

Largo Going green



727-587-6760
LargoRecycles.com
City of Largo
Solid Waste Division



MIXED RECYCLING
Begins February 2014

Tampa Bay
Times
NIE
newspaper in education
tampabay.com/nie

Tree-free communication

Largo saves a lot of paper by using its website, Largo.com. Keep up with the City of Largo's Recycling Program, Recreation Programming, Economic Development and more on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and LinkedIn. Also sign up for e-newsletters from the Largo Cultural Center, the library, LarGoing Green and more.

Connect With Us Today!



LarGoing green

What is LarGoing Green?

LarGoing Green is where you can find all Largo's green programs in one place. From recycling to green buildings, LarGoing Green shows how Largo is "LEED"ing the way for an eco-friendly community for all of our residents. For more information, visit LarGoingGreen.com.

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Newspaper in Education

The Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education (NIE) program is a cooperative effort between schools and the Times Publishing Company to promote the use of newspapers in print and electronic form as educational resources.

Since the mid-1970s, NIE has provided schools with class sets of the newspaper, plus our award-winning original curriculum, at no cost to teachers or schools. With ever-shrinking school budgets, the *Tampa Bay Times* and our curriculum supplements have become an invaluable tool to teachers. In the Tampa Bay area each year, more than 5 million newspapers and electronic licenses are provided to teachers and students free of charge thanks to our generous individual, corporate and foundation sponsors.

NIE provides supplemental materials and educator workshops free of charge. Our teaching materials cover a variety of subjects and are consistent with Florida's Next Generation Sunshine State Standards and Common Core Standards. The *Times* and our NIE curriculum are rich educational resources, offering teachers an up-to-the-minute, living text and source for countless projects in virtually every content area.

For more information about NIE, visit tampabay.com/nie. Follow us on Twitter at [Twitter.com/TBTimesNIE](https://twitter.com/TBTimesNIE), and check out the NIE Blogging Zone at tampabay.com/blogs/niezone.

To learn how to sponsor a classroom or education supplement or receive NIE resources at your school, go to tampabay.com/nie or call 800-333-7505, ext. 8138.

Newspaper in Education Staff

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Credits

The content in this publication has been written by the City of Largo recycling department.

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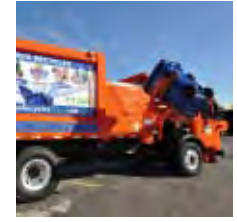
This publication incorporates the following Sunshine State Standards:
Science: SC.4.E.6.3; SC.3.N.1.1; SC.3.N.1.2; SC.3.N.1.3; SC.3.N.1.6; SC.4.N.1.2; SC.4.N.1.3; SC.4.N.1.6; SC.4.N.2.1; SC.5.N.1.1; SC.6.N.1.1; SC.7.N.1.1; SC.8.N.1.1; SC.8.N.4.2; SC.912.N.1.1; SC.912.N.1.7
Language Arts: LA.3.1.4.1-4; LA.3.1.5.1-2; LA.3.1.6.1-10; LA.3.1.7.2-5; LA.3.2.2.2-

4; LA.3.3.1.1-2; LA.3.3.2.1-2; LA.3.3.3.1-4; LA.3.3.4.1-6; LA.3.4.2.2-3; LA.3.5.2.1-2; LA.3.6.1.1; LA.3.6.2.1-4; LA.4.1.4.1-3; LA.4.1.5.1-2; LA.4.1.6.1-10; LA.4.1.7.2-5; LA.4.2.2.2; LA.4.3.1.1; LA.4.3.2.1-3; LA.4.3.3.1-4; LA.4.3.4.1-6; LA.4.5.2.1-5; LA.4.6.1.1; LA.4.6.2.1-4; LA.5.1.4.1-3; LA.5.1.5.1-2; LA.5.1.6.1-10; LA.5.1.7.1-5; LA.5.2.2.1-5; LA.5.3.1.1-3; LA.5.3.2.1-3; LA.5.3.3.1-4; LA.5.3.4.1-5; LA.5.5.2.1-2; LA.5.6.1.1; LA.5.6.2.1-4; LA.6.1.5.1; LA.6.1.6.1-10; LA.6.1.7.1-8; LA.6.2.2.1-5; LA.6.3.1.1-3; LA.6.3.2.1-3; LA.6.3.3.1-4; LA.6.3.4.1-5; LA.6.5.2.1-2; LA.6.6.1.1-3; LA.6.6.2.1-4; LA.7.1.5.1; LA.7.1.6.1-10; LA.7.1.7.1-8; LA.7.2.2.1-5; LA.7.3.1.1-3; LA.7.3.2.1-3; LA.7.3.3.1-4; LA.7.3.4.1-5; LA.7.5.2.1-3; LA.7.6.2.1-4; LA.8.1.5.1; LA.8.1.6.1-10; LA.8.1.7.1-8; LA.8.2.2.1-4; LA.8.3.1.1-3; LA.8.3.2.1-3; LA.8.3.3.1-4; LA.8.3.4.1-5; LA.8.5.2.1-5; LA.8.6.1.1-2; LA.8.6.2.1-4; LA.910.1.5.1; LA.910.1.6.1-10; LA.910.1.7.1-8; LA.910.2.2.1-3; LA.910.3.1.1-2; LA.910.3.2.1-3; LA.910.3.3.1-4; LA.910.3.4.1-5; LA.910.5.2.1-3; LA.910.6.1.1; LA.910.6.2.1-4; LA.1112.1.5.1; LA.1112.1.6.1-9; LA.1112.1.7.1-4; LA.1112.2.2.1-3; LA.1112.3.1.1-3; LA.1112.3.2.1-2; LA.1112.3.3.1-4; LA.1112.3.4.1-5; LA.1112.5.2.1-2; LA.1112.5.2.4; LA.1112.6.1.1-2; LA.1112.6.2.1-4

