



## Conservation Krewe

NEWSLETTER  
Volume #2

### PLASTICS

"How do I know which plastics are recyclable?" "What do all those different numbers mean?" Learn more about how you can recycle.

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### COMPOSTING

You don't need to be an avid gardener to have a compost. Learn how to DIY your own backyard compost and the do's and don'ts of composting.

See page 3

### E-WASTE

What is E-waste, why we should care & what we can do about it?

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## Welcome

In this edition of the Conservation Krewe Newsletter our team members have written articles about reducing, reusing & recycling. We hope you learn something & enjoy.



### LOCAL RESOURCES

Find out what we can do right here at home to fight the good fight and recycle!

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### ECO-FRIENDLY FIDO

Americans spend 70 billion dollars a year on supplies for their pets. How can we reduce Fido's environmental paw-print?

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Plastics; the material is everywhere and while it doesn't decompose it is completely recyclable. Recycling may seem like a daunting task with plastics coming in all different types. There is a little number, usually at the bottom of the container, to make sorting easier. You may ask yourself, "How do you know which plastics to recycle?", "Why do the numbers matter?" or "How do I recycle?"

Recycling can easily become something that is habitual once you understand the different types of plastics and what plastics are recycled in your area. Knowing how to quickly identify the type of plastic a container is without searching for that minuscule number makes recycling so much easier.

The next hurdle to jump is contacting your local recycling plant and ask about the recycling program in your area. Figuring out if your local area provides street pick up or if they have a recycling drop off center is important. Once you have obtained your pick-up recycling bin or you have designated your own recycling bin to use to take to a drop off center yourself, you are ready to recycle.

Some helpful tips:

- Tape a chart of the different types of plastics that are recyclable in your area on the front of your recycling bin. Its great to have a reminder of the items allowed in the bin, especially if you have guests over.
- Buy a small recycling bin for in your house to make recycling more convenient. Place it next to your landfill garbage can, it's a great visual reminder.



#1 Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET)  
Polyester Fibers, Soda and Water Bottles



#2 High Density Polyethylene (HDPE)  
Bottles, Grocery Bags, Motor Oil Bottle,  
Liquid Laundry Detergent



#3 Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)  
Clear Films, Pipe, Fencing,  
Non Food Bottles, Blister Packs



#4 Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE)  
Plastic Bags, 6-pack Rings, Various Containers  
Container Lids



#5 Polypropylene (PP)  
Yogurt and Deli Containers, Dishware  
Auto Parts, Cosmetics Bottles



#6 Polystyrene (PS)  
Styrofoam, Packing Peanuts, CD Jewel Cases  
Take-out Plates and Containers



#7 Other Resins  
Other types, Acrylic, Styrene,  
Nylon, Fiberglass and Mixed

# Composting

Sarah Eden



Composting is such a great way to reduce your amount of waste and live an environmentally conscious lifestyle. You don't need to be an avid gardener to have a compost; it is simply a way to put your food waste and other biodegradable goods back into the soil. You may even find you enjoy gardening. In order to start composting you don't need a fancy compost bin, you can use a simple storage bin with a lid. Once you have the supplies all you need is to understand the Do's and Don'ts. To learn how to DIY your own compost bin click the links below. There are 2 different types of compost bins that can fit your needs.

<https://www.bhg.com/gardening/yard/compost/diy-compost-bin/>

<https://www.diynetwork.com/how-to/outdoors/gardening/how-to-make-compost>

## Don'ts

Dairy / eggs

Botanicals w/  
pesticides

Fats/ Oils/ Grease

Charcoal

Meat Scraps

Animal Waste

Paper products

Pesticide free  
botanicals

Eggshells

Dryer Lint

Nut Shells

Fireplace ash

Coffee Grounds

Hair/ Fur

Tea Bags

Wood/ Straw





# THE ECO-FRIENDLY PET

## Reducing Fido's environmental pawprint

*Hannah Efferson*

Americans spend 70 billion dollars a year on supplies for their pets. Does your pet have food, food bowls, toys, treats? Have you gotten collars, leashes, or other accessories for your furry friend? How about brushes, shampoos, or sanitary products like litter or waste baggies? How many of those products came in plastic packaging? What happens to Fido's empty food bag or old toys? Do they get thrown away? Pet food that comes in a flexible plastic bag is probably made of polypropylene and most curbside recycling programs cannot process this type of plastic. If your pet food comes in a paper bag, odds are its been reinforced with plastic meaning it cannot be recycled either. Never fear eco-savvy pet parents! Many companies have heard your cry for eco-friendly options and are stepping up to the plate.

TerraCycle® is one such company. They have partnered with food brands like Wellness®, Open Farm, Guardian, Earthborn Holistic® and Venture™ to collect and upcycle empty food bags and turn them into new products! Right now, the

TerraCycle® programs are one-of-a-kind and most pet food bags are not recyclable.

There are other ways to make Fido an eco-friendly consumer! Buy wet food packaged in aluminum cans, treats in cardboard boxes, cardboard litter containers, biodegradable poop bags, toys that are free of plastic wrapping, or make your own treats, toys and food at home!

Many new products appear on the market every day to cater to eco savvy pet parents. Reduce Fido's environmental pawprint by buying natural rubber dog toys, felt cat toys, ropes, antlers, bully sticks, paper scratching posts and leather or fabric collars. Look for biodegradable materials like hemp fiber in everything from collars to shampoo bottles.

We love our pets so let's make small choices every day to ensure we have a healthy planet where we can play together for years to come!

# Our Waste, Your Waste, Everybody's Waste: E-WASTE

Kayla Leyden

Let's start by defining e-waste. Electronic waste or e-waste is a loosely defined term for everything from VCRs and fax machines to the latest smartphones and tablets. For the sake of this article we will define e-waste as electronics that are outdated or unrepairable.

Have you ever thought about what happened to that old Walkman, 8 track, CD player, house phone, beeper, Zune, iPod Nano, box TV, DVD player? If they aren't in your attic collecting dust or at the thrift store odds are they have found their way to a landfill. What's the harm in that? What makes e-waste so bad?

Many electronics contain heavy metals and carcinogens like mercury and lead as well as valuable metals like gold and copper. Often these electronics are left to leech toxic materials into the soil and water supply or burned releasing these toxins into the air. Americans alone can generate about 3.4 million tons of e-waste a year.

Luckily, we already know what to do to help reduce, reuse, recycle! Do you really need the latest iPhone or does that older edition work just fine? Can it be fixed; will a simple repair save your electronic from the dump? If you can't live without it and you can't fix it, you can recycle it! Recycling e-waste may not be convenient, you can't just put it in your blue bin; but never fear there are options for you eco savvy tech users! Many times, you can trade in old tech for cash!

E-WASTE  
RECYLING  
SHREVEPORT-  
BOSSIER

ForeRunner -  
Recycling

BestBuy

EcoATM

STS Electronic-  
Recycling

Republic Services



**1.6 billion**

cell phones manufactured in 2012. Electronics are packed with toxic chemicals—arsenic, lead, and poly-brominated flame retardants.

**18 months**

That's how short the average American keeps a cell phone.

**60% wasted**

Most of our e-waste ends up in landfills—both at home and in the developing world—where toxic metals leach into the environment.

**30% lost**

Even when recycled, a significant amount of electronic material cannot be recovered.

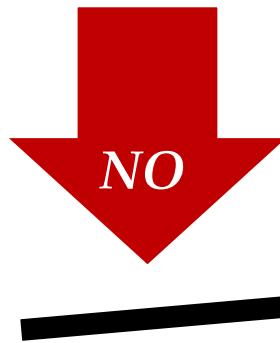


# LOCAL RESOURCES

*Sarah Eden*

The recycling program began in 2011 for the city of Shreveport and is unique in the fact that it is a single stream curb side pickup system. Residents pay a small fee of \$2.50, which is added on to their water bill. The program will accept any plastic items 1 through 7 on the recycle scale. The symbol you can usually find on the bottom of the container, but to make things easier the table to the right lists all the that are accepted through the program. Visit Shreveport's Department of Public Works website for more info

<https://www.shreveportla.gov/279/Recycling>



Food Waste/ Yard Waste/  
Furniture/ Appliances/  
Tires/ Toys/ Automobile  
Parts/ Garden Hoses/  
Paint Buckets/ Batteries/  
Construction Materials/  
Aerosol Spray Cans/  
Wood/ Rocks/ Bricks/ Dirt



Newspaper/ Corrugated  
Boxes/ Magazines/ Office  
Paper/ Telephone Books/  
Shopping Catalogs/  
Aluminum Cans/ Steel  
Cans/ Plastic Bottles/ Juice  
Boxes/ Washing  
Detergent Bottles/ Glass  
Bottles/ Mail

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