



# 2020 annual report



**dearborn county recycling center**

DEARBORNCOUNTYRECYCLES.COM

# about us

## DEARBORN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

The Dearborn County Solid Waste Management District, also known as the Dearborn County Recycling Center or DCRC, is located in Aurora, Indiana. This facility serves as the operation's hub for recycling collection, as well as holds the Drive-Thru, Household Hazardous Waste collection, and Creation Station, which includes Costume Swap, ReProm, and the newest program, the Lending Station. From this hub, fourteen 24/7 recycling drop-off locations around Dearborn County are serviced, as well as recycling collection from 19 schools and close to 200 small businesses in the county.

2020 marked the DCRC's 27th year as a solid waste district and 16 years as a collection and processing facility for recycling. It continues to

be the only entity within Dearborn County that accepts televisions for recycling, as well as the only collection point for household hazardous waste.

Looking ahead, the DCRC is excited to execute an Indiana Department of Environmental Management Recycling Market Development Program grant in 2021 for new corrugated cardboard only collection drop-off containers, as well as continue where we left off prior to the Coronavirus pandemic with a Community Recycling Grant Program to further recycling in the three area high schools. Our efforts are continually focused on reducing the amount of waste being sent to landfills through reduction, reuse, and recycling programs.



### contact us



10700 Prospect Lane  
Aurora, IN 47001



(812) 926-9963  
(812) 926-9668 fax



**DearbornCountyRecycles.com**  
director@dearborncounty.in.gov



@DearbornCountyRecycles



@dcrcycles



dearborncountycycles



#### Office Hours:

Monday – Friday: 8am – 4pm

#### Drive-Thru Hours:

Monday – Friday: 9am – 4pm  
Wednesdays: 9am – 6pm



### mission

The mission of the Dearborn County Solid Waste Management District is to foster a sense of responsibility and inspire action by Dearborn County residents to reduce solid waste by creating an awareness and commitment to reduction, reuse and recycling programs.



# programs & services



## general recycling program

- Brown, white, and gray paper boxes and bags
- Glass bottles and jars
- Aluminum cans
- Steel/tin food containers and empty aerosols
- Cardboard boxes (flattened) and clean pizza boxes
- Newspaper, magazines, office paper, and envelopes
- Cartons and plastic bottles and jugs

## drive-thru service

- General recycling
- Document shredding
- Electronics (computers, monitors, phones, small kitchen appliances, etc.)
- Non-alkaline batteries
- Motor oil and filters
- Cooking oil
- Scrap metal
- Televisions
- Appliances
- Tires
- Latex paint

## household hazardous waste collection

Including, but not limited to, household chemicals, oil based paints and stains, cleaners, pesticides, herbicides, and flammable liquids

## commercial/school recycling

Program serves small businesses and schools throughout Dearborn County

## education programs

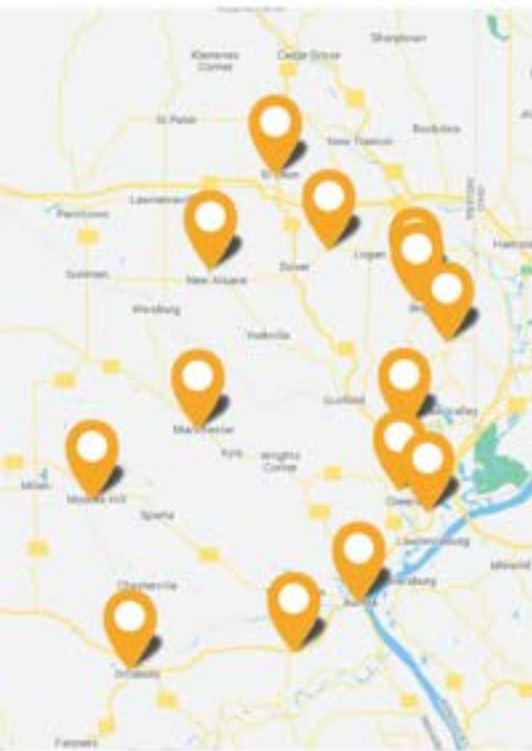
Education and outreach programs on a variety of environmental issues provided to schools, youth, and other community organizations