Reading this supplement and completing the newspaper activities in this publication can be applied to the following Common Core Standards: Reading/Informational Text: RI.3-5.1; RI.3-5.2; RI.3-5.3; RI.3-5.4; RI.3-5.5; RI.3-5.7; RI.3-5.8; RI.6-12.1; RI.6-12.2; RI.6-12.3; RI.6-12.4; RI.6-12.7 **Writing:** W.3-5.1; W.3-5.2; W.3-5.3; W.3-5.4; W.3-5.5; W.3-5.6; W.3-5.7; W.3-5.8; W.6-12.1; W.6-12.2; W.6-12.3; W.6-12.4; W.6-12.5; W.6-12.6; W.6-12.7; W.6-12.8 **Speaking & Listening:** SL.3-5.1; SL.3-5.3; SL.3-5.4; SL.3-5.6; SL.6-12.1; SL.6-12.2; SL.6-12.4 **Language:** L.3-5.1; L.3-5.2; L.3-5.3; L.3-5.4; L.6-12.1; L.6-12.2; L.6-12.3; L.6-12.4

What is *mixed* recycling?

Mixed recycling uses just one collection cart for all recyclable items. The cart is collected with a mechanical arm similar to the arm on the garbage collection vehicles. The items will be separated at a sorting facility. See pages 8-9 to see how mixed recycling works.



- Plastics 1-7 (Butter tubs, fruit containers, plastic plates & cups, yogurt containers, etc., any plastic with a recycling symbol on it) **New**

- Mixed paper (any paper item that tears)

- Aluminum cans

- Aerosol cans **New**

- Aluminum foil and trays **New**

- Tin or steel food cans **New**

- Glass (clear, green and brown) **New**

- Flattened cardboard

- Milk and juice paper cartons **New**



Grocery bags, trash bags, plastic wrap and food bags should not be included in your recycling cart. These bags get tangled in recycling sorting equipment and slow down the recycling process. Look for plastic bag recycling at local grocery stores.



Make sure all of your recyclables are inside the cart with the lid shut tight.



Greasy pizza boxes should not be in your recycling cart. Remove the greasy part and recycle the rest of the clean box.



Shredded paper may be recycled. To prevent paper litter on your street, put the shredded paper inside a paper bag (no plastic bags) prior to being placed in your recycle bin.



Styrofoam® such as “peanuts” and other packing materials are not recyclable in Largo’s recycling carts. Check with local packing and shipping stores to reuse packing material.



What is LEED?

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, or LEED, is a building standard set out by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) and is how most of the U.S. recognizes eco-friendly, new and renovated buildings. LEED Platinum certification is the highest certification given by the USGBC.



Highland Recreation Complex recycles. Look for recycling containers on your next visit!



The City of Largo: 'LEED'ing the Way in Green Building

The City of Largo is excited about green building. From our LEED Platinum Largo Community Center to the new Highland Recreation Complex, Largo's buildings are constructed with the user in mind. The people at the City of Largo are making sure they save money and the environment by building smart.



Largo receives Keep America Beautiful, Dr. Pepper Snapple Group grant to increase recycling in public parks

Largo Sports Complex is cleaner and greener as a recipient of the 2013 Dr. Pepper Snapple Group / Keep America Beautiful (KAB) Park Recycling Bin Grant award of 20 new recycling containers. In its first year, the Dr. Pepper Snapple Group/KAB Park Recycling Bin Grant program is designed to establish or expand recycling opportunities in different park settings.



Largo's was one of 35 grants awarded to local and state governments in 22 states. The grants will provide 721 durable, permanent recycling bins for placement in a variety of park settings.

Thank you to Keep America Beautiful and Dr. Pepper Snapple Group for your ongoing commitment to environmental sustainability.

Largo is a Certified Green Local Government

The City of Largo has earned Silver-level Green Local Government Certification. This certification says that the City of Largo is an eco-friendly city. These "green" practices help to save Largo residents money and help the environment.



The Florida Green Building Coalition's Green Local Government Standard names Green Cities and Green Counties for great environmental practices in areas of energy, water, air, land and waste.

