

GreenSpot Household eNewsletter September 2017

"If we do not permit the earth to produce beauty and joy, it will in the end not produce food, either."

-Joseph Wood Krutch



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Green Purge

Do you have a lot of clutter in your home? If so we have an event for you—the Green Purge! The City of Columbus, the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO), Goodwill Columbus, and the Furniture Bank of Central Ohio have teamed up to present the fourth annual Columbus Green Purge event on Saturday, October 21st at the Ohio History Connection grounds (800 E 17th Ave, Columbus, OH 43211) from 8:00am-2:00pm. The event is for residents to come and purge their unwanted items, such as household hazardous waste (note: paint disposal is \$1/can); clothing and household items, electronics; furniture and appliances. Here is a [full list](#) of acceptable items.



Green Power

The Columbus Division of Power's new Green Power Initiative will allow customers to consume energy more sustainably and contribute to renewable energy growth in Ohio and nationwide with the EcoSmart Choice option. This new program offers customers a larger role in going green that's easy and convenient.



EcoSmart Choice allows customers to offset up to 100% of their monthly energy consumption through the purchase of renewable energy certificates (RECs). RECs are produced when energy is generated from renewable sources and effectively determine whether energy is green or not. Purchasing RECs helps offset your own carbon footprint and support renewable energy production. EcoSmart Choice charges an additional \$0.005 for each kW of electricity you use. *For the average Columbus household, this comes out to about an extra \$5.00 each month. In other words, you can have 100% green power for the same cost as your favorite cup of coffee each month!

Since adopting the program last year, 76,959,000 kWh of RECs have been accumulated, saving 54,085 tons of CO2 that would have otherwise been produced by nonrenewable sources. Grab your Columbus Division of Power account number and join the ranks of green and clean Ohioans by [registering](#) today.

Drug Drop-Off

Do you have any old drugs hanging out in your medicine cabinet? If so, collect them up and bring them to Columbus Public Health on Saturday, October 28th from 10am to 2pm. They will accept prescription pills, over the counter pills, patches, pet medication, vitamins, and needles/sharps (must be put in puncture resistant container). They will NOT accept liquids of any kind, gel caps, aerosol cans, thermometers, and inhalers.

DRUG DROP-OFF

OCTOBER 28, 2017
10 A.M. - 2 P.M.



Protect your family and the environment.

Hoover Reservoir Litter Clean Up

This Saturday, September 30th from 9am-12pm come out for some "clean" fun. Gloves, bags, beverages and snacks will be provided. All volunteers should meet at the shelter house at the lower west side of Hoover Dam. For more information please call the Watershed Management Section at 614-645-1748. Read more [here](#).



Columbus Utility Bill easy to Pay eBill

Have you checked out the new Columbus utility [Customer Portal](#) yet? You can sign up for eBill, pay online via eCheck or credit card, auto pay and more. Another way to be green!



Worms, Compost, and Cover Crops

Join Franklin Soil and Water, Franklin Park Conservatory, The Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO), and Walnut Creek Seeds, LLC. for this free class about the basics of home composting, vermicomposting, and using cover crops. Many participants will win prizes including a compost bin, Worm Factory 360, fall cover crop mix, Let it Rot! by Stu Campbell, composting thermometer, or under-counter kitchen compost bins. Following the class and lunch on your own, participants are invited to a guided tour to view the Conservatory's composting operations and community gardens.

The event takes place on Saturday, October 14th from 9am-2pm at Franklin Park Conservatory. [Register today!](#)

Did you know they are a GreenSpot? The Dawes Arboretum

The Dawes Arboretum is a nearly 2,000-acre public garden located just a 30-minute drive east from the heart of Columbus. Last year, The Arboretum hosted more than 260,000 visitors free of charge and more than 15,000 people participated in free or low-cost educational programming to learn about trees and nature. If you were not among those visitors, you are invited to visit!



The Dawes Arboretum

The Arboretum boasts more than 12 miles of pedestrian trails and a four-mile auto tour. Programming includes everything from sustainable landscaping to home school investigations to workshops on foraging for edibles or gardening for pollinators. Many efforts not only support plant and wildlife populations on Arboretum grounds, but far beyond through projects like Monarch butterfly rearing. The Arboretum also runs a Plant Clinic, through which an Arboretum staff member is available to answer plant questions from the public, just give them a call at 800.44.DAWES.

On a national scale, The Dawes Arboretum is a proud partner of the Plant Collections Network, a continent-wide group of partners dedicated to preserving plant genetics. In 2017, The Arboretum was rated among the 10 Best Botanical Gardens in the country by readers of USA Today. In 2016, The Arboretum was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Of course The Arboretum also maintains robust recycling and compost programs and uses many native plantings to reduce watering, control runoff and support local wildlife. However, The Arboretum's greatest community investments are in accessible grounds and programming. Visit The Dawes Arboretum today to learn more about how trees and nature enrich our community. Learn more at [dawesarb.org](#).



THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC UTILITIES

STAY CONNECTED:



City of Columbus Public Utilities,
910 Dublin Road, Columbus, OH 43215