

Rez Recycler

- > Attention community member and PBPN departments: Recycling update—
- > When collecting recyclables please remember the following items are **NOT recyclable**: Aluminum foil, Plastic grocery bags (ex. Wal-Mart, Dillions bags), Lids on bottles, Styro-foam, Plastic food containers (ex. Biscuit/gravy containers from Nation Station) and absolutely No food containers of any kind.
- > **Acceptable** recyclable items: Empty laundry detergent bottles, milk jugs, pop bottles w/o lid, liter bottles w/o lid, water bottle w/o lid, water jug w/o lid, cereal boxes, cardboard, paper, newspaper, aluminum cans, tin and electronics.



Squash

Community Garden Project

In May 2008, the Nation initiated a new program through a grant received from USDA Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations. An award in the amount of \$45,694 was provided to the Nation to develop and implement a community garden project. Several Tribal programs partnered together for this outstanding effort; including the Tribal Grant Department, the PBPN Diabetes Program, Boys & Girls Club, Food Distribution (Commodities), Land Management and Planning & Environmental Protection. The goals of the community garden project are to encourage tribal members to pass on knowledge about traditional garden plant use through hands-on instruction and oral tradi-

tion, as well as promote healthful eating habits and physically active lifestyle for members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation reservation community. The Nation hired two contract employees to coordinate the project. Randy Mitchell and Dustin Francis worked hard to plant, maintain, and harvest the garden crops. They organized a Gardening Club with youth members of the Boys & Girls Club. Randy and Dustin visited the Elder's Center regularly to share updates and products from the garden. They also reached out to many gardening experts throughout the community for advice and resources. While the garden was met with a few challenges; late planting

and rainy/cloudy season, the coordinators still managed to plant the following:

- Tomatoes (114 plants)
- Cucumbers (15 mounds)
- Squash (11 mounds)
- Watermelon (25 mounds)
- Peppers (40 plants)
- Onions (40 bulbs)
- Indian Corn (30 rows)

The project will continue into the fall season with some remaining produce yet to be harvested. Also, the diabetes team will coordinate nutrition outreach aimed towards our traditional foods and the cooks/preparers of the traditional foods.



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Environmental Heroes

The Division of Planning and Environmental Protection salutes Randy Mitchell and Dustin Francis for all of their hard work and efforts in developing the new community garden. They were extremely dedicated to the project, and are excited to see it continue through

the years. They are presently working on the development of our own seed bank and garden layout for next year. Randy and Dustin also assisted the Division of Planning and Environmental Protection with various tasks that involved the preservation and protection of the land and resources. They are Environmental Heroes!



Dustin & Randy sorting pumpkin seeds



EPA Fish Tissue Sampling

Sharon Bosse, Environmental Technician with the US EPA representatives



It was a gorgeous, fall day on the Big Soldier near Rocky Ford to shock fish and net/catch the ones that float to the top. This project is called the Regional Ambient Fish Tissue (RAFT) monitoring plan. The overall goal for the project is to provide data to the Tribe on the presence or absence of con-

taminants in fish tissue. This data may be useful to the Planning & Environmental Protection Division and others concerned about human health and the environment on the reservation when making natural resource decisions. Four metals; arsenic, cadmium, mercury and lead will be analyzed for plus

19 pesticides have been added to the compounds of interest. Sharon Bosse, PBPEN Environmental Technician and Stanley Holder, Tribal Specialist with EPA Region VII and his staff were collecting bottom feeder and predator fish. Results on the fish filets analyzed will be available in January 2009.

Trash Can Project

Trash has never been so beautiful. In July, the Solid Waste staff reached out to the youth of the Boys & Girls club to decorate trash barrels for the upcoming events in the community. Reser's fine foods of Topeka donated forty 55 gallon steel barrels to our community outreach project. Along with Sherwin Williams of Topeka who donated several gallons of latex paint

that is user friendly to our environment that was used for this project. During one hot afternoon 17 kids along with 3 adults marvelously decorated 20 trash bins with many vibrant wonderful colors. The kids did get carried away with the paint and more paint made it on their clothes and in their hair, rather than the barrels. All in all the kids and the adults had fun! Remember to keep your eyes on the

look out for the new gorgeous trash bins. A special thanks goes out the kids who decorated the barrels and to the vendors who donated the products for this project. Thanks!



Canning Pumpkin

The Community Garden Project employees: Randy and Dustin, brought together some members of the community to participate and teach them about the process of canning pumpkin. The community participants were: Cecelia "Meeks" Jackson, Kitty Shopteese, Don Don LeClere, Mary LeClere, Jon Melchoir, Cindy LeClere, Osh LeClere and Kumos Hubbard. We Would like to Thank all the participants for making this project a success!



Boys & Girls Club outreach project with the community Garden



Earth Day '08



EPA Fish Tissue Sampling

US EPA representatives



Sharon Bosse, Environmental Technician

Attention ALL RESIDENTS:

The Division of Planning and Environmental Protection has regularly observed several negative solid and hazardous waste activities on the Reservation. Proper waste handling, disposal, and sanitation is critical to both the environment and overall human health. The PBP Nation has enacted Law & Order codes for the purposes of regulating Solid Waste, Sanitation, and Criminal Offenses (for littering). The codes also address the penalties for violation. All residents are encouraged to be aware of the PBP Law & Order Codes and to be proud of our beautiful land!

