



INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

September 2019

On the web at <http://www.indiancreeksubdivision.org> Contact us by email at indiancreeknews@hotmail.com

Fall Towanda Area Garage Sales

Towanda Area Garage Sales ~ Thursday-Saturday, September 5-7. Friday, August 30 is the due date for sale information to be held at the days/times of your choice. a) Sale location, b) Contact information (phone & email), c) Days and times of your sale (not necessary to have your sale each day), d) List of items (include as much as you like, in priority order, and depending on space available, items will be listed on the flyer and by category in the Pantagraph), and e) \$7 fee (for Pantagraph, ad flyers), checks payable to Gail Ann Briggs. Please, email sale information to rgbriggs@frontiernet.net (preferred) or Mail to Gail Ann Briggs, 112 Hunt St, Towanda, IL 61776. Email or call (728-2187) with questions. You'll get a response by email when I have your information. Anyone with items they particularly want to sell may want to take out an individual ad as well.

Towanda HCE

Towanda HCE will begin the 2019-2020 HCE year on September 9, 7 p.m., meeting at the Towanda Community Building. Our theme for this year is "Celebrating Around the World" and we will have a minor lesson on "German Immigration." The major program will be given by Sandy Whalen on "A Matter Of Balance." Hostesses are Pat Pulokas and Cindy Kelley.

Our organization has great programs that promote life-long learning on interesting and important topics today. For more information, contact Cindy Kelley, 309-824-4797.



Left to right : Pat Pulokas, Donna LaMar, Cindy Kelley, Kathryn McNeely, Jane Wood, Becky Toohill. Not pictured is Kathleen Emery and our driver Frank Toohill



2018 McLean County Recycling Rate Reaches New All-Time High

McLean County's recycling rate increased for the third year in a row in 2018. The Ecology Action Center's annual calculation of community-wide waste generation and recycling shows that the County reached a recycling rate of 46% with an increase of 4.5% from 2017. As a result, the County maintained progress made in 2016 in breaking the previous community-wide recycling goal of 40% while also making progress towards the new community-wide recycling rate goal of 50% set in 2017 under the new 20-year solid waste management plan.

No single category of recyclable materials saw significant fluctuations from the year prior, while there were minor fluctuations across the board in all material streams. However, a likely contributing factor to the improved recycling rate is an improvement in the quality of data received by the EAC by local entities. Annually, as part of the waste and recycling rate calculations, EAC staff is working to improve the process and reduce the opportunity for errors or omissions.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total MSW Recycled (tons)	85,196	81,302	83,335	88,459	94,804
Total MSW Landfilled (tons)	141,068	154,662	120,815	124,364	109,467
Total Municipal Solid Waste Generated (tons)	226,264	235,964	204,150	211,230	204,271
Recycling Rate	37.7%	34.5%	40.8%	41.9%	46.4%

With the closure of the McLean County Landfill in late 2018, the Ecology Action Center continues to focus on waste management priorities as outlined in the *Twenty-Year Materials Recovery and Resource Management Plan for McLean County, Bloomington, and Normal, Illinois*. This includes diversion strategies for waste that would otherwise require landfill disposal further away from the source of origin.

The Ecology Action Center annually collects waste and recycling data to calculate the amount of municipal solid waste generated and recycled for all of McLean County as a lagging indicator of the impact of local recycling and outreach programs. Among other services, the EAC acts as the solid waste agency for Bloomington, Normal, and McLean County and provides technical assistance, recycling promotion, household hazardous waste coordination, education and outreach.

Information on residential recycling, recycling of nontraditional materials, and information on disposal of household hazardous wastes is available by calling (309) 454-3169 or visiting ecologyactioncenter.org.



Garden Tips

by Helen Leake

August is a sign that summer is coming to an end, but it is still a busy time. When your potato plants dry up, it is time to dig them. After you have harvested the potatoes, you can plant lettuce, radishes, and kohlrabi for fall harvest. When pears look to be the size you like, pick them and they will continue to ripen.

