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1. Fitchburg Green and Complete Streets Forum Set for April 9th

The Fitchburg Resource Conservation Commission invites you to a forum on Green and Complete Streets this Thursday, April 9th from 3:00-4:30 p.m. at the Fitchburg Library in Room A/B. Bernard Lenz, La Crosse Assistant City Engineer, will talk about the City of La Crosse's efforts to integrate green infrastructure practices into their Complete Streets process.

While a Complete Street improves health, safety, and accessibility for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and public transportation users of all ages and abilities, the "green" component of La Crosse's 2012 Green Complete Streets Ordinance ensures environmental sustainability through stormwater management, landscaping, and air quality improvements that are integral to the process as well.



All Complete Streets look different, but common features include sidewalks, bike lanes, raised crosswalks, bus shelters and crossings, refuge medians, wide shoulders, special bus lanes, sidewalk bulb-outs and audible pedestrian signals. A "Green" Complete Street also adds green infrastructure such as porous pavement, grass swales, bio-retention basins, trees, and vegetated boulevards and medians.

Green Complete Streets make it easier and more enjoyable to cross the street, walk to shops, or bicycle to work while cleaning the environment, and thus facilitate a healthier, active city; but making that change to a Green Complete Street design process can be difficult. Mr. Lenz will share how La Crosse integrated green infrastructure into the Complete Street process and describe some of the lesson learned.

For more event details, visit Green Fitchburg's [website](#). For more information on Complete Streets, please visit completestreets.org.

2. Pledge to Conserve Water During "My Water Pledge" Challenge April 1-30



The **Fourth Annual National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation** has started. Do your part to save our planet by taking 1 minute to go to MYWATERPLEDGE.COM this Earth Month (April 1-30), and make your pledge to conserve water and energy. By pledging today, you will be eligible for over \$50,000 in prizes like a Toyota Prius v, an iPad mini, and a \$1000 green home improvement shopping spree! For more tips on water conservation, visit our [website](#).

3. Earth Month Programs Abound this April at Fitchburg Library

Earth Day is April 22nd and we have plenty of earth-friendly programming for both adults and kids to share with you this month. Join us to learn about ways to help the earth at home this month!



Adults:

- “**All About Composting**” presentation by EnAct, Wednesday, April 15th at 6:30 p.m. in Meeting Room A/B
- “**All About Rain Barrels**” presentation by EnAct, Wednesday, April 22nd at 6:30 p.m. in Meeting Room A/B
- “**Best of the Web: Gardening**,” Monday, April 27th at 7:00 p.m. in the Technology Center. Learn about great websites and apps to help plan your spring planting!

Kids:

- “**Going Green – Earth Day Celebration**,” Wednesday, April 22nd at 10:30 a.m., in Meeting Room A/B. Join us for stories and environmentally-friendly crafts for kids ages 2-5.
- “**Planting for Spring**” on Friday, April 24th at 4:00 p.m. We’ll talk about our Seed Library, learn some fun seed facts, and even do some spring planting. Both adults and kids (ages 4-12) are encouraged to attend

For more details, please contact kate.hull@fitchburgwi.gov or 608-729-1763.

4. Drop Off Recyclables for Craft Projects at Fitchburg Library

The Fitchburg Public Library is currently seeking clean egg cartons, tin cans, plastic water bottles, and toilet paper and paper towel rolls for future programs. Look for Earth Day craft events made from reused egg cartons and milk jugs caps, DIY wind-chime event made out of tin cans, and a planting project using egg cartons and milk jug caps. For more information, contact Kelly Witt, Youth Services Librarian, at 729-1768 or kelly.witt@fitchburgwi.gov or drop off materials at Fitchburg Public Library, 5530 Lacy Road.



5. Spring Waterway Cleanup Set for April 18th

Fitchburg’s Spring Waterway Cleanups for 2015 are tentatively planned for Saturday, April 18th from 9am–11am, rain or shine.* A cleanup will be held on the north side of Dunn’s Marsh along Crescent Road. There may be additional cleanup groups forming in your area. Anyone interested in being a group leader may contact Rick Eilertson, Fitchburg Environmental Engineer, at rick.eilertson@fitchburgwi.gov or (608) 270-4264 to coordinate a cleanup in your neighborhood with your neighborhood association.

Fitchburg will provide refreshments and giveaways to all participants. Volunteers are encouraged to wear boots and bring work gloves. Restroom facilities are often not convenient to the planned cleanup locations, so plan accordingly. Check for additional details on the Waterway Cleanups closer to the events.