Learning with the Times

Be creative

Using the digital edition of the *Tampa Bay Times*, look at photographs, comics and advertisements for items that can be and cannot be recycled. You can check LargoingGreen.com to help classify each item. Make a list for each classification. Group items by type of waste (i.e., plastic, glass, wood, metal, etc.). For your list of items that cannot be recycled, identify which are flammable, corrosive, reactive or toxic. Group these items by the disposal method you would use. Now that you have your lists, it is time to be creative: Write and illustrate a short story for each type of waste from the viewpoint of an item. If possible, add some impact numbers to your story. Share your stories with classmates, friends and family.

Don't have *curbside* collection? Just bring recycling to us!

Largo has two convenient 24-hour recycling collection centers:

Starkey Road Recycling Center - 1551 Starkey Road, between East Bay Drive and Ulmerton Road

Tri-City Plaza Recycling Center - At U.S. Highway 19 North and East Bay Drive, behind Office Depot

What we can recycle at recycling collection centers:

- Plastics 1-7 (Butter tubs, fruit containers, plastic plates & cups, yogurt containers, etc., any plastic with a recycling symbol on it) **New**
- Mixed paper (any paper item that tears)
- Aluminum cans
- Aerosol cans **New**
- Aluminum foil and trays **New**
- Tin or steel food cans **New**
- Glass (clear, green and brown) **New**
- Flattened cardboard
- Milk and juice paper cartons **New**



Business and multifamily recycling program

Weekly recycling service at businesses or condos, apartments and mobile home parks is a service available to all City of Largo Solid Waste business and multifamily resident facilities.



How does it work?

All mixed recyclables will be collected in recycling carts on wheels.

This container can be placed near the facility's current dumpster or in an alternate location as determined by the business manager and agreed upon by a representative from the City of Largo.

We provide once-a-week collection for recycling containers at no additional cost to the customer.

For more information on the City of Largo's recycling program for businesses and multifamily facilities, call 727-586-7424 or visit LargoRecycles.com.



Learning with the Times

Learning new words

When you study new things, you often come up against some tough vocabulary words! Most vocabulary words are learned from context clues or good old-fashioned dictionary work. While you read this publication, be sure to highlight or circle words you don't know. Try to figure out the words' meanings by looking for clues in the sentences around them. Write down your best guess, and then look the words up in a dictionary. As a group activity, make a list of the words students identified and see which ones stumped the class. Next, use these words for a news scavenger hunt. See if you can find these words in the *Tampa Bay Times*. The group that finds the most words wins the game.

REDUCE

Shop responsibly

Each year, Americans use 60,000 plastic bags every five seconds. Less than 1 percent of all plastic bags made are recycled. Recycle your plastic bags at participating grocery stores. Plastic bags cannot be recycled in your curbside cart.

Try bringing your own bag when you go shopping. When the cashier asks, "Paper or plastic?" You can reply, "I brought my own."



Purchase products with minimal packaging

Choose bulk over individually wrapped items. Encourage others to do the same.



Preserve paper

Think before you print: 4.5 million tons of office paper is thrown away each year in the U.S. Use less and recycle the rest.



What is compost?

Compost is organic matter that can break down and be recycled as fertilizer for your garden.

Consider composting

Every year, Americans throw out approximately 1,200 pounds of compostable trash per person. About 25 percent of waste in Florida is compostable. Learn more about composting at the Pinellas County Extension office at 727-582-2100 or log on to PinellasCountyExtension.org.



Learning with the *Times*

Think globally, act locally

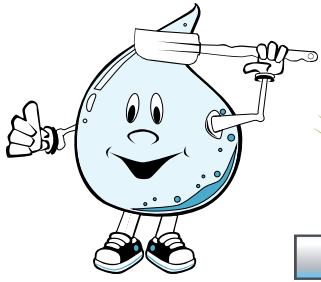
Use current and archived issues of the *Tampa Bay Times* to find articles, photos or cartoons about recycling and the environment in your local or regional community. Based on your news research, write an analysis essay that describes how the issue specifically impacts your community. Identify individuals or groups in your area that are helping to improve the community by protecting the environment. You can include related headlines, articles and photos in your paper. You may wish to complete further research using additional resources. Write a blog post about what you have learned. What are the most important needs in your community? What volunteer opportunities are available? How can people help keep Largo and Pinellas County beautiful? Share your research with your class.

Why waste water?

When brushing your teeth, taking a shower, washing your hands or doing the dishes, you use four gallons of water per minute. That adds up! You use approximately 60 gallons in a 15-minute shower. Conserve water when possible by taking shorter showers and turning off the water when it is not needed.

