Edition #3 August 2023

>>> NEWAYGO COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION <<<

NCEC NEWS

The Environmental Resource Hub for Newaygo County

Supporting the beauty and sustainability of the Newaygo County environment through Information, Education, and Advocacy".

Healthy Habitats Spotlight Event: August 31 - "Native Plant Enthusiasts Meet & Greet"

By Sally Wagoner

Register for 8/31 Native Plant Meet & Greet

Read More>>>

You too can be part of the "Homegrown National Park" Movement!

Native plant gardeners, preservationists and other native plant "nerds" are invited to come together on Thursday, August 31 for a first-time networking event. The informal gathering will be held at Waters Edge Golf Course, 1100 Ramshorn Drive, Fremont, MI 49412. Come at 5:30 and enjoy appetizers, dinner or drinks on your own while sharing interests, information and resources with others.

The gathering is hosted by Big Bluestem Farm and the Newaygo County Environmental Coalition. Experienced native plant gardeners and large area installers, as well as insect pollinator experts, will be on hand to share, and to answer questions you may have.

Western Michigan Chapter of the NCTA Introduces QR Codes for Enhanced Hiking Experience

By Katie Clark

<<<Read More

The Western Michigan (WMI) Chapter of the North Country Trail Association (NCTA) has taken a significant step towards enhancing the hiking experience for outdoor enthusiasts. In a bid to provide valuable information to hikers, the WMI Chapter has introduced QR codes along the North Country Trail (NCT) in Kent and Newaygo Counties.

Environmental Ally Spotlight

Your Land, Your Water, Your Michigan!
NEWAYGO
Newaygo Conservation District

Newaygo Conservation District

Healthy Habitat Spotlight Event:
August 17
Silvopasture & Sustainable Agriculture Workshop

How can food and animal production become a healthy component of our environment and eco-systems?

Here's how!

The West Michigan Agroforestry Partnership and the Newaygo Conservation District are hosting a sustainable agriculture event at Earthscape Farm on Thursday, August 17. The program will be from 4:30pm – 7:30pm at Earthscape Farm, 6523 W. Baseline Road Fremont, MI, 49412. Free BBQ and refreshments will be served. Space is limited and registration is required. To register, go to www.westmichiganagroforestry.com, scroll down to register here.

The August 17 BBQ and Workshop will include information on establishing pastures, pasture nutrient management, pest management without the use of herbicides and pesticides, rotational grazing, managing heavy-use areas (such as watering or wintering areas to control erosion and nutrient build-up), livestock exclusion (to protect surface water), management of livestock paddocks or lots, and manure management. This is the definitive "how to" workshop on establishing successful systems for rotational grazing and silvopasture systems.