6. Fitchburg’s Green Spring Cleanup Day May 9th from 8-11 a.m.

Fitchburg is making it even easier to Spring Clean in a green way! For the first time, Fitchburg is hosting a **local** Clean Sweep event on Saturday, May 9th from 8:00-11:00 a.m. at the Public Works Maintenance Facility, 2373 S. Fish Hatchery Rd. to make to make disposal of these hazardous household products more convenient. Do you have unneeded **hazardous household products**, such as: pesticides, poisons, ignitables, aerosols, fertilizers, household cleaners, or automotive fluids taking up space? As you may be aware, these and other household wastes can be harmful to the environment and your health, so they require special disposal. They should not be placed in your refuse container. To cover the cost of disposal, we are required to charge \$10/vehicle at this event. Latex paint cannot be accepted. ^(a)



Fitchburg's local **Clean Sweep** will coincide with **Electronics Recycling** (Surplus IT, 901 Watson Ave.), **Shred Day** (Oak Bank, 5951 McKee Rd) and **Med Drop** (Police Station lobby), all on May 9th from 8:00 - 11:00am. In addition to these organized collections, you can also drop off the following items, at no charge, at the indicated locations for reuse or recycling:

- **Alkaline or Rechargeable Batteries** - Drop Off container, Fitchburg City Hall lobby
- **Eyeglasses (including prescription sunglasses) & Hearing Aids**
 - Drop-Off container, Fitchburg City Hall lobby
 - Drop-Off container, Fitchburg library, main entrance
- **Cell Phones** – Drop-Off container, Fitchburg City Hall lobby
- **Florescent Light Bulbs** - Home Depot, Menards or any other store that sells them
- **Styrofoam Packing Material** (not peanuts*)
 - Fitchburg's Drop-Off site, 2373 S. Fish Hatchery Rd.
 - *Packing peanuts are accepted at the Electronics Recycling event
- **Expired or Surplus Medications** (except narcotics) - Police Station M-F 7:30a.m. - 4:30p.m.
- **Expired or Surplus Narcotics** - Hometown Pharmacy, Cahill Main
- **Useable items that you no longer need/want**, including surplus paint; unneeded indoor or outdoor furniture; seasonal decorations; VCR tapes; plants; lawn equipment; tools . . . just about anything. Post them on **Freecycle** <http://my.freecycle.org/>. Membership and items are free; posts are monitored.

(a) If you have less than ~1" of latex paint in your container, leave the lid off, let the paint dry and toss the container in your refuse cart. If you have more than ~1", share it with someone who can use it by posting it on Freecycle.

Information about other options for recycling may be found in Fitchburg's 2015 Recycling Guide on Fitchburg's web page at: fitchburgwi.gov/solidwaste. Hard copies are available in Fitchburg City Hall Lobby.

7. Fitchburg Seniors Invited to Bike Maintenance Workshop on April 21st

On Tuesday, April 21 at 10:00 a.m. the Fitchburg Senior Center will be teaming up with Fitchburg Cycles. Join us at Fitchburg Cycles to learn what it takes to change a tire, feather your gears to run smoothly, and the kick-off to the bike season. This event is also a great opportunity to meet others in the Senior Center biking club. Bike on over and be part of this great program. Right next to the Great Dane, 2970 Cahill Main. Any questions, contact David at 270-4292

8. Sauk County Sponsors Rain Barrel & Backyard Composter Sale

Sauk County is now taking orders for rain barrels and backyard composters through Friday, May 15th. The SYSTEMN Rain Barrel is available at a cost of \$55 including tax (a value of \$110), and can cut house water bills by up to 40%. The EARTH MACHINE composter is available at a cost of \$40 including tax (a value of \$75), and can reduce garbage output by 30%. Kitchen compost scrap pails are also available for \$10 and composter turns for \$20. Only cash and checks are accepted. Bins and barrels can be picked up at the Sauk County Conservation, Planning and Zoning Office, 505 Broadway, Baraboo. For more information or to order supplies, go to co.sauk.wi.us/cpz/rain-barrels-compost-bins-sale.



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Please contact [Erika Kluetmeier](mailto:erika.kluetmeier@fitchburgwi.gov), Sustainability Specialist, at erika.kluetmeier@fitchburgwi.gov or 270-4274 if you have any questions, comments, and/or suggestions on future Green E-News topics.