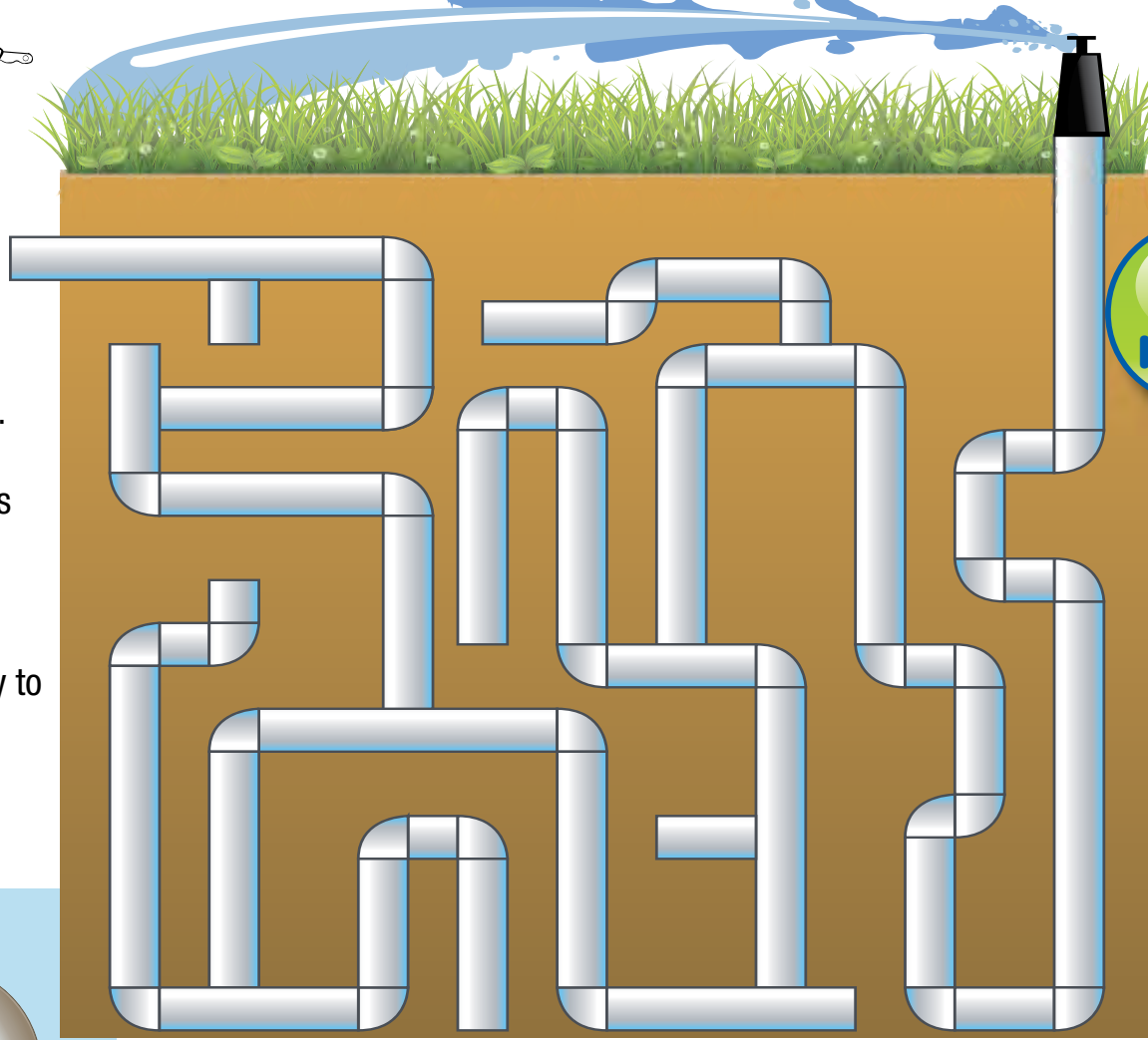
For more *water-saving* tips, go to LarGoingGreen.com.

Largo Recycles WATER



Meet Piper!

Piper is a water droplet from your kitchen faucet. Draw a line to lead Piper through the maze. Piper's journey will be complete when Piper becomes a recycled water droplet. Follow Piper on a journey to water your lawn!



Want to begin watering your lawn with recycled water?

Contact the City of Largo's Environmental Services Division at 727-518-3076 to find out if recycled water is available and learn how you can save money and water today.



Yuck! Somebody poured fats, oils and grease (F.O.G.) down his or her drain and it clogged the pipe, and now Piper is stuck!

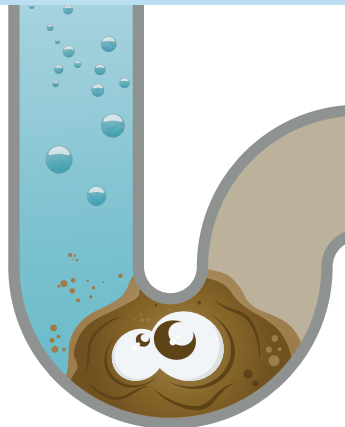
That's fats, oils and grease

As a byproduct of cooking, F.O.G. is usually found in:

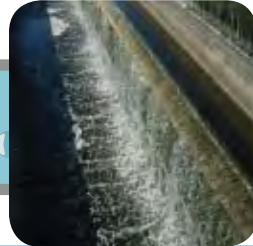
- Baking goods
- Butter, lard, shortening
- Cooking oil
- Food scraps
- Gravy
- Salad dressings
- Sour cream
- Fats and oil from cooked meats
- Mayonnaise
- Sauces



You can help, too, by making sure these items don't go down the drain, so Piper has an easy trip!



