



Recycling Tidbits

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Stump the Grump

Recycling how many aluminum cans is equivalent to...

1. Watching TV for 3 hours.
2. 1 lb. of recyclable aluminum.
3. Saving America's entire gas consumption for one day.
4. Lighting a room for 2 weeks.
5. Making 1 can from virgin ore.
6. A half gallon of gas.

Answers on page 3.



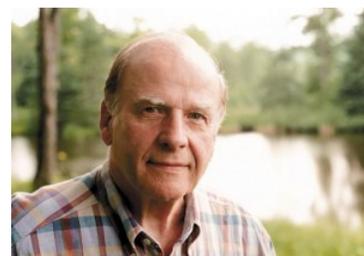
Earth Day's Origins Rooted in Wisconsin

Gaylord Nelson was born in 1916 and grew up in the Northwoods of Wisconsin. He was Wisconsin's first 'conservation governor' and held two terms in the 1950's. His legacy to our state includes the development of the Department of Resource and Development, known today as the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. He also established a Youth Conservation Corps which created "green" jobs for over 1,000 unemployed young people, and fought for the Outdoor Recreation Action Program.

Over 10 years, this program devoted \$50 million towards acquiring land for recreational and conservation purposes. The positive impact of these conservation measures eventually catapulted Nelson into the U.S. Senate in 1962.

Nelson's extreme popularity in Wisconsin and his conservation goals lead him to kick start the green movement back in 1970 when he created Earth Day. The first Earth Day was celebrated on April 22, 1970 when over 20 million people gathered to confront ecological troubles and to

advocate for change. Today Earth Day is still widely celebrated. Be apart of Nelson's Earth Day legacy and participate in an event this year.



"The ultimate test of man's conscience may be his willingness to sacrifice something today for future generations whose words of thanks will not be heard."



Earth Day Ideas

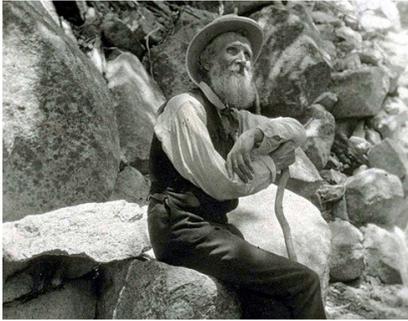
What are you doing for Earth Day? The following are some ideas to help get you motivated!

- Sort the recyclables in your bin
- Pick up litter in your neighborhood or at a park
- Participate in a Garlic Mustard pull (invasive plant species)
- Walk or ride your bike to work
- Start a compost pile
- Volunteer to plant trees
- Conserve water
- Stash the treadmill and walk outside instead
- Stand up for an environmental cause you're passionate about
- Buy produce at a Farmer's Market
- Purchase local products
- Purchase products with little to no packaging
- Tour a materials recovery facility or landfill to see what happens to unwanted items
- Turn the TV off and enjoy Mother Nature by hiking or bird watching
- Purchase products with recycled content
- Plan a camping trip
- Use a reusable water bottle
- Attend a seminar or talk about an environmental issue
- Dry wash on the clothesline instead of in the dryer

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Wisconsin Conservation Pioneers



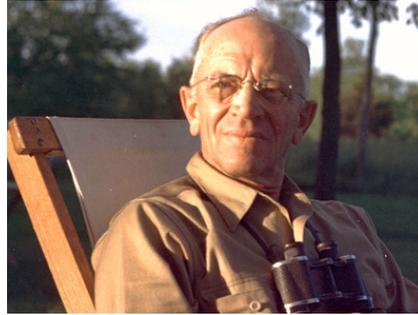
John Muir - Establisher and long time president of the Sierra Club, John Muir was born in Scotland. When he was ten his family migrated to the United States and settled in Wisconsin. Muir attended the University of Wisconsin for three years before dropping out to attend what he called the "University of the Wilderness" - his wanderlust.

After sustaining an eye injury while working at a broom factory in Indianapolis, he decided to never work at an ordinary job again. After Muir recovered he embarked on a 1,000-mile walk to the Gulf of Mexico where he then took a steamer to California, where he settled and stayed for decades, and conducted the work for which he is best known.

As a wilderness explorer, he is renowned for his exciting adventures in California's Sierra Nevada, among Alaska's glaciers, and world wide travels in search of nature's beauty. As a writer, he taught the importance of experiencing and protecting our natural heritage. His writings contributed greatly to the creation of Yosemite, Sequoia, Mount Rainier, Petrified Forest, and Grand Canyon National Parks. Dozens of places are named after John Muir, including the Muir Woods National Monument, the John Muir Trail, Muir College (UCSD), and many schools.

Muir established the Sierra Club in 1892, and served as its president until the day he died in 1914.

- Courtesy of the Sierra Club and NNDB



Aldo Leopold - An ecologist who studied the philosophy of conservation, Aldo Leopold became the chair of game management at the University of Wisconsin. This was a new position for the University and the nation.

In 1935, he and his family initiated their own ecological restoration experiment on a worn-out farm along the Wisconsin River outside of Baraboo. Planting thousands of pine trees, restoring prairies, and documenting the ensuing changes in the flora and fauna further informed and inspired Leopold.