Since you have been harvesting some of your vegetables in the garden, you can plant a green manure plant in the open area to enrich your soil for next year.

Now is the ideal time to thin out the bearded iris. Check the rhizome for insects or damage and remove the damaged section. When you replant them, trim the leaves back to a 6-inch fan. Plant just deep enough that the top of the rhizome is just barely below the ground. If they are too deep they might not bloom.

During the 4H County fair, the weeds seem to take over the garden. If you don't have time to remove all of the weeds, at least remove the seed head and destroy it. This will help to prevent some of the weeds for next year.

Don't forget to order your spring-blooming bulbs for next year, so you can get them before they run out of the ones that you want.

If you do not already have a compost pile or container, now is a good time to start one. It can be as simple as a pile on the ground in the corner of the garden or up to a fancy container. You should not put meat in the compost, because it could draw animals to try to get it. Also do not add anything with vinegar or hot spices, they could hurt the worms tummy. If you have a leafy salad with salad dressing, just rinse the dressing off and put the leaves in the compost.

Compost works better if you mix brown items with the green items. The brown would include newspaper, napkins, leaves, and cardboard, etc. The green could be vegetable peelings, banana peelings, coffee grounds, tea bags, clippings from the yard and weeds, garden waste, etc. It works better if you try to layer the green and the brown.

After about a year, you can remove some of the "black gold" from the bottom and use it around your plants.

We are hearing more and more about the dangerous side effects of using chemicals that we use to kill the weeds. Anytime that we are spraying chemicals, we should wear long pants, long sleeves, and gloves. When we are finished, those clothes should be washed alone and then the washing machine should be rinsed well. If you spill the chemical on your clothing, it should be burned.

One of the main chemicals is glyphosate, found in Round-Up. It is better known as Round-Up. Glyphosate is made in Germany. Two years after it went on the market, it was banned from being sold and used in Germany. Three years later it was banned from use in all of Europe.

Several universities in the United States have tested it and found it to be unsafe.

At first, we were told that glyphosate only stays in the soil for about 2 weeks. That has been found not true. Earlier they found traces of the chemical in newborn infants. Now they are finding traces of it in some of the grains grown in fields that have been sprayed with the chemical.

Did you know that a hummingbird can remember where every flower is that it visits.

The shorter daylight hours and the cooler evening are telling us that summer is winding down. Not to mention that school has started again and some of the plants are looking pretty tired.

Now is the time to cut off the peony tops down to a couple of inches. Do not place them in the compost, they could have a disease. Place them in the garbage. It is also the time to move, plant, or thin them. Peonies need full sun to bloom. When you plant them, be sure the eye, little pink shoots, are no more than 1-2 inches below the surface. If they are planted too deep or don't have enough sun, they will not bloom well.

Any time that you have a diseased plant in the yard or garden you should remove it and put it in the garbage. If you put it in the compost, you could spread the disease. You can put the old plants from the garden in the compost. Leave the seed heads on the flowers so the birds can eat them. Some birds have their family in the late summer so that they can have the seeds to feed the young.

It is best to leave the perennials standing. When it snows, they will add beauty to the garden area. Also, the fall leaves blow up around the spent plants which will help protect the crown of the plant from the changing winter temperatures. By leaving the leaves around the perennials and shrubs, the earthworms can eat them and return nutrients to the soil. Also in the fall, insects lay their eggs on the stems and leaves, then next spring the eggs will hatch about the same time the birds need them to feed their young.

We are not seeing as many birds as we used to. Part of the reason is they are eating dead insects that have died from chemicals sprayed on them. Do not use insecticides or pesticides any more than necessary.

Pet Patrol



Reminder to clean up after your pet whether you walk it in one of the common areas, along the trail, or along the road. Many people take family walks as the days grow longer and children can pick up the *strangest* things. Also, the main common area is used to play soccer, baseball, frisbee throwing, etc. A clean place to play and walk is beneficial to all! Thank you!

