



CITY OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

301 E. Huron, P.O. Box 8647
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104-8647
www.a2gov.org/recycle

Dear Recycler:

Thank you for your interest in visiting the City of Ann Arbor's Material Recovery Facility (MRF) recycling plant located at 4150 Platt Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48108. The MRF is located on a 430-acre area including closed landfills, compost operations, a waste transfer facility, municipal offices, wetlands and farmland. Additional MRF tour information is posted online at www.a2gov.org/mrf. General recycling information is linked to www.a2gov.org/recycle.

Groups of 15 or more (counting drivers and siblings) may schedule MRF tours and enjoy themed programs on weekdays between 9-5. Please contact the city in advance to arrange a day and time to have a tour guide at the site. Unattended visitors are not permitted to tour the MRF.

During the MRF visit, students will learn first-hand what happens in Ann Arbor to materials that are separated at home and school for recycling, composting, and trash. We will also talk about waste-reduction practices. The MRF education center offers a wall of windows overlooking the plant and a range of age-appropriate, hands-on activities. An optional component of your tour may be a walk through the recycling plant. **Children must be 6 years old or in 1st grade to be able to take the MRF floor tour when the plant is in operation on weekdays.** (Younger children engage in classroom storytime and simple games/activities during their visit.)

The MRF "floor tours" are partially outside: weather-appropriate attire, long-pants, and **closed-toe shoes are required**. We require one assisting adult for every 5-6 children in grades 1-4. Floor tours are designed for small groups of 10 students at a time, plus 1-2 adults. Attending adults are responsible for overseeing appropriate student behavior on the floor tour and assisting with classroom activities, while part of the classroom is on the 15 minute walking tour.

The MRF also holds free monthly **Open Houses** for the general public from September through June from 10:00 am-Noon on selected Saturdays. Open houses are especially designed as a drop-in format for individuals, families, and youth groups. MRF floor tours for all ages are provided. Special themes and optional children's activities are featured. Pre-registration is required for groups of 5+ for the open houses. The open house topics are posted at www.a2gov.org/mrf.

There is no cost for the 60-90 minute MRF programs; however you will need to arrange for your own transportation. If you have further questions or are ready to set up a tour date and time, please contact Nancy Stone, nstone@a2gov.org, 734.794.6000 ext 43112 or the MRF education center coordinator, a seasonal intern at ext. 43118. We look forward to your visit!

Sincerely, Nancy Stone, Public Services Communications Liaison

P.S. Southeast Area Park is across E. Ellsworth Rd. and serves as a wonderful play/lunch spot for groups. The pavilion and playground are made of recycled content materials. See map at www.a2gov.org/mrf directions. Printed on recycled paper 9-2010