



## CITY OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

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### PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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## MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY Monthly Open House Schedule, 2008-2009

ANN ARBOR, Mich. – August 26, 2008 - The City of Ann Arbor's Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), 4150 Platt Road near East Ellsworth, hosts free open houses on second or third Saturday mornings (10-Noon) from September through June. The open houses give the public a chance to tour the MRF's municipal recycling operations and to participate in monthly featured activities.

For more information, please call the MRF tour coordinators at the Leslie Science and Nature Center 734.997-1553, or contact [info@LeslieSNC.org](mailto:info@LeslieSNC.org). Individuals and families may drop in during the open house hours; groups of five or more are asked to pre-register. Pre-arranged tours of the MRF are also available for groups of 15 or more; please call for information or check [www.a2gov.org/recycle](http://www.a2gov.org/recycle).

#### **SEPTEMBER: MRF TURNS 13!**

Since the 1995 Material Recovery Facility (MRF) opening, approximately half a million tons of recyclables have been processed. Join us for a MRF tour, birthday cake, and to create party favors from Scrap Box materials. Drop-in visitors welcome.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 10:00 AM – NOON**

#### **OCTOBER: Nature's Recyclers**

A Leslie Science & Nature Center naturalist will provide a fun, interactive program featuring a vulture and other living recyclers. An optional MRF tour follows the raptor presentation. Interested attendees must pre-register by Oct 1 at 997-1553.

Space is limited! No charge.

**----NOTE THIRD SATURDAY---**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, PRE-REGISTERED PROGRAMS START AT 10 AM AND 11:30 AM**

#### **NOVEMBER: RECYCLED BIRD FEEDER**

Help celebrate America Recycles Day using your empty soda pop bottle to make a bird feeder. Put one of these up and you're sure to attract some new feathered friends. Starter seed will be provided. Optional tours offered.

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 10:00 AM – NOON**

### **DECEMBER: PAPER MAKING**

Paper is important to our everyday lives, which explains why more than 75% of all recyclables collected at the MRF are paper products. Learn how to make recycled paper by crafting your own sheet to take home. MRF guests will also be able to see alternative “tree-free” papers.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 10:00 AM – NOON**

### **JANUARY: MAGNETS**

Create a unique refrigerator magnet or bookmark while reusing colorful, cancelled postage stamps. All are welcome to enjoy this craft project, as well as tour the MRF.

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 10:00 AM – NOON**

### **FEBRUARY: WORM BIN WORKSHOP**

Join us for a workshop on vermicomposting and building your own worm box. A complete “worm bin kit” is only \$25 and contains a half pound of red worms, *Worms Eat my Garbage* book by Mary Appelhof, bin, newspaper, and turner. All are welcome to attend the presentation, but those making a worm box must pre-register by Feb. 6 at 994-4722. Space is limited for each of two separate sessions starting at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

**---NOTE THIRD SATURDAY---**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 10:00 AM AND 1 PM**

### **MARCH: TERRIFIC TILE MAKING**

Create your own mosaic tile from found art, recycled glass, and buttons. Turn recycled materials into internationally inspired artwork. The tile is perfect for gardens, wall hanging, decorations, or trivet. These recycled creations are a great activity for families, clubs, and scout groups and are easily recreated at home.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 10:00 AM – NOON**

### **APRIL: CELEBRATE EARTH DAY WITH COMPOST**

Come see how our hard-working compost crew helps nature turn leaves and grass clippings into wonderfully rich compost. Guests will take home a seedling they plant in compost and will also receive a coupon for a free bushel of compost from the Drop-Off Station.

**Saturday, April 18, 10:00 AM – Noon**

### **MAY: A2 BLOOMS VOLUNTEER DAY**

Join hundreds of volunteers in continuing to keep Ann Arbor’s downtown beautiful. Volunteers help plant and mulch flower planters during this annual event. Interested groups, families, and individuals meet at Liberty Plaza at 9 a.m. All volunteers will receive a free t-shirt and pizza lunch. Pre-register by calling 734-994.4176.

**SATURDAY, MAY 16, 9:00 AM – NOON**

### **JUNE: WONDERFUL WINDSOCKS**

Celebrate summer sunshine by creating a recycled-content windsock using colorful surplus hot air balloon fabric and other durable items from the Scrap Box. This windsock is perfect for hanging inside or out.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 10:00 AM – NOON**

In case of severe weather, call 734.994.4176 for recorded updates for an open house cancellation.

### **GROUP TOURS**

Groups of 15 or more may schedule tours and enjoy the monthly themed programs on weekdays between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM. The MRF offers free tours, that are designed for school groups, scouts, youth groups, civic groups, college classes, and other groups interested in learning about recycling. Please contact the **MRF tour coordinator at the Leslie Science & Nature Center 734.997.1553, [info@LeslieSNC.org](mailto:info@LeslieSNC.org)** or check [www.a2gov.org/recycle](http://www.a2gov.org/recycle). ###