September Library Announcements

Several of you have stopped in to see the new improvements. Our new shelving is here and we have more on the way. As you can see, we are excited to spread out. We have finished painting, constructing new furniture, and shifting books around the library to utilize our space. We have updated our children's play area with new costumes, puppets, kitchen, and dollhouse. Our goal is to make the library as inclusive, inviting, comfortable, educational, informational, and cutting edge as possible. Please contact the library or email me directly; director@towandalibrary.org if there is a particular book, movie, music cd, or audio book that you would like us to acquire. We will keep you posted through the Indian Creek Newsletter, our website, and Facebook page. We will be launching a new website in late 2019. While we anticipate it to be visually pleasing, it will also be highly functional and much more user friendly for our patrons. We will hold programs to navigate the new site once it goes live. We will offer programs in early 2020 that will explore our new digital services and offerings. We have some exciting programming coming up this fall. Stay tuned for dates and times.

Knitters and Crochet Group: We are happy to welcome Knitters and Crochet group every Tuesday afternoon at 3pm. Come join us!

Pre-School Story Time: Story Time with Miss Holly will return Wednesday September 4th at 10:30. This year's theme will be following the Very Ready Reader Curriculum. Come join in on the fun!



Read to Dogs: Read to Dogs will return Tuesday September 17th at 5:30. The fall program dates are September 7th, 24th, October 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and November 5th, 12th, 19th. Please call the library to schedule your child's 15 minute "Reading Reservation" 309-728-2176.

Community

Unit 5

Mon.Sep.2 - Labor Day ~ No School
Fri.Sep.13 - NCWHS Homecoming
Wed.Sep.18 - Late Start Morning (buses will run 1-hr late)
Mon.Sep.23 – Teacher Institute ~ No School for Students

Community

Tue.Sep.3 - McLean County Real Estate Taxes 2nd installment due
Thur - Sat. Sep. 5 7 - Area Garage Sales
Mon.Sep.23 - Start of Fall (Autumnal Equinox)
Sun.Sep.29 - Rosh Hashanah begins

Please provide information about your organization: contact name, phone number, email address, usual meeting day, time and location and any other pertinent description of your organization to: clerk@villageof towanda.org so the village website <https://www.villageoftowanda.org/organizations/> can be updated. Thank you for your help!!

Water System Information

Updates and clarifications have been made to the "Water" information section on the Indian Creek website: <http://www.indiancreeksubdivision.org/icwater1.htm>

Classified

Businesses:



John Hermann

Financial Professional Associate
Greater Illinois Financial Group

Prudential Advisors

1907 Jumer Drive, Suite D, Bloomington, IL 61704
Tel 309 808-5212 Fax 309 808-5230 Cell 309 287-5972
john.hermann@prudential.com

Pampered Chef features cooking shows, catalog parties, freezer meal workshops, bridal showers & fundraisers!

Contact your local Indian Creek consultant for these events.

Annette Hancock
7 Bent Tree Lane
Call Home - 728-2990
Text or call- 242-1802
Email - oldcars@frontiernet.net
Website - www.pamperedchef.com/pws/annettehancock
Pinterest - www.pinterest.com/ahancock0935

pampered | chef

For Hire:

Need someone to take care of your pet while you are away, call Bailee Harmon at (309) 530-5360. I have experience with animals at the Humane Society and have been petting sitting for two years. References provided upon request.

Brenna Schwamberger is available for babysitting. She will be a sophomore next year at NCHS and has completed her Red Cross Babysitting class. You can contact her at 728-2857 (h) or (309) 824-1410 (c).

Are you looking for someone to take care of your pets or children? Do you need someone to do housework or cleaning so weekends can be spent relaxing? Call me, Aubrey Thomas, and I will help you out. I will be a freshman at NCHS in the fall. I love animals of all kinds. I have completed the Safe Sitter course and will make sure I watch your children carefully. Mother makes sure I get plenty of opportunities to practice my cleaning skills. I can be reached at 309-728-2246 (home) or (309) 532-7466. Reasonable rates.