



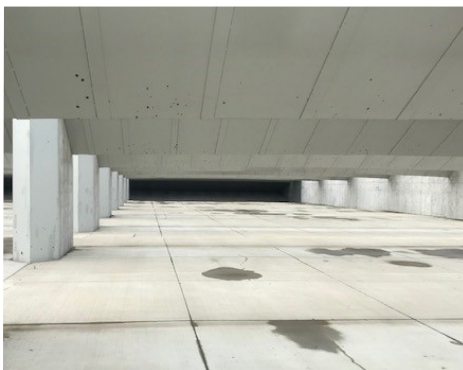
Missouri State Recycling Program

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MDC Recovers and Recycles Spent Ammo

It probably won't come as a surprise to state employees that the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) takes recycling seriously – but did you know that they recycle spent ammunition from their five staffed shooting ranges?



View from the range looking towards the bullet trap

The staffed shooting ranges, located in the Springfield, St. Louis, and Kansas City areas, recycle lead, brass, and plastic. If an unstaffed range closes, lead is reclaimed and recycled by MDC. Private citizens can also recover spent ammunition from unstaffed ranges, for recycling or to reload the ammunition. MDC is also developing a lead management plan that will include periodic lead reclamation at unstaffed ranges when the lead concentrations in the soil reach a certain level.

The ammunition is recycled at staffed ranges through the use of a bullet trap, which funnels projectiles into a trap that drops the spent lead into buckets. The buckets are then emptied throughout the year on an as-needed basis, typically three or four times annually. These bullet traps have been successfully used to collect recyclable lead for more than 10 years. Spent shell casings and shotgun hulls are collected in barrels, and all the materials are recycled through the same vendor. The vendor sorts the materials, charges MDC a sorting fee, and takes that money out of the amount they pay MDC for the recyclable materials.



The buckets of the bullet trap

In calendar year 2018, nearly 56,000 pounds of materials were recycled, and via the cost-sharing contract with the vendor, MDC was paid more than \$18,000. (article continued on page two)

2018 MSRP Annual Report

The 2018 MSRP Annual Report is now available on our website! Visit https://oa.mo.gov/sites/default/files/FY18_Annual_Report.pdf to review.

Missouri State Recycling Program



Mission Statement

The Missouri State Recycling Program partners with state employees and agencies to facilitate fiscally and environmentally responsible strategies for reuse and recycling of state property.

MDC Recovers and Recycles Spent Ammo (continued)

These recycling operations allow MDC to safely and responsibly dispose of lead and other recyclable materials. Money generated directly benefits MDC's mission of managing Missouri's fish, forests, and wildlife, while providing opportunities for all citizens to use, enjoy, and learn more about these resources.

Special thanks to Barbara Li, MIRC member, for the topic suggestion, and Justin McGuire, MDC Hunter Education and Shooting Range Coordinator, for providing the information and photos.

Meet Your MIRC Members!



The Missouri Interagency Recycling Committee (MIRC) is composed of representatives from each of the state departments, and meets quarterly to discuss issues dealing with recycling collection, waste reduction, recycling market conditions, and recycled product procurement. MIRC functions as the liaison between the Missouri State Recycling Program and all other state of Missouri government agencies.

June's featured MIRC member is Barbara Li, who has spent the last three of her 13 years of state service working for the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC). Before MDC, she was an engineering consultant, and also

worked for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. Working at MDC headquarters in Jefferson City gives Barbara the chance to recycle paper, cardboard, cans, #1/#2 plastics, light bulbs, and reusable batteries. As a design engineer and project manager, she also makes sure that materials are reused or recycled as appropriate during her construction projects.

Barbara was the driving force behind plastic recycling taking off at the Lewis and Clark Building, organizing a team of volunteers to participate. The building offered so many "green" features, she couldn't accept that they weren't recycling plastic. After a year or two, the program was so successful that plastic recycling was absorbed into the custodial contract. Barbara also initiated ink and toner cartridge recycling at MDC. Every few months, maintenance takes the collected cartridges to Staples and receives credits that help pay for office supplies. Her next goal is to get a glass recycling program started.

Barbara can also read and speak Chinese, inspired to learn by her husband, who is from China. She has two children (Aleena and Tiger), as well as a German Shepherd and a cat. In her free time, she also enjoys vegetable gardening. Being able to grab food straight from her backyard is an efficiency she enjoys. It's the same desire for efficiency that makes Barbara so passionate about facilitating and promoting recycling.



The front of the trap that funnels projectiles into the "mouth" of the trap – about a 3" horizontal gap that runs the entire length



The rounded "drum" section is a deceleration chamber that slows the projectiles before they are dropped into the buckets below

Call for Nominations!

Know someone who is a recycling champion? Nominate them for an award! State employees, departments, or agencies are eligible to be nominated for outstanding contributions in the areas of reuse, waste reduction, or recycling (collection & procurement). Nomination forms are available at <https://oa.mo.gov/general-services/missouri-state-recycling-program> under the "Annual Recycling Awards" heading.



Please send any submissions to recycling@oa.mo.gov. We'd love to see photos of you recycling at work, objects made from recycled products, or anything else recycling-related that you'd like to share!