litter reduction, recycling solutions, and proper solid waste practices. Racers will be amazed by the scenic cross-country trail around the ACC Landfill. All registered racers will receive the coveted Junk Yard Jog T-shirt!



### GreenFest Awards Ceremony

Friday, April 17, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Location: Terrapin Brewery, 265 Newton Bridge Road

Open to: Everyone!

Fee: Free

Contact: ACC Recycling Division, (706) 613-3512

Join us for a reception and awards ceremony honoring the individuals, organizations, and businesses that have made a positive impact on the environment of Athens-Clarke County over the past year. Awards will be presented by: Alec Little Environmental Award Committee, ACC Recycling Division, Bike Athens, Friends of Barnett Shoals Road Corridor, Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful, Athens Grow Green Coalition, Athens Land Trust, ACC Stormwater, Upper Oconee Watershed Network, ACC Community Tree Council, and the University of Georgia Go Green Alliance.



### Scrap Tire Amnesty Week

Saturday, April 18 - Saturday, April 25

Hours: Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Saturday, 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Location: ACC Landfill, 5700 Lexington Road

Open to: ACC Residents ONLY

Contact: ACC Recycling Division, (706) 613-3512

Up to six scrap passenger or light truck tires (rims removed) are accepted for recycling for free during Scrap Tire Amnesty Week. Residents must bring their scrap tires to the landfill during operating hours and check in at the landfill scale house before dropping off their tires. RESIDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO SHOW A PICTURE I.D.

### Cookin' Up Compost

Monday, May 4, 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Location: The State Botanical Garden of Georgia, 2450 South Milledge Avenue, Callaway Building

Fee: Members, \$10; Non-members, \$12

Contact: The State Botanical Garden of Georgia, (706) 542-6156 or [www.uga.edu/botgarden](http://www.uga.edu/botgarden)

Join ACC Recycling Division and Cooperative Extension personnel during International Compost Awareness Week as they share recipes for backyard composting. Participants will learn the basic ingredients and directions to make compost at home. Composting supplies will be provided to all attendees.

Presenters: Stacey Farrell and Suki Janssen, Athens-Clarke County Recycling Division, and Amanda Tedrow, ACC Cooperative Extension

### Hooray for Worms! Children's Storytimes

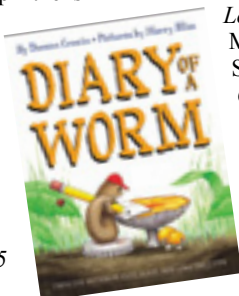
Monday, May 4 at 7:00 p.m.; Tuesday, May 5, and Wednesday, May 6, 9:30 and 10:30 a.m.

Location: Athens-Clarke County Main Library, 2025 Baxter Street

Contact: Athens-Clarke County Library, (706) 613-3650, ext. 314

Fee: No charge

Join the Library staff, ACC Cooperative Extension, ACC Recycling Division, and The State Botanical Garden of Georgia as they celebrate International Compost Awareness Week. Bring your children, ages 18



months to 5 years, for Storytime. The Storytime this week will focus on the benefits of worms and composting with worms. Storytime will include a visit from some recycling worms, a wormy craft, and the showing of *Diary of a Worm* by Doreen Cronin.

### Compost Bin Sale

Wednesday, May 6, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Location: ACC Solid Waste Department, 1001 College Avenue

Open to: All residents

Contact: Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful, (706) 613-3501, ext. 312

Fee: \$45 each, all proceeds to benefit Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful

Are you interested in taking waste reduction to the next level? If so, come and purchase a compost bin and recycle – Mother Nature style. Staff from the ACC Recycling Division, ACC Cooperative Extension, Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful, and The State Botanical Gardens will be on-site to answer any compost questions.



### Birchmore Trail Day

Sunday, May 17, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Memorial Park, Birchmore Trail

Open to: All Ages

Contact: ACC Recycling Division, (706) 613-3512

Fee: No charge!