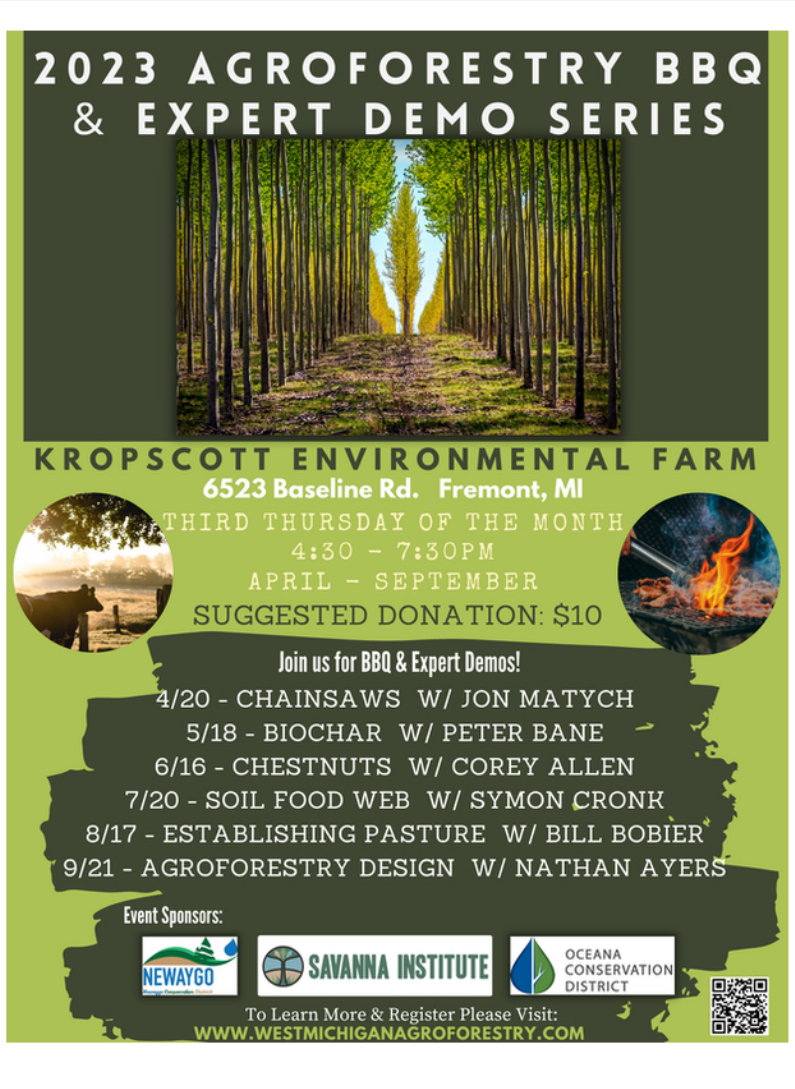
Read More>>>

The Newaygo Conservation District was organized in 1949 with the purpose of improving and maintaining soil productivity and for the purpose of obtaining efficient, appropriate and economical use of the land.

By 2024, the NCD will be partners with not only other regional conservation districts, but also with local municipalities, watershed organizations, ag related businesses, and like-minded organizations and citizens. There will be a 'grant focus' on wildlife habitat, renewable energy and research, invasive species management, and environmental education.

NCD provides family friendly events such as Star Gazing Parties at S.F. Wessling Observatory August 12th and 19th, 9pm to 12am. In addition, Kropscott Farm holds classes for local students and Open House events with many fun activities.

2023 Agroforestry Barbeque and Expert Demo Series



2023 AGROFORESTRY BBQ & EXPERT DEMO SERIES

KROPSCOTT ENVIRONMENTAL FARM
6523 Baseline Rd. Fremont, MI
THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
4:30 – 7:30PM
APRIL – SEPTEMBER
SUGGESTED DONATION: $10

Join us for BBQ & Expert Demos!
4/20 - CHAINSAWS W/ JON MATYCH
5/18 - BIOCHAR W/ PETER BANE
6/16 - CHESTNUTS W/ COREY ALLEN
7/20 - SOIL FOOD WEB W/ SYMON CRONK
8/17 - ESTABLISHING PASTURE W/ BILL BOBIER
9/21 - AGROFORESTRY DESIGN W/ NATHAN AYERS

Event Sponsors:
NEWAYGO | SAVANNA INSTITUTE | OCEANA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

