



# White River Solid Waste Management District

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On the World Wide Web: [www.whiteriverrecycles.org](http://www.whiteriverrecycles.org) e-mail: [recycle@wrpdd.org](mailto:recycle@wrpdd.org)

Serving Cleburne, Fulton, Independence, Izard, Jackson, Sharp, Stone, Van Buren, White and Woodruff Counties

Environmental Education E-News

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## Remembering Theodor Seuss Geisel

If there ever was a children's book author who strove to make a positive difference in the lives of young children it was Dr. Seuss. March 2<sup>nd</sup> was the 111<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth. My favorite environmental quote from him is from his book *The Lorax*, in which he writes, *"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."* There are many other children's books about conservation (i.e. *Wump World* by Bill Peet), and quite a few can be found in our Loan Library. I am attaching a pdf listing of environmental education books and videos that can be checked out, including these two books. If you are interested, contact me quickly, as many things are spoken for during the month of April. If you work with young children, get a copy of these books and read and discuss them together!

For a downloadable copy of 30 of the best quotes from Dr. Seuss, follow this link: <http://mamiverse.com/dr-seuss-quotes-19331/> or just Google it!

## Free to You! Earth Day Elementary Education Materials!

Earth Day is on Wednesday April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Many schools celebrate Earth Week (April 20-24) through educational activities on campus all week long. If you are a Kindergarten through Grade 6 educator in our ten county service area (see county listing above) we are offering free educational coloring and activity books to students in your classroom! This is our 15<sup>th</sup> year to offer free education materials to elementary schools (one item per student). This year's offerings are:

A Child's Book of Recycling (K-Grade 2)  
Let's Learn About Recycling (Grades 3-4)  
50 Ways to Go Green (Grades 5-6)  
Color and Make 6 Station Recycling Wheel (3 pieces; Grades 3-6)

In the next two weeks a sample set of these materials will be sent to all elementary principals in our ten county service area. **Ask your principal's office to be looking for this truly free, no strings attached offer in the mail – and not to throw it away.** You can also e-mail material requests to [recycle@wrpdd.org](mailto:recycle@wrpdd.org) or contact us through [www.WhiteRiverRecycles.org](http://www.WhiteRiverRecycles.org), our web site,. Materials are provided through a grant, and quantities are limited and will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

## What else can you do for Earth Week?

All kinds of things! Some options are: a recycled materials art contest, cards for Mother's Day with paper your students can make themselves, a zero waste classroom lunch, or working to improve your campus recycling or composting program. Visit [www.EarthDay.org](http://www.EarthDay.org) with your students for more ideas. If you need a little help, contact me at [recycle@wrpdd.org](mailto:recycle@wrpdd.org).

If you live near Fairfield Bay, take a field trip to the Hippe Recycling Center's (501-884-4184) recycling education park and visit the different recycling stations and the windmill that creates electricity. "Oh the things you will see!" Dr. Seuss

## Get your programs and efforts recognized by your Arkansas peers!

"Why fit in when you were born to stand out?" Dr. Seuss

**ARC Awards** – has your school, community or business done an outstanding job of recycling and educating your students or peers about recycling and reducing waste during the past year? If so, get your program well-deserved recognition through the 2015 Arkansas Recycling Coalition Awards Program. Complete information, including award criteria and categories, is available on the ARC website, [www.recycleark.org](http://www.recycleark.org). The deadline for applying is May 15, 2015. Good luck!

**2015 ENVY Awards** – the [Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality](http://www.adeq.state.ar.us) invites nominations for the annual Environmental Stewardship Award, or ENVY Award, to recognize citizens or organizations for their efforts to protect and enhance the state's environment. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the ENVY. Could you or someone you know be the next recipient? [Download a nomination packet by clicking here](#) and select the "Call for Entries" link under "What's New at ADEQ?". **Nomination packets must be postmarked by March 13th, 2015**, to be considered. Email [Audrey Miller](mailto:Audrey.Miller@adeq.state.ar.us) or call 501-682-0015 for a paper nomination packet

## Classroom Tools for Teachers and Students

"Think and wonder, wonder and think." Dr. Seuss

The Children & Nature Network is leading the movement to connect all children, their families and communities to nature through innovative ideas, evidence-based resources and tools, broad-based collaboration and support of grassroots leadership - See more at: <http://www.childrenandnature.org/about/contact/#sthash.UZQKy2q7.dpuf> They provide a wealth of free resources and are worth taking a look at.

If you have a school garden large or small, Green Teacher can be a good online resource to visit. They offer teaching helps and ideas and have a number of free articles you can download. Visit them at <http://greenteacher.com/category/free-articles/>.

Quality science and math education materials, tools and activities are available through [www.HowToSmile.org](http://www.HowToSmile.org). Educators can both obtain quality STEM related materials and contribute their successful materials as well. Worth taking a look.

## **After the Snow Melts...Volunteer This Spring!**

*"It's opener, out there, in the wide, open air." Dr. Seuss*

The Great Arkansas Cleanup runs from March 1<sup>st</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup>. Before you know it the weather will be nice again, so put your favorite shoes and volunteer for a day! Keep Arkansas Beautiful will provide trash bags, gloves, safety vests and other supplies. They will even promote your event! Get your favorite group together – students, family members, church group, friends – and enjoy some spring sunshine while doing a good thing in your community! For more information, visit [KeepArkansasBeautiful.com](http://KeepArkansasBeautiful.com), email [elizabeth.philpott@arkansas.gov](mailto:elizabeth.philpott@arkansas.gov) or call 888-742-8701 toll-free.

## **Is there a great artist in the making in your classroom?**

The Keep Arkansas Beautiful Youth Poster Contest is taking entries through March 15<sup>th</sup>. Posters should depict an Arkansas that is clean and green! Prizes for the contest will be awarded in two divisions: Grades K – 2 and Grades 3 – 5. Teachers should select one poster per class to be submitted for statewide judging. Winners will be recognized in their local communities by KAB representatives.

Contest entries should show flowers and trees planted, parks and public areas cleaned up, trails built, downtowns improved, and litter picked up. Any medium (pen and ink, watercolor, crayon, marker, pencil, etc.) can be used, but artwork must be two-dimensional. Entries must be submitted on standard 8½" x 11" paper.

*"Step with care and great tact.*

*And remember that life's a great balancing act." Dr. Seuss*

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Sources for the above information include: Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, Arkansas Recycling Coalition, EarthDay.org, Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission, Green Teacher Magazine, Washington County Environmental Affairs and Recycling, White River Regional Solid Waste Management District.

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