



Mansfield Recycling Program

APRIL THROUGH JUNE, 2009

429-3333

www.mansfieldct.org/publicworks.html

- TRASH & RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICE** The week of Memorial Day - no change in trash & recycling collection days.
The week of July Fourth - no change in trash & recycling collection days.
- RID LITTER DAY, MAY 2, 2009** Help us clean up roadside litter on Saturday, May 2, 2009. Bags of roadside litter can either be placed out with curbside collection (no limit restriction) or taken to the transfer station at no cost.
- EXTRA HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE** You may put out extra household garbage on your regular collection day the week of May 4, 2009. Extra garbage does not include bulky items, which should be taken to the transfer station.
- HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY** The Regional Chemical Waste Drop-Off Facility, located on Hancock Road in Willington, opens April 18, 2009 and will be open the first and third Saturdays of the month until November 7. The hours are 9 am to 2 pm for residential and small business hazardous waste disposal. For more information call 429-3333 or go to http://www.mansfieldct.org/town/departments/pw/refuse/household_hazardous_wastes.php.
- ALKALINE BATTERY RECYCLING DISCONTINUED** The Town of Mansfield is no longer recycling alkaline batteries. The Town began recycling household batteries in 1999 when mercury was used in the manufacture of alkaline batteries. Since then the industry has stopped using mercury. Although the cost of recycling them has dropped over the years, this has been offset by the thousands of pounds of batteries the Town receives. 5,500 pounds of alkaline batteries were recycled in 2008. At 46 cents per pound, alkaline batteries are by far the costliest item that Mansfield recycles. Alkaline batteries can be disposed in the trash.
- The Town will continue to accept *rechargeable* and button batteries at the Mansfield Transfer Station. Battery collection at the other Town locations will be discontinued. Rechargeable batteries, some of which do contain the toxic heavy metal cadmium, are found in cordless appliances and cell phones. The Regional Chemical Waste Drop-off Facility in Willington accepts rechargeable batteries as well. A variety of stores now accept rechargeable batteries, including Home Depot, Staples, Radio Shack, Best Buy, Whole Foods Market and Ikea.
- CELL PHONE RECYCLING** The Mansfield Town Hall, Community Center, Mansfield Middle School and Southeast School now have collection boxes for cell phone recycling. Through CollectiveGood, the phones are sorted in the US and the majority of them re-sold. The Town will receive money for the phones that are reusable. The remainder are sent to a metal refinery in Belgium. *Before donating, be sure to deactivate from phone service.*
- BACKYARD WATER WISE WORKSHOP MAY 2, 2009** **Backyard Water Wise - Saturday, May 2, 2009, 10 am - 11 am**
Town Hall Council Chambers
Free workshop. Pre-register by April 27, 2009 by calling 429-3333. Explore the water resources on your property and learn interesting ways to use them. Participants will learn about the benefits of rain barrels and how to create a landscaped rain garden, among other things.

- BACKYARD COM-POSTING WORKSHOP
MAY 16, 2009** **Backyard Composting - Saturday, May 16, 2009, 10 am - 11 am
Town Hall Council Chambers**
Free workshop. Pre-register by May 11, 2009 by calling 429-3333. Learn about the inner workings of a compost pile and how it is an integral part of organic land care. This workshop will help you get started or improve what you already have going.
- RAIN BARREL SALE
JUNE 20, 2009** **Rain Barrel Sale - Saturday, June 20, 2009**
Rain barrels are being sold through the New England Rain Barrel Company for \$85. To take advantage of this program, orders must be placed by Friday, June 12, 2009. The pickup for all orders is Saturday, June 20, between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the Mansfield Town Hall. To view the rain barrel and make an order log onto <http://www.nerainbarrel.com/Mansfield.html> or call 877-977-3135.
- COMPOST COLLECTION CONTAINERS** 9.6 quart kitchen compost collection containers, with filters, are available for \$14.50 through the Town. Since they were purchased in bulk, we can pass along a modest savings to you. Call 429-3333 if you would like to purchase one.
- PLANT POT REUSE** Undamaged plant pots and trays of all sizes can be reused at Hockanum Greenhouse on the corner of Bone Mill Road and Route 44. They are a non-profit organization dedicated to serving adults with disabilities.
- REUSABLE CANVAS BAGS FOR \$2.00** Sturdy, large reusable "Mansfield Supports Clean Energy" canvas bags are available in the Public Works office at the Town Hall. Made from recycled cotton and soda bottles, these bags are perfect for the grocery store.
- SOLAR HOT WATER PRESENTATION, APRIL 22, 2009** The Town of Mansfield will be hosting a presentation on Wednesday, April 22, 2009 at 7:30 pm about how to produce home hot water without using fossil fuel. Alex Fox from Schuco USA, will explain how solar thermal systems work, offering hot water in ready supply at a fraction of the cost of solar electric (photovoltaic) systems.
- ENERGY EFFICIENCY CONTEST - \$500 PRIZES** Through grant funding from Connecticut Innovations, the Mansfield Clean Energy Team is offering a home energy efficiency contest. The household with the largest drop in electrical usage or largest percentage drop in electrical usage will receive \$500 towards a solar lease or energy efficient appliance. An introductory meeting will be held on Thursday, May 14 at 6:00 pm in the Town Hall Council Chambers for those interested in participating in the contest.
- KILL-A-WATT METERS AVAILABLE** Inefficient appliances can be a significant contributor to your electric bill. Kill-A-Watt meters are a useful tool for showing how much electricity an appliance uses. Simply plug it into the outlet and the appliance into the meter. The Clean Energy Team has Kill-A-Watt meters available for loan. If you are interested in borrowing one, call 429-3333.
- MANSFIELD SCHOOL BUSES—CLEARING THE AIR** You are invited to a ribbon-cutting press event on Thursday, April 16 at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall to celebrate the twenty buses servicing Mansfield schools that have been retrofitted with diesel engine particulate filters. The filters reduce polluting emissions by 85% to 90%. The air is cleaner thanks to a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency.