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### Interesting Quotes:

"Listen up, you couch potatoes: each recycled beer can saves enough electricity to run a television for three hours."

--Dennis Hayes

*(environmental activist and proponent of solar power).*

"We are not to throw away those things which can benefit our neighbor. Goods are called good because they can be used for good: they are instruments for good, in the hands of those who use them properly."

-- Clement of Alexandria

*(early Greek theologian)*

# Bureau of Solid Waste

# Re-News

## City Trucks on Display for Big Truck Day

On May 12, 2012, Big Truck Day captured the imagination of children and adults alike. This interactive event, previously called "Heavy Metal" featured nearly 20 different vehicles and equipment including dump trucks, fire trucks, tow trucks, load packers, street sweepers, and snow plows.

The event took place in the parking lot of the Baltimore Museum of Industry and was very well received with an attendance of over 2,500 people.

Visitors had almost full access to the City's oversized vehicles. Children and adults were allowed inside, on top of, and all around the city's massive fleet of vehicles.

The children also had the opportunity to interact with Firefighters, Truck Drivers, and Sanitation Workers, learn about their day to day routines, and the importance of recycling.



## MRN Recognizes City's Recycling Coordinator

Baltimore City Recycling Coordinator, Mr. Robert Murrow, was inducted into the Maryland Recycling Network Board of Directors on May 17, 2012 at the 2012 Maryland Recycling Network Annual Conference in Linthicum, Maryland. Robert Murrow is the first Baltimore City Recycling Coordinator to join this prestigious group's Board of Directors.

This position will provide Mr. Murrow with a vast recycling networking base. Murrow spoke of the

importance of his new role. "This gives us an opportunity to collaborate with groups across the state including private businesses and corporations, other jurisdictions, elected officials, vendors, and Maryland citizens who just care about recycling."

Mr. Murrow has been with Baltimore City Public Works for over 15 years, and in that time has played an integral role in numerous projects and the promotion of Baltimore recycling. He

helped establish the polystyrene (Styrofoam) recycling drop off and the Permanent Household Hazardous Waste Programs at the Northwest Citizens' Convenience Center at 2840 Sisson Street.

Mr. Murrow hopes to help the Maryland Recycling Network work towards its mission of promoting sustainable recycling throughout Maryland.



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### Spring Clean-up: Reclaiming Vacant Space with Sustainable Gardens

What better way to celebrate Earth Day than with a city-wide Spring Cleanup! On April 22, Baltimore communities joined forces with shovels, rakes, brooms, and trash bags to kick-off the Spring Clean-up.

This year, Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake sought to focus the clean-up around a new program "Power in Dirt." This is the City's first comprehensive plan to specifically target vacant lots. The program encourages residents and organizations to assist in the revitalization and titivation of the lots. As abandoned properties tend to cultivate waste, the plan seeks to make the land sustainable by turning these lots into gardens maintained by the community. The event was widely successful. Nearly 220 communities participated and over 5,900 volunteers came out to show their support. The number of volunteers at the Spring Clean-up has not been this high for over 8 years. Way to show your support Baltimore!

### Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off

The City will continue the monthly collection of your household hazardous wastes. These materials can be dropped off at the Household Hazardous Waste containment facility at the Northwest Citizen Convenience Center located at 2840 Sisson Street. The facility will collect materials free of charge from April through November on the last Friday and Saturday of each month. Household hazardous materials include oil-based paints, pesticides, herbicides, car and household batteries, CFL light bulbs, drain cleaners, gasoline, pool chemicals, and many other items. Residents must show proof of residency upon arrival. Such proof of residency may include a driver's license or a photo id accompanying mail with your address clearly marked. Hours of operation are from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. in June, July, and August, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in April, May, September, October, and November.

### REMINDER: Please DO NOT Place Recycling in Plastic Bags!

The Baltimore City Office of Recycling reminds residents that items set out for recycling collection cannot be placed in plastic bags. You can use a cardboard box, paper bag, or any other container – even a laundry basket – as long as it is clearly marked "recycling." The City sells recycling bins at our Kane Street Yard located at 111 Kane St. We are currently out of supply but watch Re-News for when the bins come in.



**City Offices and Sanitation Yards will be Closed Monday May 28, 2012 for Memorial Day – no trash or recycling collections & Drop-off Centers will be closed.**