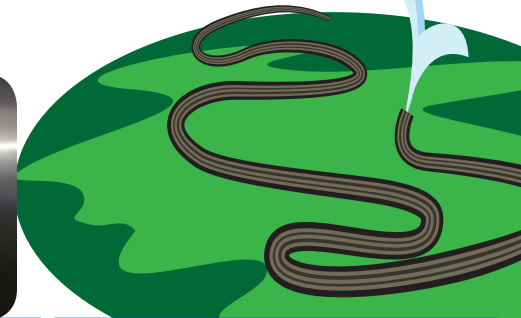
Piper drips out of your kitchen sink and heads down the sewer drain. Piper is the City of Largo's helper. Piper fights F.O.G.



Piper is treated and cleaned further at the City of Largo Wastewater Reclamation Facility.



Piper goes from the treatment plant to a reclaimed water sprinkler, where she jumps out to water the grass.



You did it! Thanks to you, Piper helps water your lawn with recycled water! With recycled water, Piper helps conserve valuable drinking water.

How does mixed



Step 1:

Place all of your unbagged recyclables in your blue recycling cart by 7 a.m. on your recycle day.

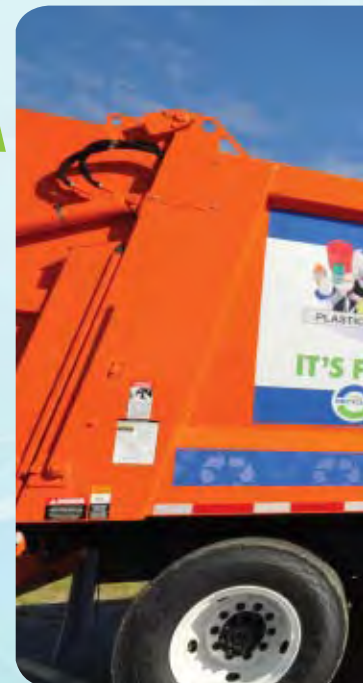


Plastic bags that are mixed with recycling get stuck in the recycling equipment. This slows down the recycling process. Ask how you can get an indoor recycling storage bag for your home.

LargoRecyclesMore.com

We can help!

Plastic bags can be recycled at most local grocery stores. Please recycle your plastic bags at participating locations.



Step 4:

The MRF sorts and and then sends the factory that will make your discarded ma



Step 5:

Help close the loop by buying new items made from recycled material.



recycling work?

Step 2:

Largo's Recycling Collection vehicle will pick it up using a mechanical arm. Be sure there are no obstacles within three feet of your cart.



Step 3:

All recyclables will be taken to a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). This is a state-of-the-art facility that uses sorting screens, magnets, air blowers, conveyor belts and manual workers to help separate material by type.

and bales your recycling
the recyclables to the
make new materials out of
materials.



Learning with the *Times*

Conserving energy

Look in the *Tampa Bay Times* for pictures of home appliances that use energy. For each appliance, answer the following questions. Is this a necessity or a luxury? What are the advantages and disadvantages to using it? What's the alternative to this appliance? Do a little research to determine the energy efficiency of each appliance. Rate the appliances from most efficient to least efficient. Using the digital edition archives, find newspaper articles about energy issues such as energy shortages, nonrenewable energy sources, energy costs, energy dependence and health problems associated with pollution or other effects of energy use. List ways you can save energy and create an energy contract to make a difference. Share your energy conservation ideas with your family and classmates.



Learning with the *Times*

Re-purposing trash

Re-purposing trash means taking something that would have been thrown away and finding a new use or purpose for it. Largo's Recycled Innovations Contest encourages people to find a new use for items destined for the trash can. Look in the *Tampa Bay Times* for household items that cannot be recycled. How can you re-purpose them? Plan out your Recycled Innovation and enter Largo's online contest at LargoRecycles.com.

Recycled Innovations Contest

Looking for useful trash creations



The annual Recycled Innovations contest challenges junk geniuses to show off their re-purposed rubbish to win prizes. Participants of all ages are invited to enter this online contest, which challenges them to construct useful items consisting of at least 75 percent discarded material.

PRIZES: solar-powered chargers for large and small electronics, a solar-powered backpack and a paper recycling machine.

Prizes will be awarded to the one winner receiving the most online votes in each of the following age categories:

- **Tiny Innovators:** kindergarten through second-grade students
- **Junior Innovators:** third-through fifth-grade students
- **Tween Innovators:** sixth-through eighth-grade students
- **Techie Teen Innovators:** ninth-through twelfth-grade students
- **Ingenious Innovators:** 18 years old and up



Facebook voting runs
November 1-12, 2014, at
[Facebook.com/LargoRecycles](https://www.facebook.com/LargoRecycles).

Don't forget to Like us on Facebook!