## creation station

- Reuse center dedicated to the diversion of reusable materials from disposal in landfills to educators and non-profit groups in Dearborn County
- Featuring Costume Swap and ReProm, programs focusing on the reuse of gently worn Halloween costumes and formal dresses
- Lending Station allows individuals to borrow one-time use items for weddings, parties, and events

# recycling locations

The DCRC owns and operates 16 source-separated recycling trailers, with one or two trailers located at 12 of the sites listed below 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Plastics only collection trailers are also available at 3 locations: the Aurora Lions Club, Lawrenceburg, and Bright Elementary School. The DCRC has contracted with Rumpke Recycling to have a 30 yard commingled recycling container at the New Alsace and St. Leon locations. Based on usage, the trailers are emptied on regularly scheduled days each week.



<b>AURORA</b>	<b>The Heart House</b> 6815 US 50
<b>AURORA</b>	<b>Behind Lions Club</b> between Main and Judiciary St
<b>BRIGHT</b>	<b>Merrillee's Hardware</b> 2045 Business Center Dr
<b>BRIGHT</b>	<b>Bright Elementary School</b> 22593 Stateline Rd
<b>BRIGHT</b>	<b>Bright Meadows Park</b> 2095 Einsel Rd
<b>DILLSBORO</b>	<b>Behind the Fire Dept</b> between Front St. & Western Row
<b>GREENDALE</b>	<b>Behind Greendale Park</b> Rand St.
<b>LAWRENCEBURG</b>	<b>County Fairgrounds</b> US 50
<b>MANCHESTER</b>	<b>Manchester Ballfields</b> St. Route 48 & County Farm Rd
<b>MOORES HILL</b>	<b>Intersection of Manchester St. &amp; College St.</b>
<b>NEW ALSACE</b>	<b>American Legion Post 452</b> 25329 Legion Rd
<b>N DEARBORN</b>	<b>Lot on Sawdon Ridge Rd</b> 5678 N. Dearborn Rd
<b>ST. LEON</b>	<b>St. Leon Fire Department</b> 28870 St. Joe Dr.
<b>STATE RT 1</b>	<b>Tanner Valley UM Church</b> 19235 St Rt 1

**Rumpke Recycling Containers:** no need to sort at locations listed in green. Loose, mixed recyclables will be taken to the Rumpke Materials Recovery Facility in Cincinnati for sorting and recycling.







10700 Prospect Lane  
Aurora, IN 47001



**Monday-Friday**  
9am — 4pm  
**Wednesdays**  
9am — 6pm

# recycling center drive-thru

## various facts

In the interest of public and employee safety, the Drive-Thru was closed from March 19 to May 11 at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. This directly affected the total number of customers using the facility, as evidenced in the chart below.

A tire amnesty day was held at the DCRC Drive-Thru in August of 2020 to incentivize tire recycling in the county. A total of 197 customers brought in 3,105 tires. Residents were allowed to bring up to 20 tires for free.

In 2020, 48.4 tons of household hazardous waste (HHW) was collected by the DCRC and sent for recycling or proper disposal. This is 13.5 tons more than 2019. Of that 48.4 tons, over 9 tons of water-based paint were collected and donated to Matthew 25 Ministries for reblending and use in their reconstruction projects. Another 14 tons was used oil, which is re-refined into the highest quality recycled oil. The remaining 25 tons of collected HHW consisted of various flammables, pesticides, corrosives, and batteries.



## total customer report



PROGRAM	2020	2019	% change from 2019 to 2020
Drive-Thru total visitors	4,551	4,963	-8%
BREAKDOWN OF SERVICES USED:			
General Recycling	2,460	2,955	-17%
Household Hazardous Waste	174	154	13%
Document Shredding	215	374	-43%

# general recycling



COMMODITY/GENERAL	TOTAL POUNDS 2020	TOTAL POUNDS 2019
Aluminum	0*	12,780
Cardboard	1,029,068	1,031,673
Glass	149,670	196,940
Mixed Paper & Sorted Office Paper	316,381	574,589
Plastic Bottles, Tin Cans, Mixed Paper, Some Glass	716,140	592,125
New Alsace & St. Leon	308,000	352,800
<b>General Items Total</b>	<b>1,957,316</b>	<b>2,760,907</b>



