



2010 - 2011 Award Winners

The Government Recycler of the Year *Marshall County Solid Waste and the City of Lewisburg*

After many years of establishing an award winning recycling program in Marshall County Tennessee, the citizens of Marshall County, the County Commission, and the Solid Waste department would like to nominate Marshall County Solid Waste and the City of Lewisburg for Tennessee Recycling Coalition's (TRC's) Government Recycler of the Year award. Marshall County has one of the best rural recycling programs in the state. In the past year, in conjunction with the City of Lewisburg, recycling in Marshall County has been taken to a new level. The Solid Waste Department and the City of Lewisburg has been dedicated to creating a comprehensive recycling program for Marshall County households, schools, business, industry, and public places. We have seen much success in our programs that have been implemented.

Marshall County residents enjoy convenience and accessibility when they recycle. All residents of the City of Lewisburg have once a week curbside pick-up of single stream recyclables in 35-gallon roll-out carts provided by the city. Items that are included in the single stream program are: paper, plastic containers, tin cans, cardboard, and aluminum cans. All county residents have eight drop off locations for recyclables, four of which are open 24 hours a day. They are conveniently located through out the county. We also have locations at our local Wal-Mart and Walgreen's locations. Drop off recycling also collects single stream plus a separate container for glass recycling. Marshall County also collects paint, oil, tires, batteries, e-waste, and antifreeze, at the Solid Waste Office.

Marshall County's school recycling program is extensive. Every classroom in Marshall County has a recycling bin for single stream recyclables. The bins were purchased with donations from local businesses. In addition all of the school cafeterias recycle plastic containers, tin cans, and cardboard. Four of the schools have switched to plastic milk bottles, which are also being recycled. We are proud to see such an effort by the School Board, Administrators, and Cafeteria staffs in our county.

Businesses in Marshall County enjoy, many of the same recycling programs offered to schools and households. All businesses, which have garbage pick-up thru the City of Lewisburg, are provided a single stream recycling bin. Because each business is different, a member of the curbside committee meets with the business owner to educate them on what they can recycle at their business. In addition to single stream more than 60 businesses also receive a container for cardboard, these containers are offered county wide and collected by Marshall County. All county and city government buildings recycle as well.

With the tough economy and the closure of numerous for profit recycling businesses, in recent months, Industry has called on the county for help. Marshall County has begun spotting Transfer trailers at various industries for recycling. The material accepted is as diverse as the industrial base in Marshall County. The vast majority of the material is cardboard. However, we also receive plastic car parts, dash panels, shrink-wrap, plastic banding, packaging, pencils, single stream recyclables, and office paper. One service we offer is warehouse clean-out a manufacturer needs to remove excess inventory from a warehouse. The Solid Waste department delivers a trailer at the facility and the business then loads the recyclables and waste into the trailer. Then the material is hauled to the county's Solid Waste facility, sorted for recyclables then the trash is returned to the manufacturer for disposal. Instead of having to dispose of the entire warehouse, the businesses may only have 5% to dispose of after the county's Solid Waste department assists with the division of waste and recyclables.

Most public locations in Marshall County also recycle. We have containers for plastic bottles and cans at the recreation center, golf course, parks, green way, and ball fields. We also provide recycling at local events including the world famous Goats Music and More Festival.

The key to the success of this recycling program is ease accessibility and education. Recycling education programs are presented to every kindergarten thru sixth grade class in the county. Booths are set up at local events promoting recycling and presentations are made to civic organizations countywide. Local businesses purchase radio spots to promote recycling and articles are published in the local paper promoting recycling. The recycling program created by Marshall County and The City of Lewisburg is comprehensive, not only do our residents recycle at home, they recycle at work, at school, and where they play.

Lewisburg Curbside Recycling Committee

Barbara Woods, Chair
Eddie Fuller
Quinn Brandon
Jennifer Harris
Greg Lowe
Morgan Thomas

Marshall County Solid Waste Committee

Anna Childress, Chair
Seth Warf
Phil Willis
Sheldon Davis
Mike Waggoner
Morgan Thomas, Solid Waste Director