Deadlines for entries including photo submission and entry description is October 31, 2014. Interested innovators can apply online at LargoRecycles.com or by calling 727-586-7424 for more information.

LargoRecyclesMore.com

LarGoing green Events



January

Touch-a-Truck
Saturday, January 25, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Largo Central Park,
101 Central Park Drive, Largo

February

First day of curbside mixed recycling collection
Monday, February 3, 7 a.m.

March

Family picnic in the park
Saturday, March 20, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
McGough Nature Park,
11901 146th St. N, Largo

Mobile electronics and chemical collection event
Saturday, March 15,
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Largo Home Depot,
10689 Ulmerton Rd.,
Largo



April

Earth Day Shredfest
paper-shredding event
Saturday, April 5, 9 a.m. to noon
Recycling Center,
1551 Starkey Road, Largo

Spring Ecofest & Easter egg hunt
Saturday, April 12, 1 - 4 p.m.
McGough Nature Park,
11901 146th St. N, Largo

Playing Unplugged!
Saturday, April 26, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Largo Central Park,
101 Central Park Drive, Largo



October

Mobile electronics & chemical collection event
Saturday, October 4, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Recycling Center,
1551 Starkey Road, Largo

Recycled Innovations contest
Friday, October 31, 2014, is the deadline to enter the contest at LargoRecycles.com.

Owl-o-ween
Thursday, October 28,
6 - 8 p.m.
McGough Nature Park,
11901 146th St. N, Largo



November

Recycled Innovations contest
November 1-13 - Vote for the winners at [facebook.com/LargoRecycles](https://www.facebook.com/LargoRecycles)

America Recycles Day Shredfest
paper-shredding event
Saturday, November 15, 9 a.m. to noon
Recycling Center, 1551 Starkey Road, Largo



Look for recycling containers at Largo events

Contact

McGough Nature Park 727-518-3047,
LargoNature.com

Largo Recycles: 727-587-6760,
LargoRecycles.com

Largo Events: 727-587-6700,
LargoEvents.com



Volunteer opportunities



There are many ways to volunteer in the City of Largo. Students can even earn Bright Futures hours for approved projects.

Friends of the Park

Ages 16 & up

Care for animals, greet people at parks, help with park maintenance, events, presentations and more. Your assistance can make the difference for Largo's four-legged and two-legged visitors. Call 727-518-3047 for information.

Become a Green Team volunteer!

Ages 16 & up

Green Team volunteers:

- Are ambassadors for recycling in their neighborhood
- Participate in educational recycling events
- Recruit business partners to recycle
- Earn service hours through participation in volunteer projects

All Green Team volunteers will receive a Green Team shirt. Call 727-586-7424 or email recycle@largo.com.



Learning with the *Times*

Design an ad

The City of Largo has some great green events. How would you promote these events? Using ads in the *Tampa Bay Times* as models, create an ad to promote a LarGoing Green event. Look at the ads in the *Times*. Think about the dynamics of the ads (images, words, placement of items, colors). Think about ways to draw people's attention to your ad and message. Next, design an ad for the print edition of the *Times* and for the LarGoing Green website. How is the ad on the print edition going to be different than the Web version of the ad? Write a fully developed paragraph showing the differences in the ads and what your main point of the ads is. Share your ad and the information in your paragraph with your class.

Largo schools *recycle*

Largo schools can raise money or earn prizes by recycling mixed paper, plastic bottles and aluminum soda cans. If you are interested in recycling at your school, contact the Pinellas County School Board at 727-547-7165 or email friendj@pcsb.org to start a school recycling program.

Request a recycling presentation

Get students, club members and homeowners associations excited about recycling by scheduling your free recycling presentation today! All presentations are personalized and age appropriate to meet your organization's needs. Simply fill out the online recycling presentation request form at LargoRecycles.com or call 727-586-7424.



Get the 'scoop' on poop

Find out what happens after you flush! Invite your school or organization to take a tour of the City of Largo's Environmental Services Wastewater Reclamation Facility, the Ultimate Recycling Machine. More information can be found at Largo.com/mysewer or by calling 727-507-4460.



Nature in the Classroom initiative programs

Traveling naturalists from the Friends of Largo Nature Parks offer programs either in the classroom or outside on the school campus; however, most programs also can be enjoyed at McGough Nature Park, if you prefer a field trip. Programs are offered for grades K-12 in the following subject areas: Florida ecosystems, environmental investigation, pollution, waste-water runoff, recycling, geology, mineralogy and wildlife.

All naturalists are Level II background checked and trained in Florida wildlife and ecology.

While programs are free to schools, donations are always welcome. Call 727-518-3047 to schedule your presentation.



Yard waste recycling

How it works:

Easy as 1, 2, 3

1. Put branches, bagged leaves and grass by the curb on your recycling day.

2. Be sure there is no trash mixed in with your grass clippings, leaves and branches.

3. Smile because you kept yard waste out of the landfill or waste-to-energy plant.

Note:

All trash should fit in your green Largo trash cart with the lid closed. Other garbage left outside the trash can will receive this sticker and will not be picked up.

