

Enviro-News

Promoting **recycling** practices, **watershed** education, and **environmental** stewardship for Nevada

A Publication for School and Community Educators



901 S. Stewart Street, Carson City NV 89701

4TH QUARTER 2013 • VOL 1, ISSUE 4

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Our 4th Quarter issue is brief. In 2014, the Enviro-Newsletter will be published in late winter, spring, and fall to report on activities, programs and partnerships that promote environmental education and stewardship throughout the Nevada.

Reflections of the Past Year

Year end is a powerful time – a time of great celebrations and gatherings, a time of reflection, resolution and hope for the future. The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), Project WET and Recycling Programs recognize that our accomplishments are largely achieved through the dedicated work of school and community educators. Your efforts and commitment provide youth and adults the opportunity to learn about their local environment and the natural world. We have learned that environmental education has lasting effect on our later choices and values which in turn have a profound impact on our quality of life.

School and community partnerships in education are a smart way to extend our resources and to be responsive to local needs. NDEP will continue to explore ways to promote involvement with schools and communities that leads to environmental awareness and stewardship among all of us. Our hope is that youth and adults can take what they are

taught, apply it to their personal lives and continue to spread their understanding and knowledge to others. Your help has increased the ability of so many to reach and fulfill aspirations and potential for healthy watersheds and healthy communities.

Thank you!

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Photo by Reggie Lang

Winter in the Sierra -2010

Nevada Recycles has a new website! The url has changed. Please update your bookmarks: 



State of Nevada

Nevada Division of Environmental Protection

NevadaRecycles.nv.gov

Recycling Hotline: 1 (800) 597-5865

Christmas Tree Recycling

How many of the 25 to 30 million fresh Christmas trees sold each year are recycled is difficult to measure because most recycling programs “are implemented on such a local level,” said National Christmas Tree Association spokesman Rick Dungey. However, the good news is that tree-recycling efforts are now everywhere and recycling your tree is easier than ever.

Most Nevada communities offer Christmas tree recycling programs. Typically these trees get mulched and are used in local parks!

Reno/Sparks: Dec. 26-Jan. 12, 9am-4:30pm at these locations:

- * [Shadow Mountain Sports Complex](#) (Sparks)
- * [Bartley Ranch Regional Park](#) (Reno)
- * [Rancho San Rafael Park](#) (Reno)

Las Vegas: Dec. 26-Jan. 16.

- * 33 drop-off sites listed [here](#)!

Pahrump: Dec. 25-Jan. 12

- * [Cooperative Extension Office](#)

NDEP’s [Recycling holiday page](#) will be updated as Christmas tree recycling programs are announced!

Those who prefer artificial Christmas trees usually don’t throw them out after one year. But when the time comes, there’s a program to recycle them. [Polygroup](#), one of Walmart’s largest suppliers of artificial Christmas trees, sends them — including lights and electric cords — to a recycling center in China where they are shredded and broken down for reuse in other products. Unfortunately, consumers must pack and ship the trees back to [Polygroup](#) themselves. However, you can send in any brand of tree, and you need only ship to Polygroup’s Indiana offices, not to China.

Used Cooking Oil Don’t dump it down the drain!

Fat, oil and grease in liquid form may not appear to be harmful, but as it cools it sticks to the inner lining of drainage pipes and restricts wastewater flow causing your pipes to clog. Putting it down the drain is dangerous to your plumbing and harmful to the environment. These products can be readily recycled into biodiesel fuels for use in diesel engines, home heating boilers, diesel generators, and other equipment.

In Northern Nevada, [Bently Biofuels](#) takes used cooking oil and turns it into biodiesel. During the holidays, Nov. 28—Jan. 1, collection sites in Reno, Carson City, Douglas County, South Lake Tahoe, and Incline Village give you an easy opportunity to save your environment! For northern Nevada locations and hours check NDEP’s holiday page [here](#).

Bently Biofuels Hotline – Call 866-441-2884 with any questions.

In Southern Nevada, the [Las Vegas Springs Preserve](#) Holiday Cooking Oil Recycling Program collects used cooking oil at the south parking lot, Dec. 26 — Jan. 5, 10am-4pm



Photo credit: [Cease the Grease](#) program.

For more information, go to [Earth911](#).

To learn about Fat, Oil, Grease, and Grit [Pain In Your Drain!](#)

Exciting News

NDEP's Nonpoint Source (NPS) Pollution Management Program is the lead agency for controlling nonpoint sources of pollution in Nevada. NPS pollution results from a variety of human activities. Runoff from land surfaces has potential to carry with it natural and human caused pollutants. Eventually these pollutants are transported to Nevada's rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands or groundwater and can have harmful effects on drinking water supplies, recreation, fisheries, and wildlife.

Through our funding process with Clean Water Act grants, NDEP recently awarded funds to the Northwest Regional Professional Development Program (NW RPDP) to train educators on NPS pollution prevention, watershed stewardship, and water quality

protection using Project WET Curriculum and watershed-based education aligned to Next Generation Science Standards.

NW RPDP staff will work with NDEP and stakeholders to produce and conduct Project WET workshops that address water-literacy pertaining to:

- * Watershed boundaries
- * Function and benefits derived from Nevada watersheds
- * Impacts to water quality from NPS pollution and personal practices
- * Best practices that lead to environmental stewardship

Educators attending workshops will receive materials, equipment and resources to teach science in their classroom, experience their watershed and understand the potential impact of NPS pollution.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Water Education Workshops Address Next Generation Science Standards

NDEP believes a best approach to educating Nevadans about their impact on water quality and a sustainable watershed is to educate school and community educators who will in turn educate additional audiences about watershed science.

Our goal for participants is to provide students with a deeper and more comprehensive understanding of the natural world and the local environment while developing the problem solving skills needed to be productive members in society.

- January 14, 16, 21 & February 4 ----- **Fernley**
4:30-9pm ----- Silverland Middle School
- February 21 & 22 ----- **Panaca**
4-9pm, 7-6pm ----- Lincoln County High School
- February 19, 26 & March 5, 12 ----- **Reno**
4:30-9pm - Academy of Arts, Careers & Technology
- March 21, 22 ----- **Las Vegas**
4-9pm, 7-6pm ----- Clark County Wetlands Park
- April 16, 23, 30 & May 7 ----- **Genoa**
4:30-9pm ----- River Fork Ranch
- April 11, 12 ----- **Winnemucca**
4-9pm, 7-6pm ----- French Ford Middle School
- April 25, 26 ----- **Hawthorne**
4-9pm, 7-6pm Mineral County Cooperative Extension
- May 9, 10 ----- **Ely**
4-9pm, 7-6pm ----- Great Basin College
- May 30, 31 ----- **Elko**
4-9pm, 7-6pm ----- High Tech Center

Past PWET participants will be encouraged to lead various training activities for new participants. No FEEEE !!!

The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) provides resources and funding for numerous educational and outreach programs and efforts throughout Nevada. NDEP sponsors and endorses Project WET and Recycling programs and curriculum through two Bureaus, Water Quality Planning and Waste Management.

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