**AN AWARENESS PROGRAM WITH MONTHLY EVENTS & INFORMATION**

**JANUARY – DECEMBER 2019**

**QUESTIONS?**  Julie Rizzo (704) 944-6730
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**Beautification Charlotte**

**Clean-up Charlotte** *(click on each link for details)*

Mecklenburg County recycling rules have been updated:

- **RECYCLE RIGHT**
  - Put only these items in your roll-out bin:
    - Paper (newspaper, magazines)
    - Cardboard
    - Cereal Boxes
    - Glass Bottles & Jars
    - Plastic Bottles (with necks only)
    - Plastic Jugs
    - Aluminum Cans
    - Tin Cans
    - Some Metal Buckets
    - **Do not put:**
      - Plastic bags
      - Plastic wraps
      - Styrofoam
      - Glass eye wear
      - Non-glass bottles
      - Non-glass jars
      - **Check Mecklenburg County’s Recycling Guide for more details.**

- **At Home, Don’t Just Recycle**
  - Cut back on waste by recycling:
    - Scrapbooking Paper
    - Construction paper
    - Envelopes
    - Office Paper
    - Construction Paper
    - **Recycle what you can, compost what you can’t.**

- **When in Doubt, Keep it Out**
  - If you have items that cannot be put in your curb-side bin, take them to a **Full Recycling Center**.
  - For items not collected by the city, try TerraCycle - recycling almost with its free program, zero waste boxes and industrial waste program.

- **Adopt-a-Street** - not just for community groups and businesses but individuals can have their own street to clean - the same goes for **Adopt-a-Stream**.

- **Charlotte participates in the Great American Cleanup from March 1 - May 31.** Sign up for more information with **Keep Charlotte Beautiful**.

- **Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Volunteer Opportunities** - projects range from installing new playground equipment to festival help to pulling invasive plants.

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**Bees, Butterflies & Birds** *(click on each link for details)*

**The 3 Bs** - add plants to your yard that promote bees, butterflies and bird habitats:

- **Looking for local native plants to add to your landscape?**
  - Wing Haven Garden and Bird Sanctuary holds two native plant sales a year.

- **Add a bee hive to your yard with the added benefit of truly local honey with Holland Hives.**

- **Make a Toilet Paper Bird Feeder to attract more birds.**

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**Love Being in Nature? Volunteer at a Local Nature Center** *(click on each link for details)*

- **Latta Nature Center**
- **Reedy Creek Nature Center**
- **McDowell Nature Center**

Note that many of these roles require an ongoing time commitment and additional training:

- **Animal Care Assistant** - Basic or Advanced
- **Visitor Services** – Greet visitors; help maintain exhibits, etc.
- **Docent** – Trained in animal handling; assist with Nature Center programs and events, etc.
- **Grounds Volunteer** – Various tasks in outdoor areas around Nature Center

Looking for more opportunities? Try **Volunteer Match** and search in your area.

**Business Waste** *(click on link for details)*

- **Worried your business is mis-handling its waste?** Join the Mecklenburg County Waste Out Waste Ambassador Program.

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**Naturalize Your Yard** *(click on each link for details)*

- **Tired of mowing and wasting water on your lawn?** Consider naturalizing part of your lawn with low growing grass alternatives:
  - **More Sustainable (and Beautiful) Alternatives to a Grass Lawn**
  - **Try some of these eco-friendly grass alternatives**

Help Charlotte’s tree canopy by planning a tree or volunteering with **Tree Charlotte**.

Keep an eye out for local programs around Earth Day 2020 - Matthews, Davidson, Cornelius, and Museums all have Earth Day Celebrations.

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**Try Something New** *(click on each link for details)*

- **Want to see creative minds at work doing something with recycled materials?** Check out **Recycle the Runway** - a unique fashion show offering students attending a Mecklenburg County public or private high school an amazing opportunity to design, create and model an Avant Garde outfit that is crafted from recyclable materials. **Save the Date** - April 25, 2020!

Making Charlotte Beautiful is not just about the ground and the trees; it is also about making the people of Charlotte more beautiful through building relationships and service projects. Try doing both with **We Walk Together**.

Friendship is a beautiful thing. Ask your friends to join you in making Charlotte more beautiful.

**BONUS:** Tired of stepping on those forgotten Legos? **Lego Replay** has partnered with **Give Back Box** making it easy to donate them to charities in need.

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**Mecklenburg County recycling rules have been updated:**

- **Aerosol Cans (empty)**
- **Aluminum Cans**
- **Cardboard (flattened)**
- **Cereal Boxes**
- **Glass Bottles & Jars**
- **Magazines & Phone Books**
- **Plastic Bottles & Jugs (with necks only)**
- **Plastic Bottles (without necks)**
- **Plastic Jugs**
- **Metal Cans**
- **Milk & Juice Cartons**
- **Paperback Books**
- **Pizza Boxes**
- **Paper, Junk Mail & Newspapers**
- **Plastic Bottles (without necks)**
- **Plastic Jugs**

- **When in Doubt Keep it Out**

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**FEBRUARY • 2020**

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