

Dear Recycle Lady



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Dear Recycle Lady,

My husband is getting ready to change the oil in our cars. Is there somewhere locally that accepts used motor oil? Concerned for the Environment

Dear Concerned,

Yes, there is a local collection station. In our area used oil can be taken to the Advance Auto Parts store in Fairlea (304-645-5088), located in the mall on US Route 219 South (Seneca Trail) close to where Save-A-Lot used to be. Motor oil never wears out, it just gets dirty – and it can be recycled, refined and used again. A single quart of motor oil, if disposed of improperly, can contaminate up to 2,000,000 gallons of fresh water. Please encourage your husband to take the used motor oil to Advanced Auto Parts and thanks for writing.

Hi Recycle Lady,

Both recycling and reusing items are looked at as good models. During business hours, the Alderson Public Library, 308 Walnut Ave, Alderson, accepts donations of clean, dry Styrofoam egg cartoons that they can reuse. Their business hours are 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM. When I told my neighbor that my submission had been printed in your column, she was surprised. She thought the letters submitted were written by you. I am testament that readers submit letters that get in print. Avid Alderson Recycler

Dear Avid Alderson Recycler,

Thanks for the good information about egg cartoons for the Alderson Library. Besides saving money, reusing items saves on the energy required to make new ones, reduces greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change and reduces the amount of waste in the landfill. Your neighbor was somewhat correct. When I began writing this column last September, I did write the questions and the answers. However, I am pleased to say, most of the questions now come from readers. So, readers, please send your questions, comments and ways to reduce, reuse and recycle. They all contribute good information to the column.

Dear Recycle Lady,

What is the difference in reducing and reusing? Confused

Dear Confused,

Good Question. There are several definitions of reuse. Perhaps, the simplest one is to find another use for a product other than the use for which it was made: using worn out clothing for rags, instead of paper towels, buying gently used clothing or furniture at consignment shops, Goodwill, or the Habitat ReStore. Taking your own silverware and cup to work instead of using disposable ones both reuses and reduces the amount of trash. Reducing means using less or cutting back. Making changes in your lifestyle, such as taking shorter showers, replacing older appliances with Energy Star appliances, and buying reusable items over disposable ones. Turning off your water while brushing your teeth can save up to 4 gallons of water each time you brush. Check out this website for more ideas. <https://www.epa.gov/recycle/reducing-and-reusing-basics#benefits>

Have questions about recycling, or interesting information about recycling? Send questions or requests to recyclelady@greenbrier-swa.com. Dear Recycle Lady is sponsored jointly by the Greenbrier Recycling Center and Greenworks Recycling.