

**FRANKLIN COUNTY
COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM**

TO: BOARD OF FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS	Reviewed:
FROM: Lisa Johnson	Ext: 3485
DEPARTMENT: Administration	
DATE: Monday, May 4, 2009	No:

ITEM: Discuss the events planned for National County Government Week.

Background: National County Government Week is May 3rd through May 9th this year and has theme of "Greening Our Future."

Recommended Action:

Attachments: County Government Week Activities

Franklin County is celebrating National County Government Week the week of May 3 through May 9, 2009. In an effort to promote Franklin County and the theme of "Greening Our Future" we have planned some events and activities for this week.

We are asking the citizens of Franklin County to come together and help us by doing your part in greening our future. By keeping cleaner communities, practicing conservation and becoming better educated about recycling we can make a community that is greener for our children. There are many things we can do as individuals, but as a whole we are stronger!

Keeping a Clean Community

During the week of May 3-9, 2009 take pride in your community, by helping keeping your yards, blocks and neighborhoods clean from trash and debris. Keeping the environment around us clean is one way we can work together in improving Franklin County.

Practicing Conservation

Do you practice conservation? Are you aware of your impact on natural resources? We are asking the citizens of Franklin County to be conscience of the water and energy they use during this week. It's important that we do our best to conserve our most precious resources that we depend upon everyday! Here are some ways you can help; turn the water off when brushing your teeth, don't water your lawn this week, or be sure to turn the lights off when you are not in a room.

For more ideas on how you can conserve check out 100 ways you can save your environment on the Franklin County Website, [click here](#). Or to figure your carbon footprint go to, www.nature.org.

Recycling In Your Community

Recycling is one of the number one ways in which we can help our environment and green our future, by lowering the amount of waste that is dumped in landfills. The Franklin County Recycling Center recycled over 1.7 million pounds in 2008 alone. This includes nearly 500,000 pounds of cardboard, 200,000 pounds of newspaper and 50,000 pounds of aluminum cans. How much of this did you recycle?

Franklin County would like to make it easier for our citizens to recycle this week. Come and take advantage of our temporary recycling drop-offs and help the environment in doing so. From noon to 8:00 a.m. the following day the Recycling Center trailer will be in different locations throughout Ottawa:

- *Tuesday, May 5th* – Kansas State Bank Parking Lot (236 N. Main, Ottawa)
- *Wednesday, May 6th* – Ottawa Herald Parking Lot (104 S. Main, Ottawa)
- *Thursday, May 7th* – Country Mart Parking Lot (2138 Princeton Circle, Ottawa)

If you are not able to use one of the temporary drop-offs don't forget that the Recycling Center, 2039 S. Elm in Ottawa, is open Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and on Saturdays 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There is also an after hours drop-off located at the Recycling Center that is available 7 days a week. And for those citizens that live outside of

Ottawa, take advantage of the Recycling Center trailer in your community. The Franklin County Recycling Center provides drop-offs on monthly basis as follows:

- *1st Weekend of Every Month* – City of Pomona (215 W. Franklin)
- *2nd Weekend of Every Month* – City of Williamsburg (Old Grain Elevator on Old 50 Highway)
- *3rd Weekend of Every Month* – City of Richmond (R&B's, 120 S. State Road)
- *4th Weekend of Every Month* – City of Wellsville (coming soon)

Learning More about Recycling

Now that you've done your part by recycling, take some time to learn more about the way it works! The more educated we are about Recycling the better we can help our environment. Come and gain knowledge with a tour of the Franklin County Recycling Center:

- *Tuesday, May 5th @ 1:00 p.m.*
- *Wednesday, May 6th @ 10:00 a.m.*
- *Wednesday, May 6th @ 1:00 p.m.*
- *Thursday, May 7th @ 1:00 p.m.*

If one of these times does not work for you or to schedule a private tour, please do not hesitate to contact the Franklin County Recycling Center, 785-229-8470.

Elementary School Coloring Contest

The Franklin County Commissioners are sponsoring a coloring contest to promote recycling. Grades 1-5 are eligible to participate. Artwork must be returned to the main office of your elementary school or the Franklin County Administration Office (1428 S. Main, Suite 2) by Noon on May 1, 2009. The top three pictures will win prizes. Artwork will be displayed in the hallways of the Franklin County Annex Building. Contact the Franklin County Administration Office for more details, 785-229-3485.

Middle School Essay Contest

The Franklin County Commissioners are sponsoring an essay contest to promote recycling in Franklin County. Franklin County wants to know why you think Recycling is important to your community.

Grades 6-8 are eligible to participate. Student must write an essay on the topic, "*Why is recycling important to my community?*" Essays must be returned to the main office of their Middle School or the Franklin County Administration Office (1428 S. Main, Suite 2) by Noon on May 1, 2009. The top three essays will win prizes and will be published in the Ottawa Herald. Contact the Franklin County Administration Office for more details, 785-229-3485.

To learn more about any of the events/activities discussed please visit the Franklin County Website, www.franklincoks.org.

Additional Points of Contact Include:

Franklin County Administration, 785-229-3485

Franklin County Recycling Center, 785-229-3470

Franklin County Conservation District, 785-242-1109