



Did You Know?

Earth Day:

- Is April 22
- Started in the United States by Senator Gaylord Nelson, a Senator from Wisconsin
- Around 20 million people celebrated the first one
- Is celebrated in over 175 countries



Carrollton Environmental Services THE STORM WATER READER

April 2011

CARROLLTON'S NEW HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAM!

Disposing of your household hazardous waste is easier than ever in Carrollton. Waste Management will pick up your household hazardous waste for FREE!

Contact Waste Management's Household Hazardous Waste hotline at 1-800-HHW-PKUP to set up a collection appointment. The operators will explain the program and you will have to answer a few questions about the type and amounts of materials that you need to dispose of. Waste Management will send you a kit with instructions on how to package your waste. On your collection day just place the items on your front



porch or by the garage door and you're done!

Following are some examples of what will be accepted:

- Poison
- Solvents
- Paints, oil-based and latex
- Aerosols
- Used motor oil and antifreeze
- Sharps
- Auto batteries
- Televisions and Computer Monitors
- Fluorescent straight tubes & CFL's

For more information visit the solid waste page at www.cityofcarrollton.com.

TEXAS SMARTSCAPE YOUR YARD

I mprove your gardening smarts with Texas SmartScape. SmartScaping creates a lush and colorful oasis for your family. It uses native vegetation and plants that have been adapted to our climate to create a landscape that needs less water, pesticides, and fertilizer. These plants also attract the hummingbirds and butterflies that call North Central Texas their home—making your yard a wildlife masterpiece!

Whether you're designing a garden or just adding a few plants, SmartScaping can help. It gives you the tools you need to design your garden, select the right plants, and care for them in a manner that saves you time and money while at the same time protecting our creeks and rivers.

Please visit www.txsmartscape.com. Courtesy NCTCOG



CELEBRATE EARTH DAY ALL YEAR!



Instead of just one day, celebrate earth day all year by

incorporating some positive changes in your lifestyle that can affect the earth and your pocket book.

Some changes you can make are:

- Recycle at home and at work.
- Only print items when necessary.



- Reuse objects instead of discarding them.
- Walk when you can instead of driving your car.
- Volunteer in or organize a creek or community cleanup event in your area.
- Replace appliances with new Energy Star rated models. To get

more information on Energy Star Products, tax credits for energy efficient products and more, please visit www.energystar.gov/.

- Run the dishwasher or washing machine only when you have a full load.
- Replace conventional light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs.
- Improve the insulation in your home.
- Plant an organic vegetable or flower garden.
- Compost yard and food wastes.
- T e x a s SmartScape your yard.
- E a t "green meals" by using local produce and organic meat, dairy and vegetable products.
- Bring a reusable bag with you while shopping.

• C on s er v e water by turning off the faucet while brushing your teeth, taking



shorter showers or repairing a leaking faucet/fixture.

- Turn off your computer before leaving work at the end of the day.
- Bring a cup, plates and utensils to work instead of using Styrofoam cups or plastic utensils.
- Refuel your car in the morning or early evening when it's cooler.
- Dispose of household hazardous waste properly.
- Pick up after your pets. Looking for ways to reuse those plastic bags? Bring one with you while taking your pet for a walk.

DON'T MESS WITH CARROLLTON!

Trash that is thrown out our car windows or blows out of our uncovered trash containers all end up in our creeks and ponds after a rainstorm. When it rains, everything that is on the ground eventually makes its way into the storm drain system. Once in our storm drain system it is either deposited directly into our creeks and lakes or it ends up clogging an inlet which causes our streets to flood. Remember, our storm drain system is designed to remove rain water quickly from streets and parking lots to prevent flooding.

Trash is a big problem all over the country. Our Parks and Recreation spends over 300 days per year picking

up trash in our city parks and in our creeks and other surface waters! Every year Public Works cleans 40% of our storm drain inlets, removes trash from our drainage channels and creeks and picks up at least 3000 pieces of trash from our roadways.

Let's help them out by throwing trash in covered containers, not placing trash in the back of trucks where it can easily blow out, not throwing trash out our car windows, and placing cigarette butts into ashtrays, not on the ground.



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