COMMODITY/NUISANCE	TOTAL POUNDS 2020	TOTAL POUNDS 2019
Cellular Phones	89	50
Scrap Copper & Aluminum	1,542	2,082
Scrap Metal and Refrigerators	78,060	66,047
Refrigerator Compressors	0	1,993
A/C Coils/Refrigerant	0	603
Hard Cover Books	25,290	41,257
Tires	170,835	122,145
Alkaline Batteries	2,304	1,803
Electronics (non computer)	92,088	110,251
Computers (includes monitors)	8,298	9,620
Commercial Copiers	0	474
Household Hazardous Waste	96,705	62,967
<b>General Items Total</b>	<b>475,211</b>	<b>419,292</b>

\*Aluminum bales were stored for all of 2020 awaiting higher prices

2020 could be considered a challenging year on many levels. Amidst those challenges, the DCRC still came within 2600 pounds of matching the total cardboard collected in 2019. In regards to glass, bars and restaurants were closed for several months which affected collection, but also due to reduced staffing during early phases of the pandemic, much of DCRC's glass was sent to Rumpke's recycling facility. This is also true in regards to mixed paper. Sorted office paper collection was also affected due to schools being closed, which make up the majority of DCRC's office paper collection.



# waste vs. recycling

## dearborn county waste 2020

		Waste (tons)
Rumpke	Hidden Valley Lake	1,124.24
	Rest of Dearborn County*	13,401.35
Best Way	City of Greendale	2,039.57
	City of Lawrenceburg	5,610.72
	Rest of Dearborn County*	11,025.34
<b>Total</b>		<b>33,201.22</b>

## dearborn county recycling 2020

		Waste (tons)
Dearborn County	Recyclables & Nuisance	1,458
	Household Hazardous Waste	48.4
Rumpke	City of Greendale	361.64
	Hidden Valley Lake	373.03
	City of Lawrenceburg	66.11
	Town of Dillsboro	44.53
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,351.71</b>

The diversion rate is the percentage of waste diverted away from landfills. While the weights of all recyclables are not captured in the table to the left due to limitations of data collection from private industry, this picture gives a fair representation of the County's waste and recycling picture as a whole. The pandemic again had an effect on reported numbers. With more people at home, haulers saw an increase in waste collected. Recycling tonnage remained fairly steady in 2020. Dearborn County's diversion rate for 2020 is 6.6%.

Two waste haulers, Best Way and Rumpke, offer private trash hauling services in Dearborn County. Greendale and Lawrenceburg have their own sanitation departments and haul waste for their respective cities; both haul their waste to the Best Way Transfer Station in Greendale. Greendale offers single-stream curbside recycling to its residents and Lawrenceburg offers corrugated cardboard collection to its businesses; both haul their materials to Rumpke in Cincinnati for processing.



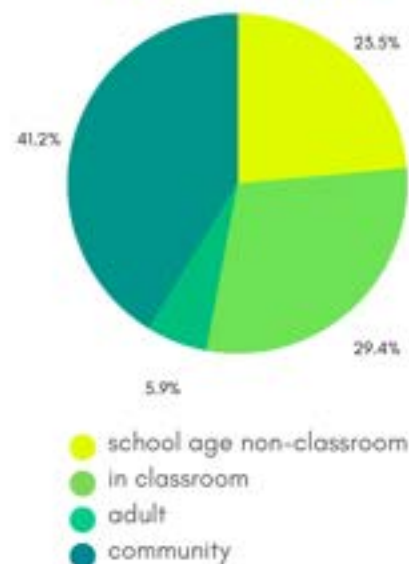
# education programs

Programs in 2020 were slightly different from other years. Due to COVID, schools and events shut down in March and were minimal the rest of the year. Due to the shut-down, the number of classroom programs was down compared to 2019. Educational efforts were shifted to virtual and education through advertising via social media and local newspaper outlets.

Overall, 1,407 students and 1,117 adults participated in the DCRC's education and outreach programs.

Outreach programs became the focus for 2020. A DCRC representative made several visits to the 24/7 trailers to educate the public on which items are accepted in the DCRC program.

**2020 sessions**



During the spring and summer, a new E-waste classroom program was developed from grades 6-12. A grant from the Indiana Household Hazardous Waste Task Force was used to purchase toolkits and game buzzers to support the program. An alternative version of the Edible Landfill was also developed. The new version involves building a mock landfill in a 2-liter bottle, rather than with edible ingredients.

