



# Missouri State Recycling Program

Office of Administration | General Services | 573-751-3384

## Remember These Recycling Tips

MARCH 2020

### FLATTEN YOUR CARDBOARD BEFORE RECYCLING



Rosemary Rowden and Michelle Collier, of the Missouri State Agency for Surplus Property, tear down a box before placing it in the designated collection bin.

In fiscal year 2019, Missouri agencies recycled more than 930,000 pounds of cardboard! State employees are encouraged to always flatten boxes to save space in the recycling container. Recycling collections where material is overflowing in the container results in extra charges to the MSRP. Help increase efficiency and build good practices throughout state government by following these easy tips.

#### 1. Know cardboard recycling rules

##### OK to Recycle

- Flattened cardboard boxes
- Soda cartons
- Cracker boxes / cereal boxes

##### Not OK to Recycle

- Food contaminated boxes (e.g. pizza boxes)
- Refrigerated / frozen cartons

**2. Flatten the cardboard or paperboard container.** Remember: the Earth is not flat, but your cardboard should be.

**3. Become familiar with your building's cardboard collection process.** Most locations in Jefferson City have large metal recycling dumpsters for cardboard pickup. Some locations in Jefferson City have cardboard balers, which help break down the cardboard even further.

If you are not sure how cardboard is collected in your building, please contact your department's Missouri Interagency Recycling Committee (MIRC) member by visiting the MSRP website.

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.



## Upcoming Events

### Earth Day / Zero Waste Challenge

**April 24, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

**Who:** Open to public

**Where:** Governor's Garden & Lohman's Landing, Jefferson City

Learn how to be more aware of waste in our daily lives.

# RECYCLING NEWS



**Tony Pierce, Dept. of Health and Senior Services**

Tony Pierce, of the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS), embraced an opportunity to assist a Christmas light recycling project this past holiday season.

The collection was directed by Racheal Ajayi, coordinator of DNR’s Household Hazardous Waste Program, along with help from Cheyenne Bure (DNR), Mike Haake (DMH), and Van Beydler (DNR). With the participation of several buildings, 420 pounds of Christmas lights were collected.

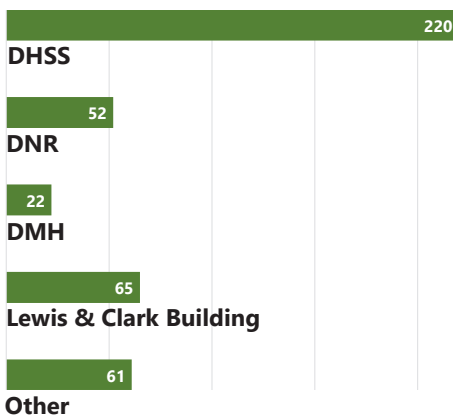
“I placed collection baskets in the lobbies of DHSS buildings on Wildwood and Knipp Drive as well as the State Public Health Lab,” Tony stated. “Our Office of Public Information staff helped develop a message that was shared to the department via our weekly video update and intranet page.”

Tony checked on the baskets during breaks and lunches, and as the baskets filled up, he stored them in his office.

“Recycling these lights provides an opportunity to reprocess, collect, and use those valuable metals once again.”

MSRP applauds this interagency team effort to make recycling Christmas lights simple and convenient for state employees and helping to keep nearly a quarter-ton of material out of the landfill.

### Pounds of Christmas lights recycled



# Meet Your MIRC MEMBER

## KEVIN BACLESSE

Kevin Baclesse feels that being a MIRC (Missouri Interagency Recycling Committee) member has helped him become more aware of how he approaches recycling, both at work and at his home near Linn. For the past 11 years, Kevin has been involved with the Missouri State Recycling Program (MSRP) by representing the Department of Social Services (DSS) as a MIRC member.

Kevin has been with DSS for 20 years, and currently serves as Facilities Operations Manager at the warehouse at 4720 Scruggs Station Road. His job responsibilities include overseeing records retention and recycling for the department. DSS has more than 6,500 employees that are spread out across Missouri in 202 locations.

The warehouse houses furniture and property seeking a new lease on life, and DSS offers this surplus to other agencies. Sometimes the end-of-the-road for used furniture may not be back to a state office. Kevin is a firm believer in the use of GovDeals.com (for selling of items) or scrap yards for disposal. This assures that the item(s) will be reused instead of filling a waste heap somewhere.

DSS warehouse staff utilize a compactor for cardboard and plastic stretch wrap. They also recycle metal, printer cartridges, electronics, and furniture.

Kevin has become the department’s



**Kevin Baclesse, Dept. of Social Services**

“go to” person for recycling inquiries.

“The MIRC committee has taught me the proper way of recycling; and we have had workshops that are very beneficial,” Kevin said. “We have learned what can and cannot be recycled.”

If he can re-purpose something he will, which is evident in his old farmhouse that he restored. Keeping with the tradition of the old log home, he exposed the wood and rock, adding character and showcasing the history of the structure.

Send us your state recycling work photos, objects made from recycled products, or anything else recycling-related to [recycling@oa.mo.gov](mailto:recycling@oa.mo.gov).

Visit the **MSRP website** for more information.