



Read Across America Day + Environmental Education

By Community and Municipal Relations Manager Adrienne Fors
SLATE BELT - Celebrated to promote reading and literacy and honor the legacy of Dr. Seuss, Read Across America Day is an important day for many school aged children. This week, WM representatives and our partners at Monroe County Waste Authority took over three Pleasant Valley classrooms to read about recycling, composting and waste.

Community and Municipal Relations Manager Adrienne Fors and Account Executive Jessica McLane joined Monroe County Waste Authority's Executive Director Mike Stettler to read "Michael Recycles", "Compost Stew", and "The Garbage Barge" to Ms. Cirba's 5th grade class, Ms. Baker and Ms. Yanchick's 2nd grade classes. Adrienne's son, Tucker Fors, enlisted the help of his friends to show support for his "Green Caped Crusader" mom, ensuring his buddies all wore their favorite WM t-shirt. The stories evoked excitement around recycling and the children shared their own recycling experiences with the waste professionals.

2025 GKEDC Scholarship Program

The 2025 GKEDC Scholarship Program is open from February 1, 2025, until May 8, 2025. Scholarships will be in the amount of \$10,000. Students who are planning to attend a four year college, two year college, trade school, or other higher level academic institution are eligible. Scholarship applications can be found on the SCHOLARSHIPS page of this website and must be received by May 8, 2025, by the GKEDC. Scholarships will be awarded at the Pen Argyl High School awards night.

Lithium Battery Awareness

The National Waste & Recycling Association (NWRA) and the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) released a joint policy statement addressing the critical issue of lithium-ion battery disposal. Improper disposal of these batteries presents significant safety hazards, including fires that endanger people, property, and the waste and recycling infrastructure.

The statement reads, "Lithium-ion batteries require special handling for proper recycling and disposal. They should never be placed in waste or curbside recycling bins as they can cause fires, endangering people and waste and recycling infrastructure. The best solution is to use take-back programs designed for safe collection and recycling. NWRA and SWANA are committed to promoting awareness and supporting policy initiatives that ensure proper battery disposal to protect workers, communities and the environment."

Read the full story here: NWRA and SWANA Partner to Address Lithium-Ion Battery Disposal Challenges. <https://s2.bl-1.com/h/dxHH8n5j?url=https://swana.org/news/swana-news-archive/article/2025/01/14/NWRA-and-SWANA-Partner-to-Address-Lithium-Ion-Battery-Disposal-Challenges>

What can residents do with batteries locally?

Contact your municipality and County for information regarding collection events
Monroe County PA residents can contact Monroe County Waste Authority for lithium battery collections: Universal Waste: Tires, Bulbs, & Batteries – The Waste Authority

Check out WM's Lamptacker® program and order our BatteryTracker® container – mail back service Lamptacker® - Waste Management™

Visit www.call2recycle.org and use their search bar to find out where you can drop off alkaline batteries as well as lithium-ion batteries.



Sustainability Tour

KICK OFF EARTH MONTH THINKING GREEN

April 16, 2025
5:00pm—7pm

Grand Central Landfill/Energy Center
910 W Pennsylvania Ave Pen Argyl

An event for all ages—bring the family!
Tour begins promptly at 5pm.

Learning Opportunities:

Waste Reduction Tips

Recycling the Right Items

Trash to Energy Tour

Landfill Bus Tour

Register by April 1, 2025

Email Adrienne Fors

afors1@wm.com

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