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Consumer Mailbag

What is this resource recovery they're talking about?

D.B. Troy Michigan has had a Resource Recovery Act since December of 1974 enacted to promote the conservation of natural resources, establish a state resource recovery commission, provide a state solid waste plan, and prescribe penalties for non-compliance of a resource recovery plan.

Because the creation of the mass of solid waste in this country, our state, and my own community of Grosse Ile has been a concern foremost in my mind, I couldn't have been more thrilled than to have been appointed to that Resource Recovery Commission in July, 1975.

Now Michigan is launched on a three-year study of the solid waste problems across the state by the same firm that led the consulting on the resource recovery plan now successfully operating in Ames Iowa-Hemmeson Durham & Richardson. They foresee providing Michigan with a program that will find a better alternative to open dumps, incineration, and over-dependence on landfills to handle our refuse.

The firm is under contract with the state department of natural resources, the state agency which has been responsible for protecting Michigan's environment, conservation of its natural resources and providing outdoor recreational opportunities since 1873. Our resource recovery commission, within the resource recovery branch of the DNR.

That to me is what our resource recovery commission will do for the state of Michigan. There's value in many of our throwaway items, whether they're metal, glass, or that 80 per cent portion of our refuse that's combustible and can be sold as fuel supplement.

COMMUNITY recycling centers such as we have on Grosse Ile are a small effort to reuse our resources and cut down on the wastes being trucked to landfills. I see in the future of Michigan, industrial plants that will handle our refuse, recover the resources, and thus save our land for better uses than garbage dumps.

As sure as the grass is green, I see Michigan becoming cleaner, greener, and its citizens even prouder of this lovely lake-filled peninsula.

For a Recycling Centers List send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Concern, Inc., Detroit 1, Northfield Plaza, Troy, Mich. 48068.

PAMELA A. FRUCI
Resource Recovery Commission

Volunteers

This column describing volunteer needs in Oakland County is cosponsored by the Junior League of Birmingham and the Oakland County Volunteer Bureau.

Inquiries regarding volunteer need listed here should be made to the Oakland County Volunteer Bureau at 642-7272. Requests for volunteer listings also should be made through the volunteer bureau.

OAKLAND COUNTY BREAST CANCER DETECTION CENTER in Southfield is in need of volunteers, 18 to 70 years of age, who enjoy working and relating with the public. The function of the center is to educate women in breast examination as well as to provide the actual cancer screening exams.

Duties of volunteers would include putting patients at ease, explaining what is involved with the exams, interviewing patients to determine their cancer risk profile, and helping them into examining rooms. Hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and 12:30-7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

FARMINGTON YOUTH ASSISTANCE is accepting applications from volunteers, 18 and older, interested in working in a one-to-one relationship with youth in need. The program, People, Listening, Understanding, Sharing (PLUS), pairs the youth with a caring adult who hopefully can devote at least two hours per week.

A workshop is provided but cannot be offered regularly. The first class will occur during the first week of January and will feature an excellent speaker. With ten youths already waiting, anyone who has ever considered this type of volunteer work would find an excellent opportunity to fill an urgent need.

ROYAL OAK SCHOOLS OPPORTUNITY CENTER needs tutors, especially in reading. Some college is desirable and a B.A. is preferred. Tutors assist teachers by working on an individual basis to reinforce skills at the high school level. The time commitment is three to five two-hour periods per week for the full school year. Training is provided as necessary.

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H. Droll Yankee Bird Feeder ... multi-opening clear plastic tube lets small birds feed together, \$12.95 ... supersize, \$22.95. Squirrel-proof tray extra.

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