TRASH ALERT

Please place items in your green City of Largo garbage container for proper disposal.

Questions: (727)587-6752

Largo recycles more than household recyclables at the curb! Largo collects yard trimmings, grass clippings, branches and brush for recycling into mulch or fuel. Be sure these items are

placed at the curb on your recycling day, free from trash. Green waste (yard and food waste) makes up 23 percent of our trash. With your help, we can keep organic material out of the landfill.



Christmas tree and cardboard box curbside recycling

If your Christmas holiday celebration includes a real tree with plenty of presents underneath it, the City of Largo offers a free Christmas tree and cardboard box recycling collection December 26 through January 6. This service is available only to current City of Largo garbage collection customers.

Trees should be placed by the curb on your recycling day without:

- Plastic bags or wrap
- Ornaments, tinsel, lights or tree stands

Cardboard boxes should be placed underneath the City of Largo's curbside recycling bin:

- Flattened
- No packaging inside (foam, plastic wrap or paper)



Learning with the Times

Planning for the future

We must begin recycling today if we are to reduce the rate at which our landfills are filling up. Look for articles in the *Tampa Bay Times* about recycling and the environment. Collect these articles over the course of a month. Working together with other students, come up with a plan to get your school and family to recycle. Use the articles you have collected as a basis for your plan. Read the editorials and opinion

articles in the *Tampa Bay Times*. Think about the dynamics of these persuasive articles. Think about ways to draw people's attention to a message. Now it is your turn to be persuasive. Write an editorial or opinion article focused on the importance of recycling in your community. Share your article with your classmates.

Electronics and chemical *recycling*

Why should we recycle electronics and chemicals? Electronics, TVs, computers and anything with a circuit board contain hazardous materials such as lead. Chemicals such as paint, cleaners, batteries, fluorescent lights and pesticides can mix with other chemicals in a garbage truck and produce toxic fumes, catch fire or explode.



There are two ways to recycle or properly dispose of these materials:

- 1. Drop off electronics or chemicals at the Household Electronics and Chemical Collection Center (HEC3)**
- 2. Mobile collections**—In cooperation with Pinellas County Utilities, the City of Largo hosts two household electronics and chemical mobile collection events. Pinellas County residents can collect hazardous waste items from their home, office or garage and properly dispose of them at this one-day collection event. See LargoRecycles.com for event dates.

SPRING COLLECTION
March 15, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Largo Home Depot,
10689 Ulmerton Road, Largo

FALL COLLECTION
October 4, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

City of Largo Recycling Center,
1551 Starkey Road, Largo

What is the HEC3?

The HEC3 is the Household Electronics and Chemical Collection Center, located at 2855 109th Ave. N in St. Petersburg. Call 727-464-7500.

Monday-Friday: 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This is a permanent facility for Pinellas County residents to bring electronics or chemicals.



Largo Public Library: Reducing and reusing since 1914



From 1914 through 1916, residents began leaving donated books, magazines and wood for furnishings beneath

a large camphor tree located in the heart of downtown Largo. Today, Largo Public Library continues this tradition by recycling and reusing donated items and materials that are weeded from the collection. A large portion of library materials is given to the Friends of the Largo Library to be sold in semi-annual book sales and in the Kathryn E. Porter Bookstore at the entrance of the building.

One hundred thousand books, magazines and A/V materials pass through the bookstore annually, finding a new home with happy customers. Another partner in the library's



recycling initiative is Better World Books, an organization that accepts books to share throughout the world.

Along with book recycling, the library participates in environmental conservation in many ways:

- Carpet tiles throughout the library are made of recycled plastic materials

- Wood laminate trim within the library is made from recycled coffee bean bags
- Educational conservation programs are offered to children and adults
- Damaged A/V materials and used ink cartridges are recycled separately

Largo Public Library recycles! Look for recycling containers on your next visit!





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Streets and stormwater

Stormwater is rain water that flows into street drains, then empties directly into lakes, creeks and the Gulf without being treated. These street drains are designed to prevent flooding. When it rains, stormwater can draw litter, chemicals, dirt and other pollutants into a storm drain. Protect the water bodies we use for swimming, fishing and drinking.

Keep our waterways clean

PICK UP PET POO: Pet waste is a major source of bacteria and excess nutrients that wash into swimming areas and create health hazards in local waterways, often making beach closures necessary.

DON'T BE A LITTER BUG: Pick up litter and save our fishy friends. Plastic bags, six-pack rings, bottles and cigarette butts washed into water bodies can choke, suffocate or harm ducks, fish, turtles and birds.

KEEP CHEMICALS AWAY FROM STORM DRAINS: Insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, pool chemicals/backwash, used motor oil and other auto fluids can poison fish. Land animals and people can become sick from eating diseased fish and shellfish or ingesting polluted water.

Fertilizers & stormwater

Excess fertilizers and pesticides applied to lawns and gardens wash off and pollute streams. In addition, yard clippings and leaves can wash into storm drains and contribute dangerous nutrients and organic matter to streams.

