

RECYCLING UPDATE!
and
INTERNATIONAL COMPOST AWARENESS WEEK

Citizens of Gallup, *Good News!* -- Grayboard (cereal boxes and the like) and Old Telephone Books can now be placed in the Mixed Paper Bin at recycling sites in town.*

The McKinley Citizens' Recycling Council now collects used writing instruments (pens, mechanical pencils, markers, highlighters) and juice pouches (Capris Sun, Kool-Aid, all others) as a fund raiser. Place in a separate bag or container and give to the MCRC volunteer on Saturday bin duty at the Larry Brian Recreation Center (10 am-2 pm), or contact Betsy (722-9257 betsywindisch@yahoo.com).

International Compost Awareness Week! May 5-11, 2014

ICAW is the largest and most comprehensive education initiative of the compost industry. It is celebrated each year in the first full week of May. May 5-11 will mark the 14th annual international celebration of the benefits of recycling organic waste. This year's theme "*Compost!The solution to sustainable soil and water*" reflects the global concern for unpolluted soil and water.

Compost is produced from the recycling of organic materials to create a valuable soil amendment. When incorporated into soil, it provides plants with essential nutrients, protects against the threat of erosion, and increases soil health without the use of chemicals. It also reduces water pollution.

Like gardening, composting in our high altitude dry climate can be challenging. Go online to access information quickly about how to make backyard compost. Backyardcompostingguide.com offers e-books that cover several ways to compost for the beginner and the seasoned gardener. Or start with Ask.com, About.com and/or LifeScript.com. Contact the McKinley County Extension office for information and watch for local workshops sponsored by Work in Beauty.

TEACHERS:

- (1) Each year there is an international competition for a design that reflects that year's theme. Advise your students of this annual poster contest. This year's winner was a 12th grade student, Tam Pham Hoang Buu, 17, of Ho Chi

Minh City, Vietnam. See the designs submitted by visiting the council's Pinterest page (pinterest.com/icaw2014).

- (2) The US Composting Council (compostingcouncil.org) offers helpful links to resources for teaching compost education. Listed below are a few of the resources. Go to the website for a complete listing and to link directly to the site. The site also notes educational videos on composting.

[The Adventures of Vermi the Worm](#) (Animated, interactive game about vermin-composting.)

[Agriculture in the Classroom](#)

[Backyard Magic: The Composting Handbook](#)

[City Farmer: Worm Words](#)

[Composting at School](#)

[Composting for Kids](#)

[Cornell University](#) (Composting curriculum with K-12 lesson plan)

[EPA: Composting Basic Information](#)

[How to Compost](#) (*all ages, students, teachers*)

[Marin County Office of Waste Management Compost Curriculum](#)

[School Composting: A Manual for Connecticut Schools](#)

(How to implement a school-based composting progr

[Vermicomposting – a 5th Grader School Enrichment Curriculum](#)

[Vermicomposting curriculum for middle schools students](#)

[Vermicomposting for Keep America Beautiful](#)

[The Worm Guide: A Vermicomposting Guide For Teachers](#)

***LOCAL RECYCLING CENTERS IN GALLUP**

Location and Hours of Operation

MWF 8-Noon Train Station

MWF Noon-4 Larry Brian Mitchell Recreation Center

SAT 10-2 Larry Brian Mitchell Recreation Center

M-SAT 8-4:30 Gallup Transfer Station on Hasler Valley Road

For More Information about Recycling in Gallup-McKinley County or how you can volunteer contact the McKinley Citizens' Recycling Council (MCRC) by calling 722-5142, through the web site www.recyclegallup.org, or send an e-mail to betsywindisch@yahoo.com



A 12th grade student has won the competition from more than 100 submissions – 50% of them from around the world – for our Annual Poster Contest!

Composting for Teachers and Students

Helpful Links

[The Adventures of Vermi the Worm](#)

Animated, interactive game about vermin-composting.

[Agriculture in the Classroom](#)

Established in 1985 as a partnership between Cornell University, the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, the NYS Education Department, and the New York Farm Bureau, NY AITC educates youth, teachers, and consumers about agriculture and the food and fiber system. The site offers information, lesson plans, helpful links, awards, and grants.

[Backyard Magic: The Composting Handbook](#)

K-6, students, teachers

Produced by the Department of the Environment of New Brunswick in Canada, the site offers a range of information for turning organic household waste into a valuable soil conditioner. Some of the sections include: *The Compost Container*, *Can I Compost This?*, *Composting Indoors*, and *Worm Composting*. The site is also available in French.

[City Farmer: Worm Words](#)

Dictionary of composting terms.

[Compost and Fertile soil building](#)

A series on the Mother Earth News Website

[Composting at School](#)

The ABCs of establishing an effective composting program at schools in Chittenden County, Vermont

[Composting for Kids](#)

Composting slide show for elementary school students written and produced by Robert E. (Skip) Richter, CEA-Horticulture, Travis County, Texas Agricultural Extension Service

[Cornell University](#)

Composting curriculum with K-12 lesson plan

[EPA: Composting Basic Information](#)

Basic definition of compost with acceptable bin materials.

[How to Compost](#)

all ages, students, teachers

This site serves as a hub of information for anyone interested in composting, with an online composting handbook, as well as tips for managing yard waste. This site also offers links to a compost quiz, a bumper sticker, publications, children's activities, an online resource for microbial science, and sites that provide tips for successful maintenance of the various types of compost piles.

[How to Make Compost](#)

Barbara Pleasant (compost writer) in the Mother Earth News explains basic compost principles

[Life Lab](#)

Farm- and garden-based education

[Marin County Office of Waste Management Compost Curriculum](#)

A Teacher's Guide To Composting

[MasterComposter.com](#)

Wide range of lesson plans, project suggestions.

[Organic Gardening](#)

all ages, teachers

After the class has made compost, this is a valuable guide to planting with it. The site speaks to soil testing, planting without herbicides or pesticides, and planting an organic garden in an urban setting.

[School Composting: A Manual for Connecticut Schools](#)

How to implement a school-based composting program

[Vermicomposting – a 5th Grader School Enrichment Curriculum](#), by Rhonda Sherman, NC State University

[Vermicomposting curriculum for middle schools students](#)
Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania (PROP)

[Vermicomposting for Keep America Beautiful by Rhonda Sherman](#)

Excellent graphics and lots of good questions are asked and answered in this webinar recording.

[The Worm Guide: A Vermicomposting Guide For Teachers](#)

This guide explores vermicomposting—the practice of using worms to transform food waste into a nutrient-rich finished product called vermicompost.

Educational Videos

National Geographic –Green Home Makeover - [Compost](#)

Lee Reich writer for Fine Gardening Magazine- [Making Compost](#)

[Composting 101](#)- basic video for backyard composting

[Composting Made Easy](#) – video for backyard composting of grass clippings and yard waste