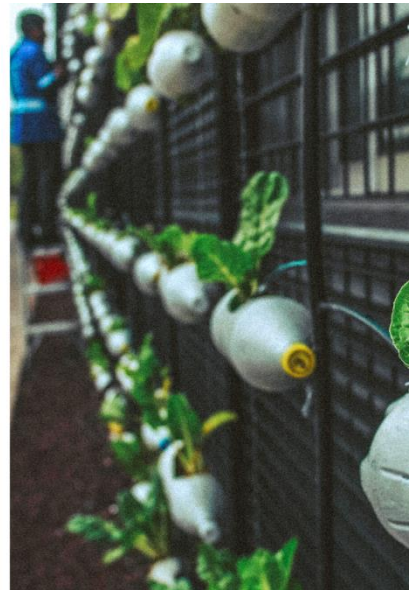


Creative Reuse/Recycling Project



Dearborn County 4-H

Creative Reuse/Recycling Project

(Not a State Fair Project) (Creative Reuse/Recycling Project Record Sheet)

The Creative Reuse/Recycling Project is designed to encourage members to consider repurposing items so that they will become useful.

Exhibit requirements:

1. Use your imagination.
2. Take an object and repurpose it into something useful or decorative. (Other than what it was originally used for)
3. Attach to your exhibit:
 - a. name of project created
 - b. item or items that were recycled
 - c. how it was assembled
4. Include the Recycling Record Sheet in your Green Record Folder

Exhibits will be judged based on originality, creativity and functionality with consideration given to the age of the exhibitor.

Recycling - Repurposing Projects can be thought of as either OLD RECYCLING or MODERN-DAY RECYCLING. Examples might include:

- quilts from old clothing
- rag rugs
- feed sack dresses
- feed sack dish towels
- clothing out of curtains
- milk crate shelving
- metal art from old equipment
- bucket patio planter
- jewelry made from old buttons
- plastic cap mural
- rugs made from plastic bags
- barn siding picture frames
- bottle bird feeders
- t-shirt shag rug
- medicine cabinet-shadow box
- greeting card basket
- silverware-wind chimes
- denim jean purses
- weathervanes
- recycling sort bins from miscellaneous materials
- paper bead jewelry
- metal can sculpture

How to Get Started

Check around your house for items that are about to be discarded. They might include, but are not limited to:

- newspapers
- fabrics
- aluminum foil
- metal or aluminum cans
- cardboard
- old silverware
- magazines
- old clothing
- foam meat trays
- plastic bottles
- old car or bike parts
- old toys
- egg cartons
- coffee cans/jugs
- plastic bags
- plastic caps
- old wrapping paper
- old barrels/bins

Ask yourself, "What can I make out of this?" Be creative and find a new use for items that would normally end up in the trash. There are many ways to recycle items

that do not involve taking items to the recycling center. This 4-H project is designed to make you more aware of how things we might throw away daily could be turned into useful or decorative items for your personal use or home use.

The most effective way to reduce waste is to not create it in the first place. Making a new product requires a lot of materials and energy - raw materials must be extracted from the earth, and the product must be fabricated then transported to wherever it will be sold. As a result, reduction and reuse are the most effective ways you can save natural resources, protect the environment and save money.

One of the most creative and fun ways to recycle is to make something old into something useful again. Normal household "trash" that we throw away everyday can be turned into "treasure" with a little imagination and effort.



Creative Resources

Here is a list of resources that can help inspire your Creative Reuse/Recycling Project:

Websites:

There are many more resources online. Search for "reuse crafts" or "reuse projects".

- Pinterest.com
- www.favecrafts.com/Green-Crafting/659-Recycled-Crafts-Crafting-with-Recyclable-Items
- Earth911.com
- www.diyncrafts.com/6081/repurpose

Books:

- *1000 Ideas for Creative Reuse: Remake, Restyle, Recycle, Renew* by Garth Johnson
- *Recycled Crafts Box Paperback* by Laura C. Martin
- *Another Use For...101 Common Household Items* by Vicki Lansky
- *Recycled Home* by Rebecca Proctor
- *Don't Throw It Out* by Lori Baird

Local Resources:

- Dearborn County Recycling Center Creation Station
DearbornCountyRecycles.com
- Contact local businesses for scrap items

Creative Reuse/Recycling Project Record Sheet

Name: _____

Address: _____

Year in Club Work: _____ Present Age: _____

Leader's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Questions:

1. Describe the new item(s) that you created: _____

2. List all materials used in making your project. _____

3. What did you learn from this project? _____

4. Did your family get involved with you on this project? ☐ yes ☐ no

5. What did you enjoy the most about this project? _____

6. What did you dislike about this project? _____

7. Comments: _____

8. List the names of people you have shared your recycling knowledge with:

Your signature: _____ Date: _____