The ACC Recycling Division, the ACC Leisure Services Department, and the Athens Kiwanis Club are sponsoring the 9th Annual Birchmore Trail Day. The event will include games and activities for children, scavenger hunts on the Fred Birchmore Nature Trail, and a chance to meet the legendary Athenian Fred Birchmore, who rode a bicycle around the world, hiked through many countries, and built the massive Great Wall of Happy Hollow.

Learn more about GreenFest: [www.athensgreenfest.org](http://www.athensgreenfest.org)

Learn more about International Compost Awareness Week, May 3-9: [www.compostingcouncil.org](http://www.compostingcouncil.org)

# 10 tips for Greener Cleaning



(c) Ivonne Wierink / SnapVillage.com

## Read more about it!

**485 Ways to Clean, Polish, Disinfect, Deodorize, and Remove Stains**  
*Clean and Green: The Complete Guide to Nontoxic and Environmentally Safe Housekeeping* by Annie Berthold-Bond (Ceres Press, 1994)

**All-Purpose Cleaners Buying Guide**  
[www.thegreenguide.com/buying-guide/all-purpose-cleaners](http://www.thegreenguide.com/buying-guide/all-purpose-cleaners)

**Clean Your House Without Hurting the Planet**  
[www.grist.org/advice/possessions/2003/03/18/possessions-cleaning/](http://www.grist.org/advice/possessions/2003/03/18/possessions-cleaning/)

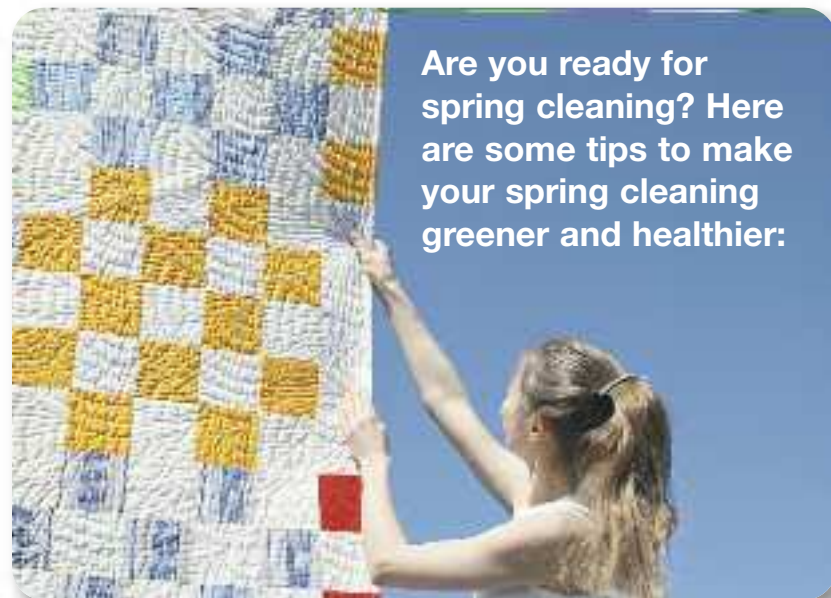
**Greener Cleaning**  
[www.thegreenguide.com/home-garden/cleaning](http://www.thegreenguide.com/home-garden/cleaning)

**How to Go Green: Cleaning**  
<http://planetgreen.discovery.com/go-green/green-cleaning/>

**How to Make a Non-Toxic Cleaning Kit**  
[www.care2.com/greenliving/make-your-own-non-toxic-cleaning-kit.html](http://www.care2.com/greenliving/make-your-own-non-toxic-cleaning-kit.html)

**Non-Toxic Home Cleaning**  
[www.earthesy.com/live\\_nontoxic\\_solutions.htm](http://www.earthesy.com/live_nontoxic_solutions.htm)

**A Test of Green Cleaners**  
[www.grist.org/advice/products/2008/03/25/](http://www.grist.org/advice/products/2008/03/25/)



(c) Anita Salsara / SnapVillage.com

Are you ready for spring cleaning? Here are some tips to make your spring cleaning greener and healthier:

