

November 15th is America Recycles Day! Celebrate with CVWMA and the Science Museum of Virginia

America Recycles Day (ARD) is a national awareness event, now in its sixth year, to promote the economic and environmental benefits of recycling and buying recycled-content products.

The challenge is to get communities involved in the common goal of reducing waste, recycling, re-using and buying recycled products. Last year, millions of Americans pledged to renew their commitment to recycling, and this year looks to be just as promising. Participants also enter contests for regional and national prizes. For details, visit the ARD website at www.americarecyclesday.org.

In recent years, recycling has increased dramatically. Americans are not only recycling more of the “traditional” items (aluminum, newspaper, and plastic) but opportunities have opened for recycling of rechargeable NiCad batteries, scrap tires, organic waste and consumer electronics.

As with any commodity, success relies on market demand. Participating in curbside or drop-off recycling programs is a fantastic start, but we must purchase recycled-content products in order to keep the loop going. Buying recycled-content products strengthens the marketplace and encourages the expansion of recycling to even more products. This is what **America Recycles Day** is all about.



The CVWMA is partnering with the Science Museum of Virginia to honor America Recycles Day (ARD) with fun, prizes and even a little education! On **November 16**, bring the kids and join us from 11 am until 3 pm at the Science Museum to learn the value of recycling.

Many exciting activities are planned that will be great learning experiences for young and old alike. Everyone will be able to make handmade paper using common recyclable and recycled materials around the home. “Bin”, CVWMA’s recycling mascot, will be on hand to delight the children. Remember to bring your camera to capture the moment!

Interesting and unexpected things made from recycled materials will be on display and everyone will be encouraged to handle the items and ask questions. While you are enjoying all of this, you can make a pledge to reduce, reuse and recycle and win prizes.

Participation in this event is included in the regular admission to the Science Museum, so come celebrate ARD on Saturday, November 16. For more information about this event or about America Recycles Day, visit our website at www.cvwma.com.

The Science Museum of Virginia is located at 2500 W Broad Street in Richmond. Admission prices begin at \$5.50 for children.

Here are some tips to reduce, reuse and recycle:

- It's easy to recycle in Central Virginia– just ask your friends and neighbors. Call CVWMA at 340-0900 to find out how in your area.
- Buy products with little or no packaging. Some packaging helps to protect items, but most serves only to advertise and promote the product. Does a basketball really need to be boxed and shrink-wrapped?
- Contact day care centers, children's museums, community shelters, schools, etc. to find out what items they can use that you may otherwise throw away.
- Start a compost pile using yard waste and kitchen scraps. Get your neighbors involved and you'll all have beautiful gardens next spring!