The DCRC was awarded a matching grant from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management to place new recycling bins in the three Dearborn County high schools. A "Green Your Game" campaign was developed to roll-out the new bins. Posters, flyers, social media posts, and a web page were developed to educate the students about acceptable materials that can be placed in the bins. The web page also serves as a tool to post the number of recyclables that the schools are collecting.



# outreach programs



**Tire  
Amnesty  
Day**



**Community  
Shred  
Day**



**L'burg  
Farmers'  
Market**



**Mobile  
Electronics  
Collection**

Outreach efforts in 2020 included a booth at the Dearborn County Home & Garden Show, the Lawrenceburg Farmers' Market, two Community Shred Days, a mobile electronics collection in Bright, and a tire amnesty day.

At the Dearborn County Home & Garden Show, DCRC representatives handed out magnets with DCRC services, as well as cup and pocket ashtrays. Handing out these containers aims at reducing cigarette litter, which started with a grant the DCRC received in 2017.

The DCRC also had a booth at the Lawrenceburg Farmers' Market during two different weekends in September. A DCRC representative handed out reusable bags and literature about the DCRC services. The booth was time well-spent in the community, meeting with residents as well as people from the surrounding communities. Although our recycling services only cover Dearborn County, we work with other industry leaders like Rumpke to provide consistent messaging regarding recycling.

In July, the DCRC held a Community Shred Day at the DCRC. Staff members removed items from residents' cars for shredding in a mobile shred truck. To celebrate America Recycles Day, the DCRC also held a Community Shred Day at Civista Bank in St. Leon. A DCRC staff member and volunteers from a local Boy Scout Troop removed items to shred from residents' cars. The two Community Shred Days provided one hundred residents with confidential document destruction and recycling.

The DCRC strives to make its services as convenient as possible to the population it serves. In 2020, a mobile electronics collection was held in Bright at the old North Dearborn Elementary School. Two-hundred and nineteen customers were served at this remote location where 163 televisions and 4,308 pounds of computers and miscellaneous electronics were collected.

The DCRC was invited to participate in the Dearborn County Youth Ambassadors Teen Halloween Night at the Lawrenceburg Fairgrounds. A representative of the DCRC passed out candy and provided general awareness information for recycling.

# reuse programs



Creation  
Station



Costume  
Swap



## creation station

Creation Station is Dearborn County's reuse center and one of the greatest local resources for Dearborn County non-profit organizations. Thanks to all of the residents who cleaned out their craft and supply rooms in 2020! Creation Station has a large assortment of office, educational, school and craft supplies to offer teachers, church leaders, 4-H and Scout leaders, and other non-profit groups. A lot of teachers and other leaders have praised Creation Station for saving them money since they would have had to spend their own money if they did not get them at Creation Station for free. Creation Station was closed from mid-March to mid-August opening August 19 on Wednesdays from 12-6 by appointment only. Even with not being open all year, there were 375 customers in 2020 and 6826 pounds of material taken. Since 2004, the Creation Station has diverted over 62 tons of material from the landfill!

## school delivery program

The School Delivery Program finished its third year. This program was set up to provide materials to teachers who are unable to visit Creation Station. Deliveries are made to teachers in Dearborn County schools once a month during the school year based on e-mailed requests. During 2020, we were still able to deliver 1,385 pounds to 171 teachers even though we only made six deliveries.

## costume swap

Costume Swap is one of the District's biggest reuse programs. This is an exchange program and there are over 1000 costumes available for exchange. There is also a lot of makeup, accessories, and Halloween decorations. 2020 was held following the guidelines established by the District with approval by the Dearborn County Health Department. Even with limited shopping times, there were a total of 720 customers.

## reuse services used

	2020	2019	% change
Reuse Donation	485	571	-15%
Costume Swap	720	1,091	-29%
ReProm	434	601	-28%
Creation Station	375	658	-43%



# reuse programs

## reprom

ReProm is the District's formal dress exchange program with over 1000 dresses available. Many girls purchase a dress and wear it one time. This exchange program allows girls to bring in a dress they do not plan on wearing again and swap it for one that is new to them.