1. Open the windows. After the house has been closed up for most of the winter, the best thing to do is to give it a good airing out. On a pleasant spring day, throw open the windows and give the house a few hours to breathe in the fresh air.
2. Think mechanical first. A scrub brush, a dish scrubber, and a retired toothbrush can provide a lot of cleaning power with no chemicals at all. Drain baskets keep drains free of debris that can lead to clogs.
3. Use up chemicals that you have on hand before purchasing replacement products. If you have cleaners stored in multiple locations (some in the laundry room, others under the kitchen sink, and a few in the garage), find them and inventory what you have available.
4. Consider creating your own cleaners from common household products, such as vinegar, baking soda, salt, lemon juice, and mineral oil. Many of these cleaners are easy to make, effective, and less expensive than pre-mixed chemical solutions. (Remember that even homemade cleaners can be irritating to skin and eyes. Always use caution in mixing, storing, and using homemade cleaners.)

5. If you choose to purchase a cleaning product, choose the mildest and most benign chemical product available. Although it is not mandatory, a few manufacturers do voluntarily provide a complete list of ingredients. Try to select products that provide you complete information on ingredients, offer the most clear instructions on use, and don't require extraordinary safety measures for use or disposal.
6. When you purchase products or containers, look for recycled-content and recyclable containers. Rather than using paper towels, use reusable towels and old rags. If you purchase paper towels, please choose those made from recycled-content paper.
7. Buying concentrates reduces packaging waste. Some cleaning products are now sold in concentrated form; you finish making the solution by adding tap water at home. Other products, such as laundry detergent, are concentrated and ready to use when you get home. Remember—if you have softened water, you can use even less detergent.
8. Keep unfinished products in their original, labeled containers. *Never* pour potentially harmful chemicals into food or beverage containers for storage. Store all cleaning products out of reach of children and away from pets. Do not store potentially hazardous materials close to sources of heat or in direct sunlight.
9. Dispose of containers and unused chemicals properly. Follow the label instructions. If the instructions are unclear, call the manufacturer for more details or call us.
10. Make sure everyone in your family knows about your new "greener cleaning" habits.

## On the GO

If you're trying to trim your expenses, you may be walking or biking more. Walking and biking are good for your health and your pocketbook. Of course, they are also better for our environment because walking and biking don't require fuel or spew out emissions.

However, if you like to take a cup of coffee with you when you leave the house, what are you supposed to do? Reusable travel mugs are fine if you are walking, but may not be fully leak-proof when you bike. There's a simple, waste-free solution—thermal or canteen bottles. The thermal-style bottles keep hot drinks hot and cold drinks cold. These bottles can be sealed, so you can put them into a backpack or bag without worrying about leaks and spills. Many have a built-in loop to allow you to hang the bottle from your handle bars. Others have insulated pouches with handles or loops. Still others will fit right into your bike's water bottle holder.

If your drink of choice is water or a sports drink, you can use the same style bottles. Simply fill the clean bottle with tap water or sports drink from your gallon jug.

Look for leak-proof thermal bottles at local stores. Many carry these bottles and accessories. Or, go online and search for "thermo bottles."



(c) Chrstock / SnapVillage.com

# Hope for harried readers Planet Green

"Like money, books must be kept in constant circulation. Lend and borrow to the maximum."

At a time when many have had to tighten their belts, novelist Henry Miller offers good advice for readers. Enjoying a good book doesn't require buying a new copy or even owning it. Books can be borrowed, shared, and swapped. The pleasure is the same, but the cost is less.

The library is, of course, the least expensive way to enjoy good books. You can borrow from the local library's many resources. All you need is a library card.

Another option is used bookstores. When you buy used books, you often pay only one-quarter to one-half of the original price. Some of the "used" books have never even been read. Many secondhand stores sell books, and books are a common item at garage sales, as well.

Sharing books with friends is free. Often, you and your friends enjoy the same types of books or authors. You can also spread your enthusiasm for a book that you couldn't put down by passing it along to a new reader.