To Learn More & Register Please Visit:
WWW.WESTMICHIGANAGROFORESTRY.COM

Chestnut Cultivation

Written by Lindy Colombini

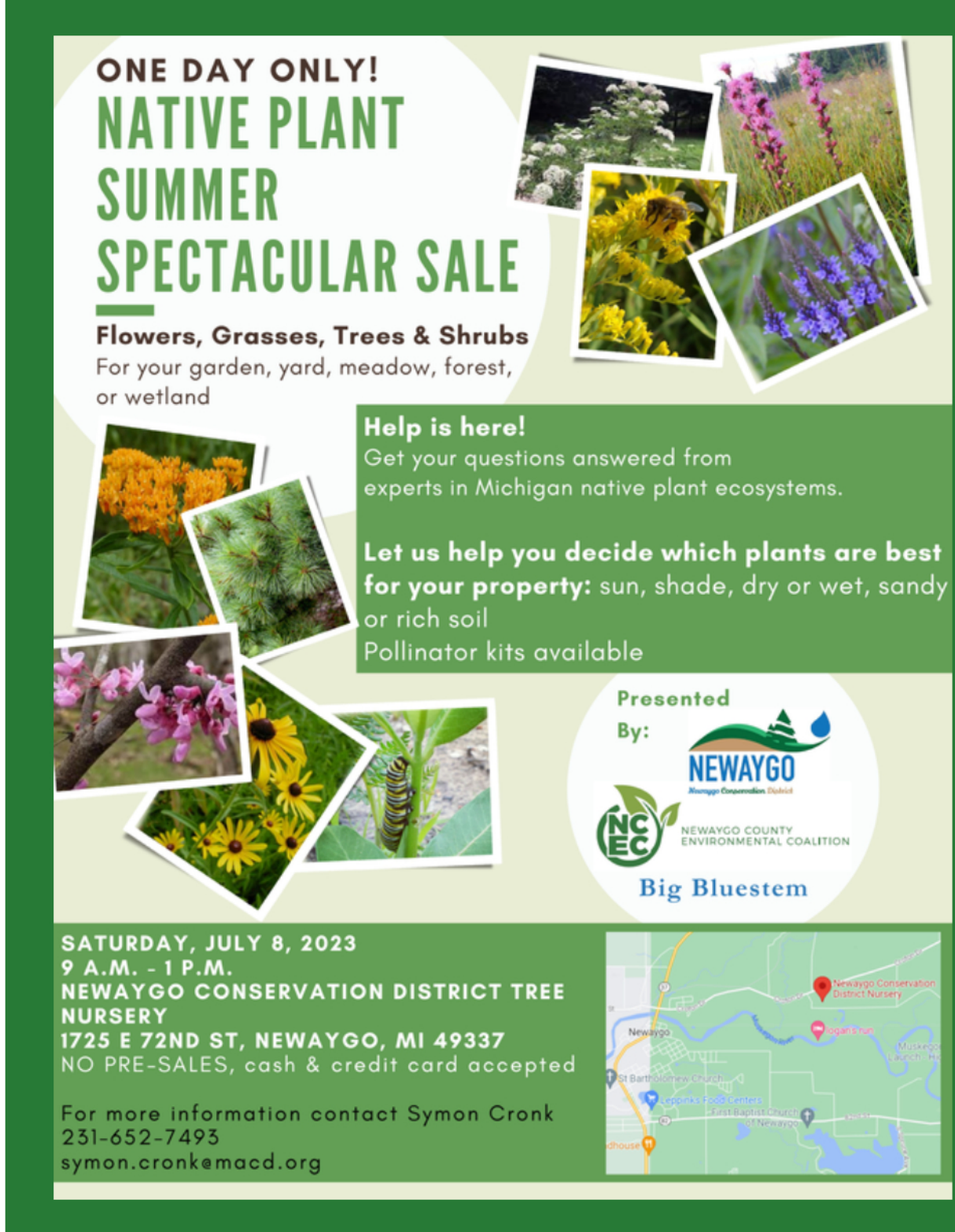
On Jun 15, 2023, the West Michigan Agroforestry Partnership hosted a BBQ dinner followed by a presentation on chestnut farming at the Kropscott Environmental Farm. Corey Allen, a tall, soft spoken man, gave the talk and is clearly an expert on all things chestnut. He got the audience intrigued with pictures of the immense size of old American chestnut trees, only to disappoint us all with the fact that American chestnuts can no longer grow successfully due to a long lasting blite. Instead, chestnut farmers grow Asian and European varieties of chestnut trees. The picture filled presentation went on to explain location and soil quality needed. As it turns out the chestnut trees enjoy the same type of soil as cherry trees! Grafting, pest control, pollination, and pruning were just a few of the topics discussed. We were also gifted with the most delicious chestnut flour cookies and our own chestnut saplings.