This program saves families money as it cuts down on the expense of the Prom. Dresses may also be obtained for other formal events. In its 8th year, 2020 started out with lots of customers, looking to be a record-breaking year. Unfortunately, ReProm had to close on March 15 and remained closed through 2020. From January to March 14, 2020, ReProm had 434 visitors which was great for the short amount of time it was opened. There were 601 visitors for the entire year in 2019.



## holiday giveaway

2020 was to mark our third annual Holiday Giveaway but due to Covid-19, this event was canceled. The District looks forward to offering this program again in 2021.



## lending station

The Lending Station is the District's newest reuse program with 2020 marking its second year. Even with a lot of events being canceled this year, the Lending Station was used for a few weddings and other events. This program can be used for weddings, graduation parties, showers, and other special events. It has a variety of glassware, table covering, and decorations in multiple quantities. There are also items for crafting including Cricut machines. Its inventory can be found on our website at [dearborncountyrecycles.com](http://dearborncountyrecycles.com)



# improvements and awards



before



after

after  
with  
stored  
bales

## building F renovation

Building F on the DCRC property has been used for limited storage since its purchase in 2012. Storage was limited in the building due to a brick wall running the length of half the building, as well as a framed office in the back half of the building. In February 2020, the interior of Building F was stripped of these unnecessary modifications. The building is now used to stage full loads of sorted office paper, aluminum cans, and corrugated cardboard for the DCRC, increasing the payback on these materials.

## recycling market development grant

The DCRC was a 2020 recipient of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management Recycling Market Development Grant. The grant money will be used to purchase three new recycling drop-off containers that will be dedicated to corrugated cardboard. The new containers will be placed in three of the highest volume recycling sites in Dearborn County.

## community recycling grant

The DCRC was a 2020 recipient of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management Community Recycling Grant. The grant allowed the DCRC to purchase new recycling bins for use in the three high schools located in Dearborn County. The goal of the grant is to increase recycling efforts during the school day and at sporting events. Students and their families are asked to look for these new containers and recycle their plastic bottles and aluminum cans.





# employee milestones

## dale workman

The DCRC celebrated Dale's 10th anniversary in the first week of January. Dale is one of our residential drivers who swaps out the 24/7 Recycling drop-off trailers. If you see Dale out in the community, wave and give him a thumbs up for his service.



## jim johnston

Residential trailer driver Jim Johnston officially retired from the DCRC in April, after 11 years of service. Jim has driven more miles than one can even imagine: 7 years for the Dearborn County Co-op, 22 years at the old Schenley Distillery, 20 years for Aurora Casket, 6 years at Schneider's scrapyard, and 10 years for DCRC. Jim enjoys spending time with his family as well as his DCRC friends.



## elmer campbell

Processing center employee, Elmer Campbell celebrated his 10th Anniversary with the DCRC on June 22. Ten years ago, Elmer began his work with the DCRC as a residential trailer and commercial pick-up driver. While he still helps out on those routes on occasion, Elmer spends most of his days in Processing operating a forklift, and baling recyclables. When asked about his time spent at the DCRC, Elmer said he has seen a lot of changes over his tenure and feels that the Recycling Center is moving in a very positive direction.



## steve black

We congratulate Steve Black for marking 10 years of employment with the DCRC on November 2, 2020! This milestone is shadowed by the fact that Steve spent 41.5 years at I&M/AEP in Lawrenceburg after beginning his work career at Thatcher Glass and the Schenley Distillery. With that longevity, Steve has brought years of valuable experience to the DCRC processing facility. Operations Manager David Craig, having worked with Steve at AEP and now at DCRC, offers this: "Steve is one of the most dependable and skilled people that I know. He is able to do any job in Processing, whether it be driving a truck or operating a forklift, as well as making minor repairs to equipment that we would otherwise have to subcontract." David also remarked that Steve is a prime example of the benefit for both parties in hiring someone from the retired workforce. The majority of employees at the DCRC are retired from other occupations, bringing experience and dedication to the workplace while continuing the use of their skills.



