



Recycling Authority April 2025

20000 West Eight Mile Road | Southfield
248-208-2270 | www.rrrasoc.org



April is All About *Going Green!*

Happy Earth Month! April is full of holidays all about going green, from Food Waste Prevention Week to the world-famous Earth Day. As the weather grows warmer, take some time to appreciate our planet's natural beauty by taking a stroll outside or engaging in educational activities related to the holidays below. Remember - it's up to you to help ensure the cleanliness of not only our land, air, and water, but our communities as a whole!

Food Waste Prevention Week - *This Week!*

The goal of Food Waste Prevention Week is to learn about and educate others on reducing wasted food, supporting a healthier environment, and addressing food insecurity for those in need. In RRRASOC communities, you have a variety of options in order to divert your leftover food from the landfill and turn it into something beneficial for our environment. Simply type "*Food Scraps*" into the [Recycling Directory](#) to find out how you can donate or compost your leftover food locally!



National Gardening Day - April 14

Celebrate all things green on National Gardening Day! The weather is starting to warm up, so now's the perfect time to start planting those early-season veggies and spring flowers. Whether you're planning on a sprawling garden or just want a few indoor potted plants, take some time to embrace the therapeutic benefits of gardening and strengthen your connection with the earth on April 14.



Earth Day - April 22

Take action on Earth Day to preserve our environment for generations to come! Every cumulative effort, whether big

or small, makes a difference to our planet. If you still need to take that first step toward sustainability, there's no better place to do so than the [RRRASOC website](#) - learn the rules of recycling, find out what's accepted in your community, discover ways to reduce and reuse, play our [Waste Sorting game](#), and more!



Arbor Day - April 25

Trees provide more than just beautiful scenery. They are a source of shade in the hot summer, a home to many different species of animals and birds, they filter water, and they create oxygen! To commemorate Arbor Day, why not plant a tree in your yard for an investment that will last decades? Or, find an Arbor Day tree-planting ceremony near you on the [ArborDay.org](#) website!



HHW Tip: Medicine & Sharps Disposal

One of the many items that can be brought to RRRASOC Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Events is pill-form medicine. Properly disposing of expired, unused, or unwanted medicine can do more than just protect the environment - it could save a life! Utilize [HHW Collection Events](#) to make the process simple and convenient - just bring your pill-form medications in a sealed plastic bag.



Why is It Important?



The majority of unused or expired medicines enter either our solid waste system or our sewage system. Medicines flushed down the drain pass through wastewater treatment plants and may end up directly in our lakes and streams. Medicines disposed of in the garbage and sent to landfills can potentially seep into and contaminate surrounding groundwater. Proper disposal of unused, expired medications also reduces the risk of people consuming or handling medications improperly or illegally.

Can't make it to an HHW Collection Event? Medicines can also be safely dropped off at pharmacies, police departments, or a drug take-back program. Find locations and learn more about proper medicine disposal [here](#).

Disposing of Medical Sharps



Medical sharps can puncture or cut skin, making them a health hazard when handled improperly. This includes needles, syringes, lancets, and auto injectors (such as an insulin pen), which are commonly used at home, at work, and while traveling to manage medical conditions of people and pets.

Medical sharps should be placed in an FDA-approved sharps container or a rigid plastic container that can be sealed and labeled properly. When the sharps container becomes full, be sure to seal and label it, and bring the container to a RRRASOC HHW Collection Event. Containers holding sharps are not accepted in curbside recycling nor at the drop-off sites - they **must** be placed in the garbage.

"Can I Recycle Shredded Paper?"

The answer is: **Not traditionally!**

Shredded paper is not accepted in your curbside recycling cart, nor is it accepted at the recycling drop-off sites, as the pieces are too small to make it through the sorting machinery at our Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). The tiny shreds of paper end up making a mess and littering the floor, leading to lengthy cleanups.



Instead, bring your documents to our **self-serve paper shredder** located at our Southfield recycling drop-off site! This free service saves both time and effort on your end. Simply walk through the doors, read the instructions, and shred your documents with ease! The shredded paper is then collected in-house, ensuring your info stays private and the paper is still recycled efficiently.

2025 HHW Collection Event Dates

During the following HHW Collection Events, all residents of RRRASOC member communities are welcome to bring household hazardous waste for an opportunity to safely discard their hazardous items and e-waste. *Simple Recycling* and paper shredding services will also be available*.

April 26, 2025 ☐

RRRASOC MRF - Truck Entrance
20875 Mapleridge Ave., Southfield
9:00am - 2:00pm

May 10, 2025

Oakland Community College
27055 Orchard Lake Rd., Farmington Hills
9:00am - 2:00pm

May 17, 2025 ☐

Milford Civic Center

July 12, 2025 ☐

Wixom Dept. of Public Works

1100 Atlantic St., Milford
Enter from west off of Mont Eagle St.
9:00am - 2:00pm

2041 Charms Rd., Wixom
9:00am - 2:00pm

October 4, 2025

Novi Dept. of Public Works
26300 Lee BeGole Dr., Novi
9:00am - 2:00pm

October 25, 2025 ☐

RRRASOC MRF - Truck Entrance
20875 Mapleridge Ave., Southfield
9:00am - 2:00pm

*The T-shirt icon indicates an HHW Collection Event during which clothing, shoes, accessories, and small household items will be accepted by [Simple Recycling](#).

For more information about HHW events and how to prepare your items, please visit our [HHW page](#).

HHW Drop-Off at ERG Environmental Services

If you have HHW that you'd like to properly dispose of between collection events, you're in luck! Drop off your HHW without a fee at ERG Environmental Services during the following hours:

Monday - Friday:
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

HHW pickup from your home is also available for a fee of \$135 per stop plus \$0.75 per pound of material collected. This fee is paid directly by the resident to ERG Environmental Services.

To confirm drop-off times and/or to schedule a pickup, please contact:

ERG Environmental Services
13040 Merriman Road, Livonia
(734) 437-9650



For more info, visit the [ERG HHW Drop-Off page](#) or our [HHW page](#).

RRRASOC Recycling Directory

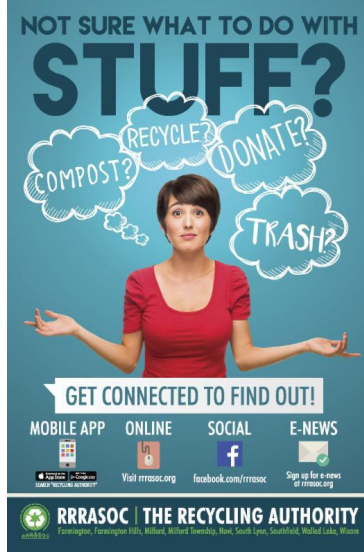
Not sure what to do with stuff?

Visit rrrasoc.org and use the Recycling Directory search bar to type in keywords and get recycling, composting, reuse or disposal instructions.

The searchable, intuitive format of the Recycling Directory provides RRRASOC specific information.

Also Available:

Mobile App



- From your App Store or Google Play, search for "Recycling Authority"

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Type the name of an item and we'll tell you how to recycle or dispose of it.

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Want more tips, tricks, and updates about recycling? We have a Facebook page where we can reach each other to make recycling easier. You can also reach us via [RRRASOC.org](https://www.rrrasoc.org) and email at education@rrrasoc.org!



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