



# READY'S RECYCLE NEWS

Preble County Solid Waste Management District

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## What Can You Learn from Visiting a Local Landfill?

Boy Scout pack #78 led by Tracey McCray took a tour of the Preble County Sanitary Landfill located at 4239 St. Rt. 127 South on October 8th, 2011. The boys learned about the purpose of a landfill (to hold all the trash that doesn't get recycled in the county), the construction elements of a landfill, and why recycling is important. This interview was conducted at their next meeting so that the pack could share with others what they learned.

Question- What did you learn about a landfill on your tour?

Answer (from Cooper Mendenhal)- There was a lot of trash there. I liked the big trash trucks that were dumping their loads.

Answer (from Hunter McCray)- It was kind of stinky there.

Question- What was the most interesting/surprising part of the tour?

Answer (from Spencer Osborn)- I liked the huge trash

compactors that squashed the trash so that more trash could fit in.

Answer- (from Hunter McCray) - We saw a lot of vultures there. We saw old stuffed animals that had been thrown away, a bunny and a cat. We collected trash along the way when we were walking to the landfill and we put the trash down where they compact it in the ground. We saw a lot of torn up things being thrown away. We also saw tons of water bottles in the landfill that could have been recycled!

Answer- (from Shane Osborn)- We got to climb up at the top of the landfill and look all around.

Pack leader Tracey McCray reminded them of the story they were told about how the landfill crew recently found an old newspaper from 1973 that was still legible even after all those years!

Question- Why do you think it is important to recycle?

Answer- (from Spencer Osborn)- If you don't recycle it is not going to help the environment. The boys then discussed how too much trash can pollute our drinking water and how too much trash lying around the earth doesn't look good and is not good for our health.

Question- What will or has your pack done to promote recycling/environmental conservation?

Answer (from pack leader Tracey McCray)- The boys all recycle at home because they feel it is very important. They also cleaned up trash that day on their way to see the landfill. The pack wants everyone to know that recycling makes a difference to our Earth.



### Special points of interest:

- Learn what gifts you can buy to have an Earth-friendly Christmas.
- Learn tips for recycling, improving the outdoors, giving to charities, cutting down on waste and saving energy.
- Make your own salt dough ornaments to give to someone special.

The Preble Co. Sanitary Landfill (below):



Boy Scout Pack #78 (in the lower left-side adjacent picture) from Right to Left: Shane Osborn, Hunter McCray, Justin Liddy, Joey McKee, Spencer Osborn, and Cooper Menderhal.

### Inside this issue:

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## Amazing Facts About Trash and Recycling-

Each American produces approximately 5 pounds of trash per day!

60% of all aluminum drink cans are recycled. Recycling one aluminum can saves energy- enough that you can

run a TV for 3 hours or a 100 watt light bulb for 4 hours.

Americans use over 4 million plastic water bottles per hour. Many of these do not get recycled.

Glass can be recycled over and over again.

According to the EPA, American workers throw away enough paper every year to build a 12-foot high wall from San Francisco to New York.



## Kids Can Give Green Gifts for the Holidays...

Looking for some “green” Earth-friendly gift ideas for Christmas? Here is a great website to find gifts that won’t hurt Mother Earth or your wallet!

At [www.thedailygreen.com](http://www.thedailygreen.com) search under the category “recycled gifts” and you will find amazingly interesting and inexpensive gifts like the following to give to your Earth-conscious relatives: Fancy planters made from recycled high-heeled shoes, a wallet made from recycled tires, a men’s belt made from a passenger seatbelt of a vintage car with the vintage car belt buckle on it, purses for ladies made from artistic coffee bags, clocks made from

recycled Tupperware lids. There are even earth friendly toys for kids listed like:

A toy car made from recycled wood and plastic, a wind power science kit where kids can learn to generate power from nature, musical instruments like a drum set made from recycled rubber, and stuffed animals whose proceeds go toward preserving animals in the wild. Don’t forget that home-made gifts are often the most memorable. The website also has 12 delicious Christmas cookie recipes. You might also consider giving coupons to others promising that you’ll do a needed chore or service for them instead of buying a fancy gift with throw-away packaging. Sometimes the best

gifts come in no packaging at all but instead come straight from the heart! Be creative and have a “go green” Christmas this year. You’ll be glad that you did.



## Can You Spot the Differences?

There are 15 differences. Can you spot at least 10?





## Green Tips for a More Eco-Friendly Lifestyle-

It's easy to protect the planet! These tips help save limited resources such as water, energy, and animals; prevent landfill waste; or decrease harmful gases, such as CO<sub>2</sub>, which contribute to global warming. So get green and give the tips a try. Make sure to ask your parents before trying any of these tips!

### Recycle and Reuse

- Set out cans and bottles for neighborhood pickup, or exchange them for cash at a recycling center (Richmond, Dayton (Rumpke), or Hamilton). Most community trash services will pick up your recycled bottles and cans or you can drop off your recycled items at any one of the twelve drop off locations in Preble County. For a list of drop off locations see our website [www.preblecountyrecycles.org](http://www.preblecountyrecycles.org).
- Choose rechargeable batteries, then recycle them when they die. You'd have to use hundreds of single-use batteries to equal the energy you'd get out of one rechargeable battery. Be sure to recycle all batteries to keep harmful metals from contaminating the environment. You can take worn out batteries to the Household Hazardous Waste Trailer at the Preble County Sanitary Landfill located 4239 US RT 127 South in Eaton.
- The next time you have the impulse to buy a new book to read, borrow it from the library or a friend instead of buying a new copy. Sharing books is a great way to reduce waste and reuse materials.
- When you drink bottled water, reuse the bottle before recycling it.
- Buy toys that last. Toys are made, directly or in-directly from natural resources. Choose toys that won't break easily so you aren't always buying more stuff or creating more trash.