Common PBPN Waste Problems

1. Improper Needle Disposal - Needles are often discarded in regular plastic bags. They lay near the public dumpsters uncovered and scattered. It's not just trash workers who are at risk of needle sticks—it's also your neighbors, children, janitors, housekeepers, and pets. That's why used needles should not be thrown in the garbage. There are many resources for needle exchanges or drop-off points. Request info from your health provider.

2. Littering - Fast food containers, bottles, cans, cardboard, and mail are common items littering our roadsides. Littering negatively affects the image of our Reservation, making it seem as though we don't care about our home or lack pride in ourselves. Litter also attracts more litter.

3. Improper Dumpster Use - Residents will sometimes place hazardous wastes or special wastes in the public dumpsters. Household chemicals do not belong in the public dumpsters. Such waste endangers other users of the dumpsters, along with sanitation workers, and of course, the environment. Take your household hazardous waste to the HHW Center in Holton.



Rocky Ford Project

For approximately 50 years or more the community can recall the “high hazard” open dump at Rocky Ford along the banks of Big Soldier Creek. The PBPB Division of Environmental Protection and Planning in conjunction with the Public Works office completed the closure of the “high hazard” community open dump site. Also, working in concurrence with the Potawatomi Tribal Police Department to prosecute the illegal dumpers. This site is considered to be a successful clean up and the PBPB Division of Environmental Protection and Planning will continue to monitor the closed dump for any future illegal dumping exposure. If you know where an open dump is located or noticed illegal dumping in our community, please contact the Division of Planning & Environmental Protection Department at 966-2946.

Before



Before & after pictures of the Rocky ford Project Clean-up

After



Chemical Risk Management Plan



Mayetta Oil Company owned and operated by the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

In the Fall of 2007 the Division of Planning and Environmental Protection submitted a proposal and was awarded \$25,000 to develop a Chemical Risk Management Plan. The development of the plan has been a cooperative effort between the Department of Emergency Services and the Division of Planning and Environmental Protection.

Plan development occurred in three stages:

Baseline Summary

Ten facilities on the Reservation and one facility off the Reservation were selected as likely candidates for plan development. Facility operations were summarized by facility and tribal staff and then reviewed by the CRMP Technical Advisor at EPA Region 7.

In-depth Assessment

After review by the CRMP Technical Advisor, seven of the facilities were selected for a more in-depth assessment. Assessment of these facilities would provide the most benefit to the Nation. The facilities were mapped, the facility layout diagrammed, chemicals used or stored by the facility were identified, and Response Information Data Sheets were developed for each chemical. Once the summary of facilities that store/use chemicals have been identified and the highest risk from that summary have been selected, the next step is to manage that risk.

CRMP Development

After review by the CRMP Technical Advisor, three of the facilities were selected for CRMP development. All three facilities are under the threshold or exempt from reporting requirements and plan development, but CRMP plans will be developed as a courtesy.

Key elements to be included in the CRMP Plan are to: compile equipment and chemical safety information, do an assessment of the worst case release and a more likely release scenario, look at the facilities critically and determine what could cause an accident/release and then develop training, maintenance, operating procedures regarding the general storage requirements associated with the chemical (s). For more information on the development of the Nation’s Chemical Risk Management Plan, feel free to contact the division at 966-2946.

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
Department of Planning & Environmental Protection
15434 K Road
Mayetta, KS 66509

Office: 966-2946
Solid Waste Center: 966-2773
Wastewater Treatment Plant: 966-0111



We're on the web!

www.pbpindiantribe.com/epa.aspx

Ways To GREEN Your Home

Lower the impact of every-day living.

Lower your utility bills:

- Switch to compact fluorescent light bulbs
- Program your thermostat
- Plug air leaks
- Tune up your heating and cooling (HVAC) system
- Choose Energy Star appliances
- Reduce water use
- Switch to Green power

Choose Green Products:

- Buy Local
- Use low-voc products
- Use wood alternatives

for FSC-certified wood products

- Use rapidly renewable flooring materials

Green you yard:

- Plant trees to provide shade and wind protection for your house
- Use native plantings
- Use nontoxic gardening techniques

Green your transportation:

- Carpool
- Use public transportation
- Walk or bike when possible
- Buy a high-efficiency car

Your Household Items

Did you know that many of the every day produces in your home or garage can be hazardous to you and the environment if used, store or disposed of improperly???

These items can contain harmful materials like lead or mercury that do not belong in a landfill. You can also find them in your medicine cabinet. Since they are used on a daily basis, product stewardship is necessary, including:

- Know how to identify hazardous products
- Know what hazardous products you have
- Make sure they are properly stored
- Learn how to properly dispose of them

Once you have identified HHW and know what to do with them, you can learn more about the overall lifecycle of a few of the major ones that you are sure to come into contact with: Light bulbs, Cleaning products, Toys, Pesticides, Paint and Mercury products.