



Trash & Recycling Updates, etc...

JANUARY THROUGH MARCH, 2009

429-3333

www.mansfieldct.org/publicworks.html

TRASH & RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICE

There are no changes in trash & recycling collection days this quarter.

CHRISTMAS TREES

Bring your tree to the transfer station where it will be transformed into wood chips. **The charge for each tree is \$5.00.**

IN-YARD SERVICE

If you receive backyard collection service, on snowy/icy days please sand and plow your driveway wide enough for the refuse truck. Otherwise, please place your refuse by the curb.

THE SWITCH TO DIGITAL TELEVISION

If you have cable or satellite service, no need to get a new TV by February 2009. Save money on the purchase of the new and the recycling cost of the old. Televisions are recycled at the Mansfield transfer station for \$6 (up to 19 inch screen) or \$12 (20 inch or larger screen).

SAVE YOUR OLD CALENDARS

Bring your 2008 picture calendars to Southeast Elementary School, and they will be sent to **Envelopes, Anyone?. Envelopes, Anyone?** makes unique envelopes from scrap materials, such as old calendars and leftover wallpaper. Visit their website at www.envelopesanyone.us or call them at 203-773-9019.

SHREDDED PAPER IS RECYCLABLE

Shredded paper can and should be recycled. If you shred junk mail, please remove non-paper items such as plastic cards before shredding. Place shreds in a paper bag, small cardboard box or *clear* plastic bag. Close the bag or box lid. Place with other recyclables.

FLATTEN BOXES

Flatten boxes, cut down to 2 feet by 3 feet and tie together with string.

SPIN YOUR METER BACKWARDS—CT'S SOLAR LEASING PROGRAM

The Town of Mansfield will be hosting a presentation on Thursday, March 19, 2009 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm about an affordable way for homeowners to produce their own electricity—the Connecticut solar leasing program. Presented by Sunlight Solar Energy, Inc, this program will also briefly explain solar technology, site qualifications and the Federal tax credits available for homeowners in 2009. Pre-register by calling 429-3333.

ORGANIC LAND CARE WORKSHOP SERIES

The Town of Mansfield will once again be offering a series of workshops focused on nontoxic methods of landscaping in an effort to reduce pesticide and synthetic fertilizer use.

Organic Lawns - Saturday, April 4, 2009, 9 am - 12 pm Town Hall Council Chambers

Cost - \$10. Pre-register by March 31, 2009 by calling 429-3333. Learn how to create a lush, healthy yard without the use of pesticides and synthetic fertilizers from landscape professional, Bettylou Sandy.

**Backyard Water Wise - Saturday, May 2, 2009, 10 am - 11 am
Town Hall Council Chambers**

Free workshop. Pre-register by April 27, 2009 by calling 429-3333. Explore the water resources on your property and learn interesting ways to use them. Participants will learn about the benefits of rain barrels and how to create a landscaped rain garden, among other things.

**Backyard Composting - Saturday, May 16, 2009, 10 am - 11 am
Town Hall Council Chambers**

Free workshop. Pre-register by May 11, 2009 by calling 429-3333. Learn about the inner workings of a compost pile and how it is an integral part of organic land care. This workshop will help you get started or improve what you already have going.

Rain Barrel Sale - Saturday, June 20, 2009

Mansfield Town Hall Parking Lot. Details to follow.

**COMPOST COLLECTION
CONTAINERS**

9.6 quart kitchen compost collection containers are available for \$14.50 through the Town. Since they were purchased in bulk, we can pass along a modest savings to you. Call 429-3333 if you would like to purchase one.

PLASTIC BAGS

Data released by EPA shows somewhere between 500 billion and a trillion plastic bags are consumed worldwide each year.¹ Less than 1% of these bags are recycled.² Plastic bags find their way into the sea via storm drains and sewage pipes. Plastic bags have been found floating north of the Arctic Circle and as far south as the Falkland Islands.³ Nearly 200 different species of sea life including whales, dolphins, seals and turtles die due to plastic bags.⁴ If you use a cloth bag, we can save 6 plastic bags a week; 24 bags per month; 288 bags per year. If all Mansfield residents used reusable bags in place of plastic bags, that could reduce plastic bags by about 7 million per year.

1 National Geographic News 9/2/03 2 Christian Science Monitor 3 British Antarctic Survey 4 World Wildlife Fund Report 2005

**REUSABLE CANVAS
BAGS FOR \$2.00**

Sturdy, large reusable "Mansfield Supports Clean Energy" canvas bags are available in the Public Works office of the Town Hall. Made from recycled cotton and soda bottles, these bags are perfect for the grocery store.

**WINTER FUN DAY—
A LOW WASTE EVENT**

Celebrate Winter Fun Day on Sunday, February 8, 2009 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm in front of the Mansfield Community Center. The Community Center, the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, and the Town of Mansfield are sponsoring this free event that is open to the public. *Bring your own mug.*

**IS YOUR ELECTRIC
BILL TOO HIGH?**

Inefficient appliances can be a significant contributor to your electric bill. Kill-A-Watt meters are a useful tool for showing how much electricity an appliance uses. Simply plug it into the outlet and the appliance into the meter. The Clean Energy Team has two Kill-A-Watt meters available for loan. If you are interested in borrowing one, call 429-3333.

**SIGN-UP FOR CLEAN
ELECTRICITY**

CTCleanEnergyOptions is a program, offered through CL&P, that supports clean, renewable electricity produced from natural means such as wind, water and other sources. For more information, visit www.ctcleanenergyoptions.com or call the Town of Mansfield at 429-3333.