

SUMMER 2017

A CLEAR CREEK DISPOSAL QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER Volume 11, Issue 2

SAVING ENERGY SAVES THE ENVIRONMENT & MONEY

Simple and inexpensive actions can help you save energy when the weather is warm and you are trying to keep your home cool. Here are some ways to stay cool while saving energy:

- Use windows and shades to gain cool air and keep out
 - 1. Open windows at night and turn off the cooling system, if possible.
 - 2. In the morning, shut the windows and close the blinds to capture the cool air.
 - 3. Install window coverings to prevent heat gain through windows.
- Use a programmable thermostat. Energy Star offers guidelines for programmable thermostats. Ideally, keep the temperature at 78°F when at home, and warmer when you are away.
- Use ceiling fans and circulation on central air systems rather than the refrigerated air.

Don't Heat your home with appliances and lighting

- 1. On hot days, avoid using the oven. Instead use the microwave or grill outside.
- 2. Install cooler efficient lighting such as LEDs instead of old fashioned incandescent bulbs.
- 3. Wash only full loads of dishes and clothes. Consider air drying clothes.
- 4. Take short showers or long baths, but not the recip-
- 5. Be sure computers turn themselves off after 5 or 10 minutes of inactivity.

Fun Summer REUSE PROJECTS









Who knew old bottles could be so much fun!

CCD Holiday Schedule

There will be no collection of waste or recyclables:

Independence Day: Monday, July 4 Labor Day: Monday, September4

All collections following a weekday holiday will be delayed one day, with Friday collections moved to Saturday.



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Climate Change and a Personal Paris Accord

With President Trump withdrawing the U.S. from the Paris climate accord, there is still plenty that Americans can do to help keep global temperatures from rising.

The goal of the Paris agreement was to decrease carbon emissions enough to keep global temperatures from rising more than 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. The agreement requires countries to set their own targets for reducing emissions by 2020.

People are still responsible for most of the greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere. Transportation and electricity are the primary sectors generating carbon emis-

WHAT IS THE PARIS AGREEMENT?

The Paris Climate Accord, known as the "Paris Agreement" by the United Nations, is an international agreement reached in 2015 aimed at reducing carbon emissions, slowing rising global temperatures and helping countries deal with the effects of climate change.

As of June 2017, 194 of the 196 members of the UN have signed the agreement, 148 of which have ratified it.

China and the U.S. account for 40% of global carbon emissions.

The U.S. joins Syria and Nicaragua as the only countries not committing to the agreement.

sions, primarily through the burning of fossil fuels.

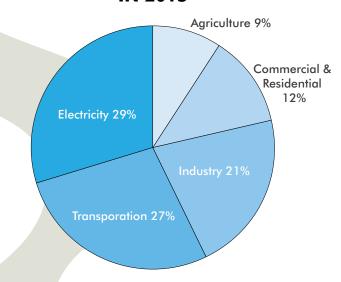
People can take steps to drop carbon emissions through everyday choices:

- 1. Use public transportation, bicycles or walk.
- 2. Buy or lease an electric car, and get rid of the gas/diesel vehicle. Electric cars or plug-in hybrids are now available at below \$30,000, and may even earn state or federal rebates.
- 3. Reduce use of electricity by turning off lights, adjust thermostats to decrease use of heaters and air conditioners, install energy efficient lighting (LED) and appliances.

4. Eat less beef. Cattle create methane, a potent greenhouse gas.

As is often the case, the people have the power to make the difference. Political commitments are less important than individual action. So, merci beaucoup to the people who take steps to save our environment.

TOTAL US GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY ECONOMIC SECTOR IN 2015



Hawaii has made its own commitment to uphold the Paris Agreement. There is an on-line petition to get Idaho to do the same. Visit this website to sign a petition encouraging Idaho's Governor Otter to adopt a law that moves Idaho toward responsible climate action like Hawaii just took: https://petitions.moveon.org/sign/climate-change-12?source=s.em.mt&r_by=6639110