## additional anniversaries

5

**Ross Cutter**  
Commercial Driver  
5 years August 4

5

**Julie Robinson,**  
Reuse Coordinator  
5 years October 27

8

**Sandy Whitehead**  
Director  
5 years November 4  
(plus 3 years as Educator)

# financial report

## dearborn county solid waste management district budget

Line Item	Description	2020 Budget Amount	2020 Actual
<i>Category: Personnel Services</i>			
100	Salaried	\$118,000	\$115,696.17
110	Hourly Full-Time	\$148,000	\$134,383.94
111	Hourly Part-Time	\$152,000	\$161,618.76
171	FICA	\$34,000	\$31,494.97
172	PERF	\$32,000	\$29,335.66
174	SUTA	\$5,000	\$1,144.47
182	Advisory Per Diem	\$3,800	\$1,520.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$492,800</b>	<b>\$475,193.97</b>
<i>Category: Supplies</i>			
211	Office Supplies	\$6,000	\$3,633.55
213	Reuse Center Supplies	\$4,100	\$3,238.62
221	Processing Supplies	\$13,000	\$1,493.73
231	Equipment Expense	\$8,000	\$6,031.76
232	Fuel Expense	\$34,000	\$23,326.42
241	Safety Supplies	\$3,000	\$2,584.52
242	Janitorial & Property Supplies	\$4,000	\$2,568.57
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$72,100</b>	<b>\$42,877.17</b>
<i>Category: Other Services and Charges</i>			
312	Professional Services	\$16,000	\$16,336.35
321	Travel	\$1,200	\$151.80
322	Conference & Training	\$3,000	\$2,012.09
324	Subscriptions & Dues	\$1,000	\$1,335.00
332	Printing	\$1,700	\$975.81
333	Advertising	\$33,100	\$12,699.54
334	Promotions	\$7,000	\$3,457.09
341	Insurance	\$34,000	\$26,700.99
350	Utilities	\$30,000	\$17,294.25
351	Communications	\$6,300	\$5,392.18
362	Equipment repairs & maintenance	\$50,000	\$23,155.79
381	Property Loan	\$35,000	\$30,225.00
390	Education	\$3,200	\$1,072.11
391	Education Partnerships	\$10,000	\$1,598.00
392	Recycling Programs	\$6,000	\$11,190.98
393	Uniforms	\$2,000	\$45.86
394	HHW Disposal	\$28,500	\$45,977.00
395	Non-Hazardous Disposal	\$73,000	\$78,770.05
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$341,000</b>	<b>\$278,389.89</b>
<i>Category: Capital Outlays</i>			
431	Property Improvements	\$50,000	\$8,925.00
444	Processing Center Equipment		
450	Machinery: Equipment and Vehicles	\$34,000	\$31,768.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$84,000</b>	<b>\$40,693.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$989,900</b>	<b>\$837,154.03</b>



# the people of dcswmnd



## 2020 personnel

<b>Director</b>	Sandy Whitehead
<b>Educator/Outreach Coordinator</b>	Stefanie Hoffmeier
<b>Reuse Coordinator/ Office Assistant</b>	Julie Robinson
<b>Operations Manager</b>	David Craig
<b>Drive Thru Supervisor/ Freon Removal</b>	Randy Robinson
<b>Residential Trailer Drivers</b>	Jim Johnston Dale Workman Mike Teaney
<b>Commercial/ School Collection</b>	Ross Cutter Randy Bath
<b>Lead Forklift</b>	Don Shelton
<b>Drive Thru Attendants</b>	Gene Voegelé Clinton Burlage
<b>Processing</b>	Elmer Campbell Steve Black Joe Dittmer Terry Black Steve Williams Randy Stenger

## executive board

<b>Jim Thatcher</b>	County Commissioner, Board President
<b>Art Little</b>	County Commissioner, Board Secretary
<b>Rick Probst</b>	County Commissioner
<b>Tim Doll</b>	Representative, County Council
<b>Alan Weiss</b>	Mayor of Greendale
<b>Kelly Mollaun</b>	Mayor of Lawrenceburg
<b>Bryan Messmore</b>	City Coordinator, Lawrenceburg
<b>Doug Garner</b>	Pillar Law Group, Attorney

## citizens advisory committee

<b>Paul Filter</b> (Chairperson)	<b>Linda Chastang</b>
<b>Phil Piche</b> (Vice Chairperson)	<b>Amy Deaton</b>
<b>Bernadine Ickenroth</b>	<b>Randy Graves, MGPI</b>
<b>Deb Crosby</b>	<b>Nancy Lillie</b>
<b>Linda Johnson</b>	



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