



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Solid Waste District certifies Master Recyclers

Graduates second class of trainees from annual education program

Garfield Heights, Ohio - The Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District is pleased to announce that a second class of individuals has graduated from the Cuyahoga County Master Recycler program.

Beginning in the fall of 2014, seventeen individuals took part in a nine-week Master Recycler program. The program included lectures and tours focused on the tenets of reducing, reusing, and recycling. Master Recyclers learned from experts in the fields of city and curbside recycling, electronic recycling, hazardous waste management, reuse, composting, sustainability, and waste reduction. They toured many facility operations to see first-hand how items are processed for reuse and recycling. The program also included take-home projects, personal waste audits and field research, and a required twenty hours of volunteering for District outreach programs.

Volunteer hours were completed by engaging with the public at Earth Day and America Recycles Days events, assisting organizations like the Upcycle Parts Shop and Earth Day Coalition, and digging through and sorting garbage during waste audits at nine Cleveland Heights school buildings.

Of the seventeen participants enrolled in the program, fifteen people completed all requirements within a year to become a Cuyahoga County Certified Master Recycler. A graduation ceremony was held December 3 in Lakewood. We congratulate the following individuals on their accomplishment:

Mr. Richard Deem, Fairview Park
Ms. Sandy Deem, Fairview Park
Ms. Sarah Dudziak, Garfield Heights
Mr. Mel Hauser, Brook Park
Ms. Cheryl Johnson, Solon
Ms. Cathi Lehn, Cleveland Heights
Ms. Kim Mulhall, Middleburg Heights
Ms. Brenda O'Reilly, Cleveland Heights (formerly of Bay Village)
Ms. Jane Pierce, Highland Hills
Ms. Linda Sadler, Beachwood
Mr. Christopher Thomas, Houston, TX (formerly of Westlake)
Mr. Ken Wainwright, Fairview Park
Ms. Michele Wilhelm, Middleburg Heights
Ms. Maureen Wise, Bedford
Mr. Tim Zaun, Westlake

The Master Recyclers are integral for sharing knowledge and correct information about recycling and waste reduction in Cuyahoga County. The fifteen graduates exceeded 335 volunteer hours while reaching over 9,000 people. Many of the Master Recyclers intend to continue their personal learning about recycling and will assist the District in educational opportunities in the future.

The District currently has a third class of eighteen individuals enrolled in a Master Recycler learning program that began in fall of 2015. The class has completed the education hours and is working towards completion of their volunteer service. The District continuously accepts applications for the Master Recycler program; the 2016 class will start in the fall.

For more information about the Cuyahoga County Master Recycler program, visit www.cuyahogaswd.org/en-US/MasterRecyclerProgram.aspx or contact Kathleen Rocco at (216) 443-3731 or krocco@cuyahogacounty.us

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The Solid Waste District is a public agency that works to promote environmentally-sustainable and economical solid waste management practices within the communities, institutions and businesses of Cuyahoga County.

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