In addition to these local resources, there are many online options as well:

- Book Crossing is a program that allows people to "read and release"

books. If you want to release a book or are hunting for one, visit [www.bookcrossing.com](http://www.bookcrossing.com).

- Several sites offer readers the chance to trade one or more books with other readers, usually for just the cost of shipping. For more information about book swaps by mail, visit [www.bookins.com](http://www.bookins.com), [www.bookmooch.com](http://www.bookmooch.com), [www.paperbackswap.com](http://www.paperbackswap.com), or [www.swaptree.com](http://www.swaptree.com).

- If you've ever wondered why there isn't a "Netflix" for books, your wait is over. BookSwim allows readers to rent books. This concept is not new. Before the age of downloadable audiobooks, readers could rent books on tape (and later on CD) by mail. Now, readers can rent bestsellers at a fraction of the purchase price. For more information, go to [www.bookswim.com](http://www.bookswim.com).

Books aren't the only media that can be borrowed, shared, swapped, or purchased used, of course. The same applies to DVDs and CDs, as well as many magazines.

You don't have to give up at-home entertainment, but you can lower its cost by lending and borrowing to the maximum.



(c) FutureDigitalDesign / SnapVillage.com

If you have a pay-TV service, such as cable or satellite, you may be getting the Planet Green network. If you enjoy the Discovery channel, you'll like Planet Green.

Planet Green offers a variety of original programs. If you love home renovation or want to know how to live an everyday green life, you'll be able to watch shows like *Living With Ed*, *Renovation Nation*, *Total Wrecklamation*, *Wa\$ted!*, *World's Greenest Homes*, *Focus Earth*, and *Greenovate*. Maybe you're more interested in food. Check out *Emeril Green* or *Supper Club*. If you're wondering what is new in transportation, catch an episode of *Mean Green Machines*. Do you love entertainment news? Watch *Hollywood Green*. How about a game show? Play along with *Go for the Green*.

In addition to the programming, you'll find "Go Green" tips at the website, <http://planetgreen.discovery.com/>, along with games and video clips. There is even a convenient "channel finder" — all you need to know is your ZIP code and your pay-TV service provider.

## QUOTES REQUOTED



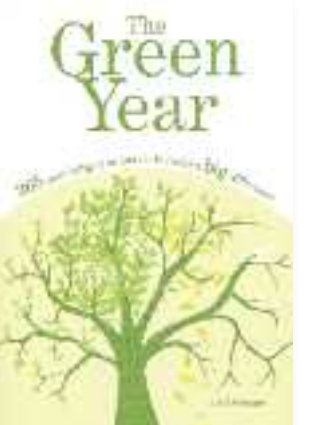
The care of the Earth is our most ancient and most worthy and, after all, our most pleasing responsibility. To cherish what remains of it, and to foster its renewal, is our only legitimate hope.

Wendell Berry, 1934—  
American farmer and poet

## Greening your year

Looking for small steps that will make a big difference? Check out *The Green Year: 365 Small Things You Can Do to Make a Big Difference* by Jodi Helmer (Penguin Group, 2008). This book has one simple idea for each day of the year. Each page also has a spot for you to check off that you've done the activity or to write your own alternative that will work better for you and your family.

The ideas include reducing waste, saving energy, and much more. Some days suggest things that you probably already do—or have thought about doing—such as replacing incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescents and sharing magazines. Other days give you new and fun ideas. For instance, when you stop at your favorite ice cream shop, don't get ice cream in a cup. Instead, order your ice cream in an edible and waste-free cone. Here's another one: Clean out your car's trunk or cargo area and improve your gas mileage. According to Helmer, an extra 100 pounds in the trunk can reduce your fuel efficiency by 2 percent.



## CLIP AND SAVE



(c) Maypop / SnapVillage.com

Each year in the U.S., gas-powered lawn mowers consume more than 720 million gallons of gasoline. At the same time, these mowers spit out harmful air pollutants and disturb the peace and quiet of our spring and summer days.