### Improve the Outdoors

- Plant a deciduous (leafy) tree that

loses its leaves in fall on the south side of your home. It's shade will cool your house in the summer. After the tree's leaves fall, sunlight will help warm your house in winter. Trees help clean the air we breathe. They produce oxygen and reduce carbon dioxide. To learn how to plant a tree go to [www.kidsface.org/pages/plant.html](http://www.kidsface.org/pages/plant.html).

- Participate in cleanup days at a beach, park or other natural area. Use those outdoor trash cans! Never litter. Keep our waterways clean. When you visit a park or a beach, be sure you deposit your trash in containers and volunteer at some state and national cleanups. Try finding volunteer opportunities at [www.earthforce.org](http://www.earthforce.org) or [www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org).
- Don't kill that spider! There are an estimated 40,000 species of spiders and they eat insects. They're an important part of the food web and provide natural pest control.
- Safeguard storm drains. Don't litter. Trash tossed carelessly outside often washes into storm drains, which empty into rivers and streams that eventually flow to the oceans. Pollution is a growing problem for all the Earth's oceans and its wildlife.
- Don't ditch your pet. If you can't keep your pet, find it a new home, return it to the store where you bought it, or give it to an animal shelter.

### Give to a Worthy Cause

- "Adopt" an endangered animal through a charity. Go to [www.worldwild.org](http://www.worldwild.org) to find out how.

### Cut down on Waste

- Ban all drips. Ask your parents to fix leaky faucets. If you stop a faucet from leaking one drop each second, you can save 2,700 gallons of water a year.
- Don't pile your plate. "When's dinner?"

you want to know. You're starving after a long day at school! Even so, restrain yourself and take only what you know you'll really be able to eat. Enough edible food to feed 49 million people ends up in landfills in the United States each year.

### Spread the word

- Celebrate Earth Day. On April 22, celebrate by starting a new Earth-friendly habit. Spread the word! The more people who treat the Earth well, the safer its inhabitants will be.

### Go Green Energy Tips-

- Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent ones. They last up to ten times longer and can use a quarter of the energy. Plug electronics into a power strip and flip off the switch when the gadgets aren't in use. (Make sure this won't mess up clocks and answering machines). Commit to turning off your computer before bed each night and before you go out for the day. Also set the computer's sleep mode for when the computer is idle for just a little while. By doing these two simple acts, you will use 85% less energy each day.
- Switch off the light every time you leave a room.
- Set the thermostat to no lower than 78 degrees Fahrenheit in the summer and no higher than 68 degrees Fahrenheit in the winter.
- Place your desk next to a window and use natural light instead of a lamp.
- Turn off the TV and play outside!
- Ride a bike or walk instead of using the car or better yet carpool!

### Article source-

[www.kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/stories/spacescience/green](http://www.kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/stories/spacescience/green)

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**Were on the web!**  
**[www.preblecountyrecycles.org](http://www.preblecountyrecycles.org)**

Learn it. Live it. Recycle!



## Make Your Own Salt Dough Christmas Ornaments-

You can have great fun making these beautiful Christmas ornaments. They are easy to do and do not cost much to make since they use common ingredients and equipment normally found in every kitchen. Create one of a kind designs by decorating them yourself with paint and glitter.

### Ingredients-

**4 cups of all-purpose flour**

**1 1/2- 2 cups of water**

**1 cup of salt**

### Equipment-

**Cookie sheet**

**Rolling pin**

**Cookie cutters/Christmas**

**Krylon clear spray finish**

**Decorative ribbon for hangers**

### Directions-

Set your oven to 350 degrees. Combine flour, salt, and water in a large mixing bowl. Add water and mix (your hands work best for mixing the dough to a desired consistency). Add enough water until the dough resembles a thick pizza dough. Make a large dough ball out of the mixture and transfer the dough ball to an ungreased cookie sheet.

Roll the dough ball with a rolling pin to flatten it out until you are happy with the thickness of it. You will not want to make the dough too thick because your ornament will become heavy. You will not want to make the dough too thin or a hole may form in the body of your ornament. About the thickness of a fluffy pancake is the best.

Using your selected cookie cutters, press the cutters into the dough to make designs. Space the designs so that you can pull off the excess dough around the designs. After you have pulled off the

*The mission of the Preble County Solid Waste Management District is to promote recycling, waste reduction, and responsible waste management within Preble County. We want to assure safe and sanitary disposal of solid waste for Preble County residents and reduce reusable or renewable waste from entering our landfills.*

### *What can you do to help?*

#### *Reduce...*

*Reduce the amount of garbage your family generates.*

*\*Pack school lunches in reusable containers or bags.*

#### *Reuse...*

*Reuse items that would normally be thrown out.*

*\*Be creative- try to think of other uses for your items besides putting them in the garbage.*

#### *Recycle...*

*Recycle items that can be used to make new items.*

*\*Help your parents clean and sort items to be recycled and know what can be recycled here in Preble County (see our website).*

excess dough around your shapes make a small hole in the top of the design for your ornament hanger. You can use the rounded end of a paintbrush to make the hanging hole. Pop the cookie sheet into the oven for 50 minutes to 1 hour making sure that your designs do not get too brown. Remove carefully with a spatula.

After the ornaments cool, decorate them by using washable poster paint and glitter. Let your ornament dry for 24 hours. After the ornament has dried for a day or so, apply a layer of clear Krylon spray finish to seal the paint on the designs. Let the clear topcoat dry for 24 hours. Tie ribbon through the hole to serve as a hanger for your Christmas ornaments. Put your ornaments into a pretty box to give to someone special!