A prolific writer, authoring articles for professional journals and popular magazines, Leopold conceived of a book geared for general audiences examining humanity's relationship to the natural world. Unfortunately, just one week after receiving word that his manuscript would be published, Leopold experienced a heart attack while fighting a neighbor's grass fire that escaped and threatened the Leopold farm and surrounding properties. Leopold died on April 21, 1948; a little more than a year after his death Leopold's collection of essays *A Sand County Almanac* was published.

- Courtesy of The Aldo Leopold Foundation

"Society speaks and all men listen, the mountains speak and wise men listen."

- John Muir



Milly Zantow - In 1978 Milly began investigating how she could begin recycling in Sauk County and it all started with a simple question. She called Borden Milk's in Milwaukee and asked what happens when a jug comes down the line with a flaw in it. They told her the jug gets melted down and sent back through the molding process.

The milk jugs sparked an idea for Milly. She contacted an executive at Flambeau Plastics in Baraboo asking whether the company could melt down used plastics and run them through the molding process again. Unfortunately, she was told there were too many different types of plastics for that to be practical.

Just two months short of a business degree, this mother of three went to the science department at UW-Baraboo. There she learned to conduct water-weight tests and burn tests on plastic containers. Armed with this information Milly was able to distinguish the different plastics resins.

With the help of her friend, Jenny Ehl, the ladies cashed in their life insurance policies and bought a commercial plastics grinder for \$5,000. This was the beginning of E-Z Recycling, a recycling center that some believe was the first of its kind in the country. In 1988 Milly's recycling efforts led to the development of the number code identifying the polymer type of plastic containers. These are the same recycling codes we still rely on today.

- Courtesy of the WI State Journal

"We reached the old wolf in time to watch a fierce green fire dying in her eyes. I realized then, and have known ever since, that there was something new to me in those eyes - something known only to her and to the mountain. I was young then and full of trigger itch. I thought that because fewer wolves mean more deer, that no wolves would mean hunters' paradise. But after seeing the fire die, I sensed that neither the wolf nor the mountain agreed with such a view." - Aldo Leopold, *The Sand County Almanac*, 1949

Who's that Masked Superhero?



If you happen to see a colorful Superhero darting around Dunn County's recycling bins, don't be alarmed. Chances are you have spotted the county's new recycling mascot! Dunn County Solid Waste has created and designed the new mascot specifically for our county in the hopes of encouraging and exciting people about the virtues of recycling. The recycling superhero will make public appearances at local fairs and parades as well as being available for presentations.

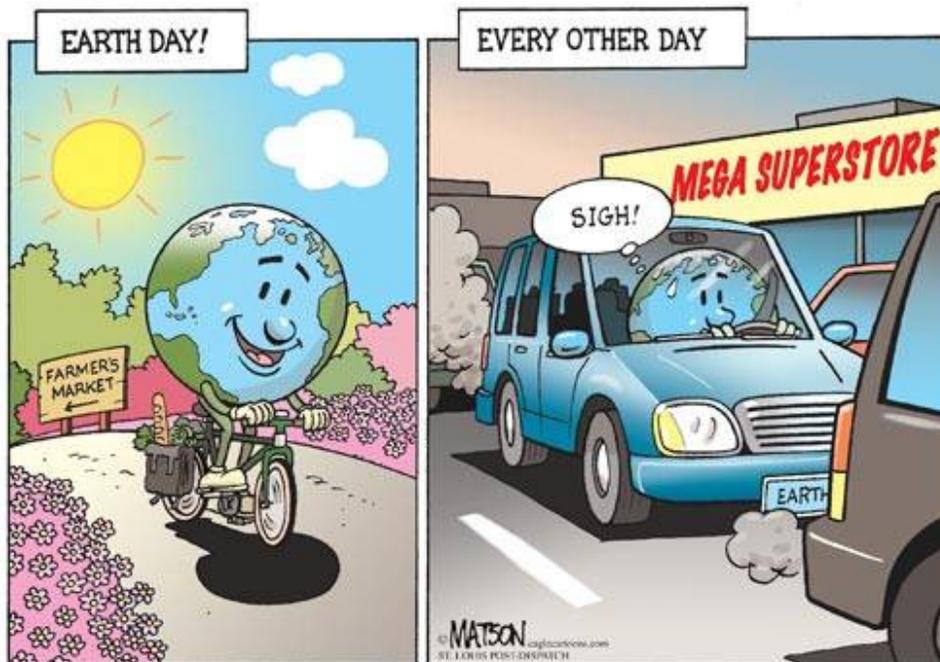
This caped crusader is in need of a name so we are looking for ideas from you, the recyclers of Dunn County. Name suggestions may be submitted between now and April 26th. Dunn County Solid Waste will then narrow the list down to the top three names. Beginning May 1st, the public will get to vote for their favorite name with the winner being announced by May 10th. As

an added incentive, the person who submits the winning name will receive a gift certificate from a local business. Help us name this local superhero which will represent Dunn County's sustainability efforts in a never ending quest to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

To submit name ideas and follow this contest, go to www.facebook.com/dunncountyrecycling. Names may also be submitted by e-mailing the Dunn County Solid Waste Division at swr@co.dunn.wi.us or calling 715-232-4017. Mailed submissions can be sent to Dunn County Solid Waste, 390 Red Cedar St., Suite C, Menomonie, WI 54751.



www.facebook.com/dunncountyrecycling



Stump the Grump Answers:

1. 1
2. 34 empty cans
3. 54 billion
4. 100
5. 20
6. 1

Happy Earth Day!