However, gas-powered mowers aren't the only way to keep your lawn looking good. Electric mowers are quieter and exhaust-free. Some electric mowers need an extension cord, but many of the newer ones contain a rechargeable battery. With battery-powered models, you simply plug in the mower to charge it and then unplug it while you cut the grass. These cordless mowers are heavier and a bit more difficult to maneuver than the corded models. Neither type requires oil changes or gasoline. You do have the cost for electricity, but that may be as little as \$5-10 per year.

Another—and even more environmentally friendly—option is a manual reel lawn mower. Here are just a few of the great reasons to use a reel mower:

- Reel mowers leave behind healthier grass plants because they "snip" the grass, cutting it in the same way that a pair of scissors would. (Powered rotary mowers actually tear the grass blades.)
- Manual mowers don't need gasoline, so an empty gas can will never change your plans. They also don't require an electrical charge, so you don't have to remember to plug them in.
- Push reel mowers produce no harmful emissions and emit no exhaust into your face and your neighborhood's air.
- Manual mowers are whisper-quiet, allowing you to hear your children playing and to enjoy the birds chirping. You can still listen to your music on headphones, but you won't have to!
- You'll enjoy a brisk walk and some resistance training while you mow.
- Reel mowers are virtually maintenance-free. Occasionally, the bearings and cutting edges may need a little lubricant and a slight adjustment. The cutters will need to be sharpened every couple of years.
- You'll never struggle with the pull cord on a manual mower. Simply start walking and the mower starts, too.
- Reel mowers take less space in the garage or shed.
- Push reel mowers are the cheapest to purchase, operate, and maintain.

A manual reel mower isn't right for every yard. The mowers are best suited to smaller yards, such as those that are 10,000 square feet (about one-quarter acre) or less. However, many of today's yards are no bigger than this.

If you'd like more information about reel mowers (or about electric mowers), ask at your hardware store, lawn and garden center, or home supply store. You can also learn more at [www.cleanaingardening.com](http://www.cleanaingardening.com), [www.planetnatural.com](http://www.planetnatural.com), [www.gardeners.com](http://www.gardeners.com), [www.reelin.com](http://www.reelin.com), or [www.reelmowerguide.com/](http://www.reelmowerguide.com/).

# WHAT'S UP?



On behalf of the Classic Center and the Athens-Clarke County Recycling Division, I'd like to thank all the generous sponsors of the first Green Life Expo.

These sponsors included Leon Farmer & Co.; R.W. Allen; Rosser; Commercial Roof; Waste Pro; Certa Pro; Hotel Indigo; Athens Janitor Supply; Georgia Power; and Thornton Brothers. In-kind sponsors included Cox Radio; Athens Parent Magazine; the Athens Banner-Herald; and Fairway Outdoor Advertising.

The expo was a huge success! There were more than 50 exhibitors, 17 education presentations, and 2,000 attendees. Additionally, 113 TVs were recycled, along with 60 pounds of CDs, DVDs, and VHS tapes, 200 pounds of batteries, 100 compact fluorescent light bulbs, four boxes of plastic film, and two boxes of shoes.

We'd also like to thank our community for attending the expo, and we hope the information learned and contacts made will help improve the quality of life in our region of Georgia. We can't wait to bring everyone back next year for another great event.

*Suki Janssen  
Waste Reduction Administrator  
ACC Recycling Division*

## NEW Athens Area ToolShed

Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful, Habitat for Humanity, and Community Connection of Northeast Georgia have partnered to bring you the new Athens Area ToolShed program. This new community resource will offer a large inventory of tools, ranging from gardening tools to renovation tools, to assist you and your volunteers with community improvement projects.

As we work to increase our tool inven-

tory, we will be hosting the "Shed Your Tools" donation day on April 20, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



All types of tools are needed, including hammers, power tools, lawn and gardening tools, and painting supplies. Please—only drop off tools in good condition! Donations are tax-deductible and can be dropped off at the KACCB Habitat for Humanity ReStore or at Community Connection.