If you missed the presentation, and would still like to learn more about chestnut growing, Corey gave us the website: chestnuts.msu.edu as an excellent resource for information.

Check out Upcoming Events with the Newaygo Conservation District

NCEC Collaborates with the NCD to Bring a Summer Native Plant Sale to Newaygo County!

In addition, the NCD held two native plant sales this spring and summer.
This last one in July was a collaboration between the NCD, NCEC, and Big Bluestem Farms. We are proud to say that we had many attend and received valuable information in addition to their native plants.



ONE DAY ONLY!
NATIVE PLANT SUMMER SPECTACULAR SALE

Flowers, Grasses, Trees & Shrubs
For your garden, yard, meadow, forest, or wetland

Help is here!
Get your questions answered from experts in Michigan native plant ecosystems.

Let us help you decide which plants are best for your property: sun, shade, dry or wet, sandy or rich soil
Pollinator kits available

Presented By:
NEWAYGO Newaygo Conservation District
NEWAYGO COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION
Big Bluestem

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2023
9 A.M. - 1 P.M.
NEWAYGO CONSERVATION DISTRICT TREE NURSERY
1725 E 72ND ST, NEWAYGO, MI 49337
NO PRE-SALES, cash & credit card accepted

For more information contact Symon Cronk
231-652-7493
symon.cronk@macd.org

Newaygo County Environmental Events, Activities, Education, & Awareness

Keep Informed & Get Involved

How Can We Get Our Environmental Event Amplified by NCEC?

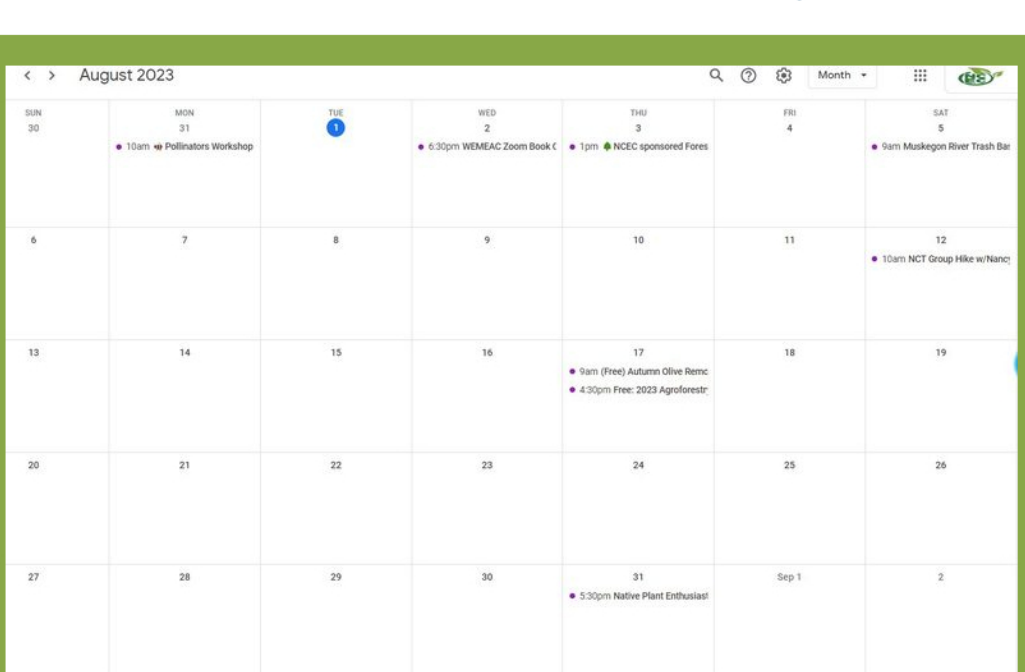
We will gladly add your organization's environment-related activity to our Calendar, and promote it on our Social Media. Complete the below form to add an event to our calendar which we will also share on our social media.

Need volunteers for a special event? Let us know! We will inform our community through social media and E-news!

Fill out this Event Form via our website.

Event Form

Click on the calendar below to see all of July's Events



Click on the individual event to get more details.

Youth & Young Adult Environmental Advocates

>>>Muskegon River Trashbash August 5th, 9am-5pm

>>>Star Gazing Party: Perseid Meteor Shower Peak, August 12, 9pm-11:30pm

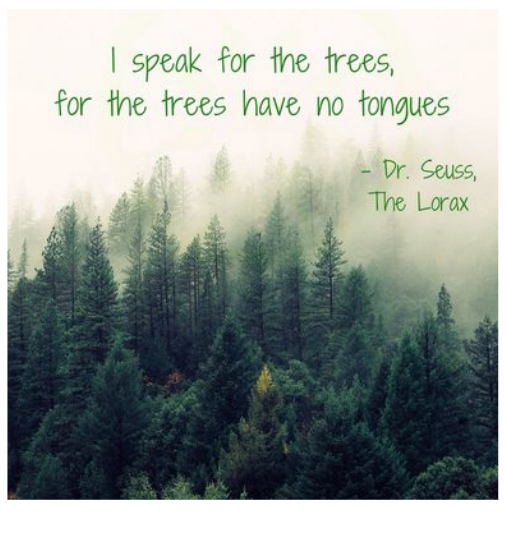
>>>Star Gazing Party: Summer Constellation Tour August 19, 9pm-11:30pm

>>>NCT Group Hike July 12, 10am-2pm

> "All children need nature. Not just the ones whose parents appreciate nature. Not only those children of a certain economic class or culture or set of abilities. Every child." - Richard Louv

If you know of events that deal with any of our 4 environmental focus areas,
please, fill out the event form or email us the specifics at buzz@ne-ec.org