- Don't overwater your lawn. Consider using a soaker hose instead of a sprinkler.
- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. Use organic mulch or safer pest control methods whenever possible.
- Compost or mulch yard waste. Don't leave it in the street or sweep it into storm drains or streams.
- Cover piles of dirt or mulch being used in landscaping projects.



Pinellas County's fertilizer ban (established 2010):

Fertilizers containing nitrogen or phosphorus:

- ✗ Cannot be applied during the rainy season (June 1 through September 30)
- ✗ Cannot be applied within 10 feet of a body of water
- ✗ Cannot be applied if the National Weather Service forecasts heavy rains to occur within 24 hours in Pinellas County
- ✗ Cannot be applied to impervious surfaces, such as roads, driveways and sidewalks and overcast must be swept up immediately

Landscape maintenance must include:

- Keeping grass clippings, leaves and other yard waste out of the streets, driveways, sidewalks, storm drains and surface waters
- Commercial landscape staff and fertilizer applicators must be trained in county-approved Best Management Practices for mowing, trimming, fertilizer application and landscape debris management



More than 200 of Largo's storm drains have this device to help catch some of the litter and lawn trimmings that would have emptied into waterways. While these baskets help catch some of the debris, we still need your help to keep this stuff out of our stormwater drains!

Back to the earth in Largo



George C. McGough Nature Park

at the Largo Narrows just before the Indian Rocks bridge
11901 146th St. N
727-518-3047 • LargoNature.com

Also known as “the turtle park” for its abundant aquatic turtle population, McGough Nature Park is located along the Intracoastal Waterway. Escape the hustle and bustle of the city and stroll along the shady oak hammock or through the mangroves. Visit the nature center, which houses live animal exhibits and hands-on activities for children. The park also offers several environmental education programs.

Find out about upcoming events, programs, birthday parties, camps and more at LargoNature.com.



Meet McGough's education owls



John R. Bonner Park

14444 143rd St. N
727-518-3047 • LargoNature.com

This park is Largo's best-kept secret! It is located on the Intracoastal Waterway. The park is on the Great Florida Birding Trail because of its diverse migratory bird population.



Largo Central Park Nature Preserve

150 Highland Ave. SE
727-586-7415 • LargoNature.com

The City of Largo's newest nature park is surrounded by fresh water, so it is home to an abundance of wildlife.

Take nothing but photos...

leave nothing but footprints



The Arbor Day Foundation recognizes the City of Largo as a Sterling Tree City.

The Arbor Day Foundation awards approximately 20 Sterling Tree City awards each year nationwide. Largo is the first city in Pinellas County to receive this award, and 13th in the state of Florida. For more information about the Largo Parks Division, call 727-586-7415 or visit LargoParks.com.

Learning with the Times

Take the science challenge

Find six examples of items advertised in the *Tampa Bay Times* that are packaged in a way that is not harmful to the environment. For each item, explain whether you think the packaging is more or less expensive than if the item were packaged in a manner that ignored the environment. Next, find one item advertised in the *Times* that is packaged in a wasteful way. Design a better product package for that item. Describe your idea and illustrate it. Include what objections there may be to your idea, if any, and how you would respond to those objections. Share your information with your classmates.



Largo parks recycle. Look for recycling containers on your next visit to our nature and recreational parks!



Not-So-Fun

FACT:

Americans use an average of 2.5 million plastic bottles every hour! That's more than 200,000 plastic bottles every five minutes.

We can help!

Reusing bottles is not only good for the environment, but it also is good for your wallet. Use less and recycle the rest. LargoRecyclesMore.com

Word Jumble

- CANS
- CARDBOARD
- CARTONS
- GLASS
- METAL
- PAPER
- PLASTIC
- RECOVERY
- RECYCLE
- REDUCE
- REUSE

P	A	M	B	T	W	U	N	K	D	U	E	G	E	E	S	R	N	K	P
S	C	I	T	S	A	L	P	S	L	V	C	H	N	R	P	T	V	V	B
Z	V	A	R	C	A	D	X	E	Y	K	U	E	M	X	A	E	G	L	D
Z	R	B	E	Z	M	G	E	I	Y	C	D	R	X	H	P	L	V	H	R
D	D	K	C	P	W	S	T	L	A	S	E	P	D	M	O	Y	B	L	R
S	R	W	O	X	X	R	M	R	K	L	R	F	A	Q	X	I	I	Z	V
V	M	B	V	I	Q	J	T	S	R	M	V	V	A	P	B	S	N	D	N
I	C	Q	E	X	B	O	S	N	E	L	B	Y	F	U	E	K	G	O	E
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C	E	F	V	F	P	G	X	N	L	X	V	J	I	L	B	M	V	P	P
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F	J	W	S	S	Q	A	R	S	F	E	T	Q	G	Y	U	K	L	B	N
E	L	L	R	B	X	U	R	R	C	Y	P	R	F	R	K	P	V	Z	G
T	I	S	P	M	C	V	F	D	B	N	E	K	Z	N	F	R	J	A	B