

NIH GREEN ZONE NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the NIH Environmental Management System

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NOVEMBER 2022

2022 America Recycles Day

America Recycles Day is the only nationally-recognized day dedicated to promoting recycling in the United States. This event typically occurs on November 15, as it will this year. The NIH will again participate in America Recycles Day to promote recycling throughout all NIH campuses. Recycling is important for conserving resources, reducing pollution, saving energy and creating jobs! As a federal agency, the NIH must meet waste management mandates set by Executive Order 14057 (Catalyzing Clean Energy Industries and Jobs Through Federal Sustainability). Per EO 14057, the NIH must divert at least 50% of non-hazardous solid

waste from landfills by FY2025 and 75% of non-hazardous solid waste by FY2030. The current recycling rate for the NIH is 75%, which already meets the FY2030 requirement. However, we must be diligent about improving our recycling rate to avoid it slipping back below the 75% threshold. America Recycles Day is the perfect opportunity to start a new recycling habit that we can carry throughout the entire year!

America Recycles Day activities at the NIH vary by campus. Currently, only activities are planned for the Bethesda campus, but activities may be added for other campuses after this article is published. Check the <u>America Recycles Day page</u> on the NEMS websites for the most up-to-date information.

Bethesda:

- Collections for non-accountable electronics will be held from November 14-18. The collection bins will be placed in the lobbies of Buildings 1, 10 (South Lobby), 13, 31A, 35, 38A, 40, 45 and 50. Look for the flyer to the right on collection bins! Acceptable items include computer keyboards, computer mice, cords, speakers, webcams, CDs and floppy disks. Items with NIH decals, broken glass or sharps <u>are not</u> accepted.
- Soft plastic film recycling collections will be held at the Building 10-B2 loading dock and the Building 10 Supply Store. Acceptable items include plastic grocery bags, Ziploc bags, shrink wrap, clear plastic pillows (deflated), bubble wrap and case wrap from water and soda bottles. Items that <u>are not</u> accepted include green (biodegradable) air pillows, chip bags, rigid (hard) plastic, packing peanuts and paper products.
- Take the <u>NIH Recycling Pledge</u>!

SPOTLIGHT

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Check out the NIH Green Zone Newsletter Archive!

The NIH Green Zone Newsletter webpage has been improved to include a searchable archive. Past articles can now be filtered or searched using various criteria to find exactly the article you're looking for!

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TAKE ACTION

NIH Waste & Recycling Programs in 2022

The waste and recycling programs for the NIH frequently change to fit the needs of NIH staff. To make the information on these programs easier to locate, this article contains a consolidated list of the waste and recycling programs from 2022.

LEARN MORE

NEMS TRAINING

Did you know? Accountable government property must be disposed through your <u>Property Accountability Officer (PAO)</u>. To learn more about waste management at the NIH, please visit the <u>NEMS Training webpage</u> to view a short (20 minute) NIH environmental awareness training video.

The NIH Green Zone Newsletter is a publication intended to inform NIH staff about the Division of Environmental Protection and NIH Green Teams projects and initiatives. The text contained in this newsletter is not copyrighted and can be reprinted without permission. If you use portions of this newsletter in your own publication, we ask that you please credit the source. We welcome your <u>comments and suggestions</u>. Thank you.

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NIH National Institutes of Health AMERICA RECYCLES DAY Monday, November 14 – Friday, November 18 Accepted drop-off of NON-ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNMENT ELECTRONICS including but not limited to: • Computer Keyboards Computer Mouse · Cords Speakers • Webcams · CDs & floppy discs NO Electronics with NIH decals Broken glass Sharps NON-ACCOUNTABLE COLLECTIONS GOVERNMENT END AT 12 P.M. FRIDAY. NOV 18 ELECTRONICS ONLY DROP-OFFS ACCEPTED HERE Office of Research Facilities . Division of Environmental Protection . 301-496-7990 ental Management System (NEMS): http://www.nems.nih.gov/ NIH Environ