

Daily Events at the Natural Resources & Agricultural Education Tent During the 2019 Preble County Fair: water/grain table, garden treasure hunt, slide puzzles, garden snake game, pocket seed necklace, picture spot, jumbo Jenga, cornhole, & scavenger hunt.

**Sunday Herb Presentation by Kathy Harrison at 2 PM.**

Pick up your entry for the 2019 Environmental Calendar contest at the Preble County Solid Waste District's fair display for a chance to win prizes!



# Simply Green

## Preble County Solid Waste District

Volume 1, Issue 2



### Natural Resources & Agricultural Education Tent at 2019 Preble County Fair to Inform and Entertain Fair Attendees....

Returning this year for the 2019 Preble County Fair is the Natural Resources & Agricultural Education Tent! Several offices and associations are involved in a joint effort to provide an interesting attraction to inform residents about issues important to the conservation of natural resources and in sustainable and sound agricultural practices. The tent is meant to educate and to entertain people of all

ages but kids will especially enjoy the displays and activities provided. There will be lots of fun giveaways distributed and a raffle will also take place. Take a break from the summer heat and learn some neat ways to take care of the Earth! This year's theme is: gardening. The following offices/associations are sponsoring this interactive attraction: Preble County Soil and Water Conservation District, Preble County

Solid Waste District, Preble County Farm Bureau, Preble County Pork Festival, The Ohio State University- College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, USDA, and Three Valley Conservation Trust. Check the white board outside our tent for other crafts and activities offered. See you there!



### Ideas for Reducing, Reusing, and Recycling in the Garden:

#### Canning Jar Lids:

- Make a hole in used lids and thread with heavy string. Hang these in the garden to spook birds and deer and help keep them out of the garden.
- Nail used canning jar lids to a stick to create plant markers: paint or use permanent marker as needed to write plant names, dates of planting, germination time, etc.

#### Tin Cans:

- Cover coffee cans with wallpaper samples or contact paper to create lovely vases filled with flowers to offer to a friend.
- Tin cans make handy & durable seed scoops for wild birdseed and or scooping compost into pots for seed starting.

#### Old ice Chests:

- Use to store small garden supplies.

## Ideas for Reducing, Reusing, and Recycling in the Garden (continued)

### Campaign Signs:

- Metal hoop sign frames from campaign signs work well to support short vegetables. The wire is stronger than regular coat hangers.
- You can also use them to make tents to protect your plants from the cold, covering them with cloth or towels.

### Baby Food Jars:

- Nail the screw lids of the jars to a square of plywood. Nail the board to the underneath side of a garden workbench. Fill the jars with seeds, twist ties, & other items for the garden. If you fill with seeds, place the jars in a dark location or paint the jars black till you are ready to plant.

### Plastic Sandwich Bags:

- Stick plant cuttings into the bags to be rooted, adding some water. Zip them mostly closed and hang them from a curtain rod to clothes line with clothes pins. You can see when roots have formed.

### Soda Bottles or Milk Jugs:

- Wash and dry; cut the bottom third off. Bury the neck of the bottle down in the ground next to a plant that requires a lot of water (tomatoes, pumpkins) and fill with water daily. This gets the water right to the roots.

### Grocery Store Bags:

- Hang them from the ties on your apron for stashing weeds that have gone to seed, diseased plants, trash, or whatever until you get back to the trash can. Saves a lot of steps!

### Waste Paper:

- Newspaper and all unneeded mail can be composted. Worms love it! Cover with grass clippings and eventually the worms will find it and over time the paper will rot. You can start composting in a small garbage can. The "worm castings" left by the worms make free rich fertilizer for your plants!

### Cereal Boxes:

- Cut boxes up to create great little organizers for seed packs, cards, or desk drawer dividers.

### Toilet Paper Tubes:

- Use to start seeds. Cut one end into 4 inch long sections and fold it under to make a bottom for the pot. Fill with dirt & seeds. Plant the entire tube outside later. Great for morning glories or cypress vines. They can get moldy, so either give them more light or transfer them outside with a cover if it's cold.

### Old Carpet Remnants:

- Use as weed barriers under a layer of mulch for pathways.

### Old Socks:

- Use to tie up tomato plants.

### Used Dryer Sheets:

- Place them in the bottom of pots to keep the soil from running out or slugs from entering to harm plant roots.

