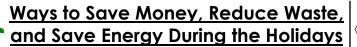


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By Alison Cole

- Use recycled or reused gift wrap. When you open presents, do it in a way that doesn't ruin the paper and then save it to use for next year! Use old newspaper, maps, posters, and interesting pages of magazines to wrap presents. You can also try using fun fabrics as wrap which can then be reused for a variety of crafts after the holidays.
 - About 1.9 billion cards are sent over the holidays each year! Use greeting cards made of recycled material or send e-cards via email to save paper.
 - If buying electronic gifts, get rechargeable batteries to go with them. Rechargeable batteries reduce the amount of harmful materials that end up in landfills and save you money in the long run!
 - If you have lights up on your house or tree, turn them off during the day. This saves energy and makes your lights last longer too. Try energy and cost saving LED lights!
 - About 20 million trees are cut down each year for Christmas. To make having a Christmas tree more sustainable, you can buy a potted tree and then plant it when the weather gets warmer.

Make sustainable Christmas decorations! Avoid plastic decorations and try to bring nature into your home to celebrate the winter season. Pinecones and pine boughs add a nice touch, not to mention make your house smell nice. Make garland out of cranberries and popcorn. After the holidays are over you can hang it outside and let the birds eat it or compost it.



 Make dough ornaments (all you need is flour, water and salt!). Roll it out, cut shapes with cookie cutters and bake in the oven. Use cookie sprinkles to decorate. These should last a while but if they break or you don't want them anymore they can be composted!



Happy Holidays!

~Water Program Update ~

October 8th, 2014 was a beautiful day to showcase Fond du Lac's hard work to improve water quality! Two tour buses carrying tribal natural resource professionals from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Arizona, Oklahoma and New Mexico made several stops on the Fond du Lac Reservation. Fond du Lac Office of Water Protection staff members showcased how we used EPA non point source pollution funds to improve water quality on Third Lake, help get a new bridge installed over Fond du Lac Creek and to model water level fluctuations on several wild rice lakes. The tour was part of the larger Tribal Water Workshop hosted by EPA and the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe at the Grand Casino Hinckley.



Photos: Fond du Lac Water Program staff speak to workshop attendees to highlight work being done on wild rice lakes, third lake and Fond du Lac Creek.





Just Say No to Antibacterial Soaps and Cleaners...

This year, Minnesota became the first state to ban a chemical used in most antibacterial soaps and cleaners called triclosan. This ban will take effect in 2017. Triclosan is an endocrine disruptor, meaning it can interfere with the body's horomone system. It has also been found in lake sediment in Minnesota. Triclosan can break down into dioxins, which can be a carcinogen and have other negative health impacts. It is also believed to contribute to antibiotic resistance. According to the Minnesota Department of Health and the American Medical Association, there is no evidence that using soaps containing triclosan is any more effective than regular soap. Next time you go to purchase products (even toothpaste!), think twice before you buy! Miigwech!



Wildlife Needing Assistance...What Should You Do??

Most people want to help when they see animals that appear injured, abandoned, or ill. First, make sure the animal really is in need of help! If it is truly in need, please do the following:

• If you come across an animal and do not need to move it right away, call one of the contacts below before acting.

• If you need to move the animal, wear gloves and cover it gently with a blanket to minimize stress on the animal and chances of injury. Place the animal in a pet crate or box with holes.

• Do not feed or give water to the animal unless instructed to do so by a wildlife specialist.

Many animals that appear abandoned are actually under the watchful eye of their parents. Watch the area for a couple of days, if their health appears to be declining, call one of the contacts listed.



Wildwoods Rehabilitation Phone: 218- 491-3604



Fond du Lac Climate Change Planning

The Fond du Lac Resource Management Division is currently working on revising the Integrated Resource Management Plan to include an addendum focusing on climate change, its potential impacts to significant natural resources, and measures that can be taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, minimize impacts and help the community prepare for and adapt to changing weather patterns and changing environmental conditions.

Environmental Program staff are also working in cooperation with the 1854 Treaty Authority, the Bois Forte Band, the Grand Portage Band, and the contractor Ecosystem Management, Inc. to assess vulnerabilities within the 1854 Treaty Area and develop adaptation and mitigation measures related to identified vulnerabilities.

If you have any questions or would like to share your observations related to changing climate (i.e. wildlife sightings, weather observations, changes in natural resource availability), please contact Shannon Judd at shannonjudd@fdlrez.com or x7123.

Gichi Manidoo Giizis Traditional Pow Wow



MC Murphy Thomas

Arena Director Les Gibbs

Host Drum MA'IIN'GAN

Head Dancers Bill and Edye Howes Saturday January 11th 2014

Registration: 10am Grand Entry: 1pm & 7pm Feast at 5pm Black Bear Casino Resort Otter Creek Event Center 1785 Highway 210 Carlton, MN 55718

Hotel Reservations: 1-888-771-0777

Free Admission~Open to the Public~Alcohol & Drug Free Event

Invited Drums Only Moccasin Game 50/50 Raffle

Click on link for more info: 13 Moons Ashiniswi giizisoog or go to www.fdlrez.com

Taking Care of the Land and Community

Info booths and displays of Tribal, State and Federal programs involved in taking care of the land and community.

Vendor tables available

For more information contact:

Nikki Crowe 218-878-7148

Linda Whitebird 218-878-7101



Sponsored by Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa MN SARE USDA-NIFA Funds



<u>Fond du Lac Waste Site Reminders</u> Winter Hours: 8:00 am – 5:30pm Closed Holidays Things that <u>Should Not</u> go into household garbage dumpsters:

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Electronics	Appliances	
Tires	Household chemicals/cleaners	
Paint	Scrap Metal	
Waste Oil	Batteries (except alkaline)	
Mattresses	Recyclables/Cardboard	

Please place the above items in their designated location.

<u>Reusable Items</u> – If you are getting rid of something that is still in good condition, let the waste site staff know! Someone else may be able to use it and some items can be donated to the Disabled American Veterans Charity.

Miigwech to our community members for respectfully and responsibly disposing of all materials.

Do your part to conserve natural resources and protect the environment for future generations....Recycle. Fond du Lac Waste Site: 878-8069

Who's Who?

Fond du Lac Reservation Environmental Program Staff- (218) 878-7101	
Wayne Dupuis - Environmental Program Manager	
Alex Jackson—Air Program Coordinator	
Nancy Schuldt - Water Projects Coordinator	
Shannon Judd - Environmental Education Outreach Coordinator	
Russell DuFault - Recycling Coordinator	
Rick Gitar - Water Regulatory Specialist	
Kari Hedin - Watershed Specialist	
Shannon Kesner - Wetlands Specialist	
Andrea Junker - Environmental Policy Specialist	
Cristina Weske, Groundwater Protection Specialist	
Waynette Mahr, Waste Collection Site Supervisor	
Bruno Zagar - Environmental Specialist	
Joy Wiecks - Air Quality Technician	
Dave Smith - Land Records Researcher/Brownfields Coordinator878-7119	
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	