LOBO: Love Our Beautiful Outdoors

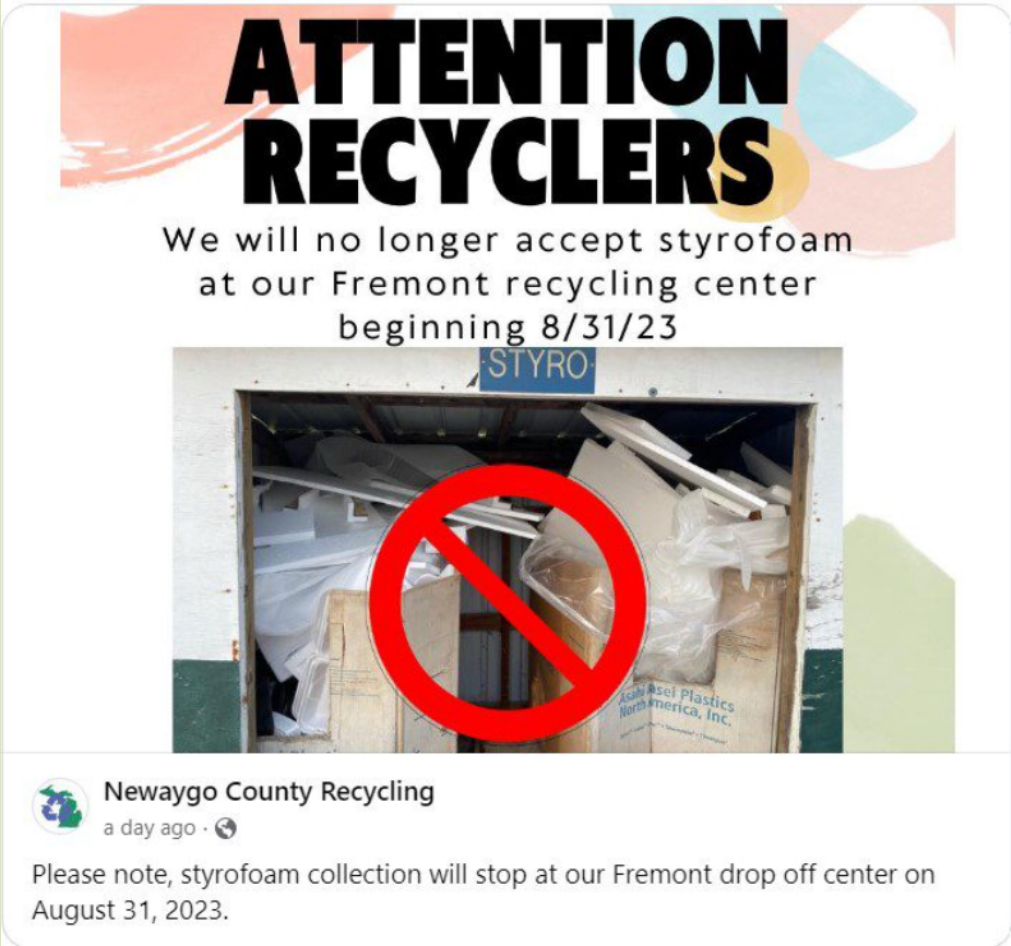


>>>WEMEAC Bookclub by Zoom: Rooted: Life at the Crossroads of Science, Nature, and Spirit, by Lyanda Lynn Haupt August 2nd, 6:30pm-7:30pm

>>>NCEC Sponsored Forest Therapy Workshop August 3rd, 1pm-4pm

>>>NCT Group Hike July 12, 10am-2pm

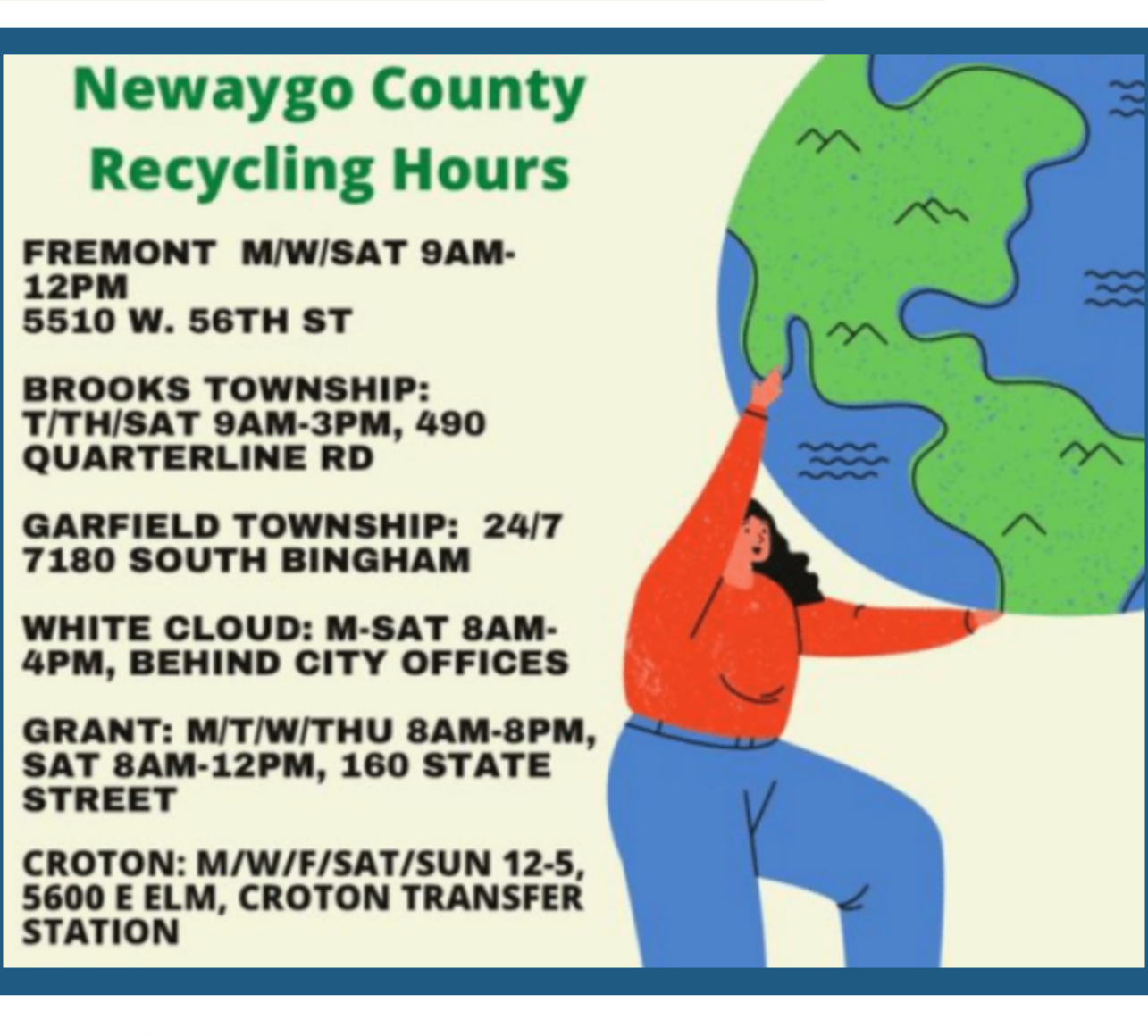
3Rs: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle



ATTENTION RECYCLERS
We will no longer accept styrofoam at our Fremont recycling center beginning 8/31/23

Newaygo County Recycling
a day ago ·
Please note, styrofoam collection will stop at our Fremont drop off center on August 31, 2023.

Taking care of environment is not an obligation – Our environment is our life.



Newaygo County Recycling Hours

FREMONT M/W/SAT 9AM-12PM
5510 W. 56TH ST

BROOKS TOWNSHIP: T/TH/SAT 9AM-3PM, 490 QUARTERLINE RD

GARFIELD TOWNSHIP: 24/7
7180 SOUTH BINGHAM

WHITE CLOUD: M-SAT 8AM-4PM, BEHIND CITY OFFICES

GRANT: M/T/W/THU 8AM-8PM, SAT 8AM-12PM, 160 STATE STREET

CROTON: M/W/F/SAT/SUN 12-5, 5600 E ELM, CROTON TRANSFER STATION

Healthy Habitats

> "Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better."
>
> -Albert Einstein

>>>Muskegon River Trash Bash- August 5th 9am-5pm

>>>(Free) Autumn Olive Removal Workshop August 17, 9am-10m

>>>Free: 2023 Agroforestry BBQ & Expert Demo Series August 17, 4:30pm-7:30pm (Must Register-limited spots)

>>>Green Drinks w/WMEAC & All Area Environmental Allies August 17, 5pm-7pm (Monthly event)

>>>Native Plant Enthusiasts Meet and Greet August 31, 5:30pm-7:30pm

Environmental Resources

Of Newaygo County and Nearby

How Can I Get Involved?

1. Share our website, posts, E-news with Newaygo Community members and Organizations.

2. Join a Team! about invasive species, native landscapes, and restoration opportunities.

3. Get involved with Environmental Advocacy.

4. Bring your skills and knowledge to NCEC.

5. Donate!

Check out our book review on *Nature's Best Hope* (Creating HOMEGROWN NATIONAL PARK)
*Contact NCEC if you would like to do a environmental book club with this book or look into creating your own Homegrown National Park.

Environmental Allies are people, organizations, and departments who are actively doing the work of environmental education, promotion, protection, and recreation in the Newaygo County region.

Your organization can join the list of Environmental Allies by clicking here: Environmental Ally Application.

NCEC will promote your organization, events, activities and volunteer needs! Click here if you'd like to add an event that you would like us to promote: Environmental Ally Events Submission Form.

Support our Efforts

Donate

NCEC is a small but mighty 501c3 non-profit organization! We depend on your tax deductible donations to continue our work, and to help us grow with our Newaygo County Environment needs.

Stay Connected

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Our mailing address is:

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can or