For more information, call KACCB at (706) 613-3501, ext. 312.

## 'Twas the Season to TREE-CYCLE!

On Saturday, January 3, more than 70 volunteers generously gave of their time to staff seven local Christmas tree drop-off sites around Athens-



© iStockphoto.com / René Mansi

Clarke County. More than 500 citizens recycled over 18 tons of Christmas trees! This year,

participating residents received a free native tree seedling to plant. All dropped-off trees were taken to the ACC Landfill to be chipped and turned into mulch.

Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful would

like to thank all the citizens who participated in this important recycling event and brought their undecorated tree to one of our drop-off locations. Special thanks to the Chick-Fil-A eastside location for donating coupons for all volunteers and participants. This event would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of volunteers from the following organizations: Athens Academy SEEDS (Students for Ecologically Enlightened Decisions and Solutions); the AT&T Pio-

neers; Winterville Public Works; Cofer's Home and Garden Showplace; Barrow Elementary; Classic City Rotary Club; Chase Street Elementary; Sandy Creek Nature Center; and the Keep Athens-Clarke County Board of Directors.



### Make your own natural cleaners!

After reading "10 Tips for Greener Cleaning," are you ready to make your own cleaners? We can help! The ACC Recycling Division has

a short guidebook, "Recipes for a Clean & Healthy Household: How to Make Non-Toxic Household Cleaners That Are Better for Your Family and the Environment." The booklet includes recipes for homemade cleaners using ingredients commonly found in your house, as

well as tips. Call our office at (706) 613-3512 to request your copy today!



**We want your suggestions, questions, and comments!**

Athens-Clarke County  
Solid Waste Department  
Recycling Division  
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www.acc-recycle.org

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PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER  
70% POST-CONSUMER NEWS  
CONTENT, USING SOY INKS

Please recycle this publication  
after you have read it!

## Green Starts Here!



The nationwide organization Keep America Beautiful (KAB) is challenging communities across the nation to focus on litter eradication this spring with the Great American Cleanup/Green Starts Here program. Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful (KACCB) is asking all local Adopt-A-Highway groups and neighborhood associations to focus green efforts here at home.

Help your elderly neighbor beautify his yard, organize a roadside litter cleanup, or coordinate spring cleaning efforts in your neighborhood. Contact KACCB to borrow gardening supplies, landscaping tools, and litter "grab-its" (a tool that will save your back). Make a difference in our community!

### REMEMBER TO RECYCLE

**Employee of the Quarter –  
January 2009  
George Bush, Senior Driver**



George has been with the ACC Solid Waste Department for over 35 years. He is a dedicated employee who rarely misses a day of work. He takes great pride in his front-end load truck. He often can be seen washing his ACC truck on his personal time because he likes to see it clean. George will be retiring from the ACC Solid Waste Department this spring. Congratulations, George, and thank you!

### KITTY CORNER

During one of my many spot checks of the Recycling Facility, I decided to check out



this bin a little more closely. Do you see anything missing from it? There are only bottles in here and no jars. Instead of curling up for a nap in this cozy empty space, I thought it

would be the 'purrfect' opportunity to talk about the importance of glass recycling.

Did you know that today's recycled pickle jar is tomorrow's highway? That's right! All the glass that is recycled is sorted into different colors, such as clear, blue, and brown, and then sent off to places that make new bottles and jars out of them. The tiny shards that are too small for smelting are used as road base during street and highway construction. Next time you're driving, think about how you help build our nation's roadways by recycling your glass. If you're

near the east side of town, stop by the ACC Recycling Facility at 699 Hancock Industrial Way and see this cat in action!

Generally we cats love smells, but one smell we don't like is the residue left inside glass jars and bottles. Give my sensitive sniffer a break by rinsing out your glass before putting it into the bin. The jars and bottles don't have to be absolutely clean, just free of food residue and juices. Remember to remove the lids from jars and recycle those, too!

*Have a great glass-recycling day,  
MRF*

