



# The Resource

A Publication of the City of North Augusta  
Stormwater Management Department

## Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Saturday, May 21, 2005 • 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. • Crossroads Market Shopping Center

The City of North Augusta Stormwater Management Department will hold its third annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection on Saturday, May 21 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Crossroads Market (Kroger) Shopping Center.

The event is designed to help residents properly dispose of unwanted and potentially hazardous materials such as engine fluids, paints and stains, herbicides, pesticides, cleaning solvents and the like. Participation in last year's collection almost doubled that of the previous year, with over 700 cans of paint and almost 200 containers of oil collected.

Don't miss this opportunity to properly dispose of your unwanted materials and potential pollutants!



## Used Oil Recycling

In the United States approximately 1.1 billion gallons of oil are sold annually. Much of this oil is used in motor vehicles. When you change your oil, the used oil must be recycled. In fact, in South Carolina, it's the law. The South Carolina Solid Waste Policy and Management Act of 1992 prohibits the disposal of used oil in landfills, sewers, septic systems, drainage systems, water, groundwater or on the ground. This law was enacted because oil, improperly disposed of, causes significant environmental harm.

### Why recycle used oil?

From an environmental standpoint, one pint of oil can cause a one acre oil slick on a body of water that will kill floating organisms. One gallon of oil can contaminate one million gallons of drinking water. Recycling used oil also helps reduce our dependency on foreign oil. Two gallons of used motor oil can generate 36 kilowatt hours of electricity – enough to run the average household for a day.

### Where can I dispose of used oil?

In North Augusta, if you are a "do-it-your-selfer", you can take your used oil to the city's Material Recovery Facility, located at the end of Clay Pit Road. The disposal receptacles are under a canopy inside the fence to the right. The facility is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. There is no charge for disposal.

### What happens to recycled motor oil?

Approximately 14 percent of used oil collected is re-refined as motor or fuel oil. About 75 percent is reprocessed for use in asphalt plants, industrial boilers, steel mills and other industry. The remaining 11 percent is used to fuel specially designed space heaters for automotive garages and municipal facilities.

South Carolina currently has one of the most successful oil recycling programs in the country, with well over one million gallons of used oil collected annually. Most of this oil comes from "do-it-your-selfers" from more than 700 collection sites throughout the state – including ours.

Sources: American Petroleum Institute; SCDHEC Office of Recycling

# Environmental Issues: How Much Do You Know?

Last year the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control commissioned the University of South Carolina to conduct a survey of environmental knowledge of the public in South Carolina. In many ways the results were very good with most of the public recognizing the pollution potential of various yard chemicals, pet wastes and septic systems.

However, one area that raised concern was the lack of knowledge of the storm drainage process. When asked if the

water from storm drains is treated before release to a stream, 17.6 percent of respondents thought that it was and over half of respondents said they did not know. Only 28.3 percent of respondents knew that stormwater is not treated and that what travels down the storm drain enters streams and other bodies of water untreated.

In addition, half of all respondents did not know the stream to which their storm drainage system was discharged, one-third of respondents indicated they had

used lawn fertilizers in the past 12 months, and one-quarter of respondents indicated they had used lawn pesticides in the same time period.

Such responses clearly demonstrate the need for further public education on stormwater pollution. Visit the Stormwater Management pages on the city's website at [www.northaugusta.net](http://www.northaugusta.net) for information and links to enhance your knowledge about these important issues.

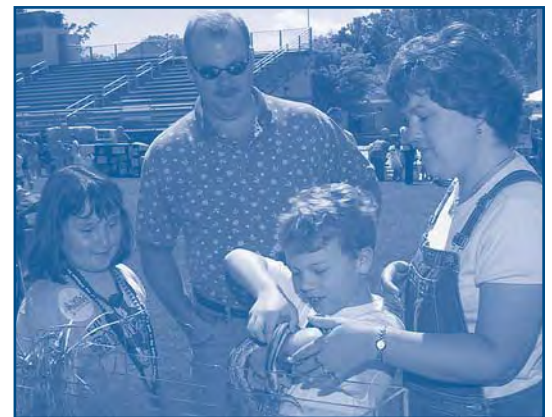
## Kids Earth Day 2005

Saturday, April 16, 2005 • 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Lions Memorial Field

Make plans now to join us for Kids Earth Day 2005. This fun and educational event features dozens of interactive exhibits for a unique, hands-on approach to learning about the environment, what others are doing to preserve it and what you can do to help!

The event is sponsored by the City of North Augusta, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, the Savannah River Site Pollution Prevention Team, BNFL and SCE&G.

For more information, call 803-441-4224.



For additional information contact:

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