





# 2023

# **EVERYTHING CLEAN AND DRY**

- no caps
   no lids
   no straws
   no food
  - no shredded paper
     no plastic bags

# **PLASTIC**



## **METAL**



## **CARTONS**



## PAPER &





# What does NOT belong in my recycle bin? When in doubt, leave it out.



**PLASTIC BAGS OR BAGGED RECYCLING** 



**CLOTHING** 



**YARD** WASTE



**FOAM PACKAGING PRODUCTS** 



PAPER TOWELS, TISSUES OR NAPKINS



WIRES, CORDS OR HOSES



**FOOD WASTE OR FOOD RESIDUE** 



Read the article "Reader Profile: Stephanie Watson" at digital.mswmanagement.com/articles/stephanie-watson.

Next, research recycling-related careers using the Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook Handbook at bls.gov/ooh and Career One Stop at careeronestop.org/ GreenCareers/ExploreGreenCareers/recycling-waste.aspx. Select an occupation that seems interesting to you and answer the following questions:

- · How does the occupation fit your skills and interests?
- What will you be doing in the occupation?
- What is the necessary education and/or training?
- How many jobs are there in the occupation currently?
- Is the occupation projected to grow, decline or remain unchanged? Why?
- How much does this occupation pay? What do the top 10 percent earn? The bottom 10 percent?

Visit the Pinellas County Solid Waste careers page at Pinellas.gov/discover-a-career-with-pinellas-countysolid-waste. Are there any openings for the occupation you're interested in?

GOING BEYONG THE TEXT ACTIVITY

Using the article you read above and the articles in the business section of the Tampa Bay Times as models, write a news article using the information you collected to help others assess whether they would pursue a career in the selected occupation and why or why not. Present your findings to your class.

Adapted from: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Choosing a career: activity"

Florida Standards: SC.312.N.2.1; SP.312.VI.3.3; SS.312. FL.1.2; ELA.312.C.1.3; ELA.312.C.1.4; ELA.312.C.2.1; ELA.312.C.3.1; ELA.312.C.4.1; ELA.312.F.1.1; ELA.312.F.1.2; ELA.312.F.1.3; ELA.312.F.1.4; ELA.312.R.2.1; ELA.312.R.2.2; ELA.312.R.2.3; ELA.312.R.2.4

An avoidable task: workers cut plastic bags off equipment at a local MRF.



# **CURBSIDE RECYCLING**

| City | //Towi | n |
|------|--------|---|
|      | ,,     | - |

**Belleair •** 727-588-3769 ext. 406 • townofbelleair.com

**Belleair Beach •** 727-595-4646 ext. 120 • <u>cityofbelleairbeach.com</u>

Belleair Bluffs • 727-584-2151 • belleairbluffs.org

Belleair Shore • 727-593-9296 • belleairshore.com

Clearwater • 727-562-4920 • myclearwater.com/recycling

Dunedin • 727-298-3215 • dunedingov.com

Gulfport • 727-893-1089 • mygulfport.us\*

Indian Rocks Beach • 727-595-6889 • indian-rocks-beach.com

**Indian Shores •** 727-595-4020 • myindianshores.com

Kenneth City • 727-498-8948 • kennethcityfl.org

Largo • 727-587-6760 • largorecycles.com

Madeira Beach • 727-543-8154 • madeirabeachfl.gov

North Redington Beach • 727-391-4848 • townofnrb.com\*\*

Oldsmar • 813-855-5257 • myoldsmar.com

Pinellas Park • 727-369-0690 • pinellas-park.com

**Redington Beach • 727-391-3875 • townofredingtonbeach.com** 

Redington Shores • 727-397-5538 • townofredingtonshores.com

Safety Harbor • 727-724-1550 ext. 2002 • cityofsafetyharbor.com

Seminole • 727-397-6383 ext. 3 • myseminole.com

South Pasadena • 727-384-0701 • mysouthpasadena.com

St. Petersburg • 727-893-7838 • stpete.org/recycle

St. Pete Beach • 727-363-9243 • stpetebeach.org

**Tarpon Springs** • 727-943-4837 • ctsfl.us/sanitation

Treasure Island • 727-547-4575 ext. 250 • mytreasureisland.org

#### Unincorporated

Coastal Waste and Recycling • 727-561-0360 • coastalwasteinc.com

County Sanitation • 727-522-5794 • countysanitationservice.com

D and D Hauling - Sanitation • 727-586-6416 • dndhauling.com

**Solar Sanitation •** 727-535-0447 • <u>solarsanitationinc.com</u>

**Superior Trash Service • 727-254-0664 • superiortrashservice.com** 

Tote Enterprises, Inc. • P.O. Box 10033 • Largo, FL 33773 • (727) 422-0736

Waste Connections • 727-572-6800 • wasteconnections.com/pinellas

Waste Management • 727-572-8779 • wm.com

Waste Pro • 727-452-5278 • wasteprousa.com/office/clearwater

\* Recyclables are collected in two separate bins. Glass is not accepted curbside.

\*\* Call for information about recycling collection assistance.

4 Tampa Bay Times/NIE

#### **Bin Request**

City • 727-588-3769 ext. 401

Hauler • 727-572-8779

Hauler • 727-572-8779

Hauler • 727-572-6800

City • 727-562-4920

City • 727-298-3215

City • 727-893-1089

City • 727-595-6889

Hauler • 727-572-6800

Hauler • 727-452-5278

City • 727-587-6760

City • 727-543-8154

Hauler • 727-452-5278

City • 813-855-5257

City • 727-369-0690

Hauler • 727-572-6800

Hauler • 727-572-6800

City • 727-724-1550 ext. 2002

Hauler • 727-452-5278

Hauler • 727-572-6800

City • 727-893-7838

Hauler • 727-572-6800

City • 727-943-4837

City • 727-547-4575 ext. 250

In Pinellas County, garbage and recycling collection services are managed independently by municipalities (incorporated areas) and County-licensed private haulers (unincorporated areas). Pinellas County does not offer garbage or recycling collection service except in the east Lealman community.

For more information, visit <u>Pinellas.gov/garbage-and-recycling-collection</u>



GOING BEYONG THE TEXT ACTIVITY

#### **WASTE HIERARCHY**

The EPA's waste management hierarchy ranks the various waste management strategies from most to least environmentally preferred. The hierarchy places emphasis on reducing, reusing, recycling and composting as key to sustainable materials management. These strategies reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change.

Working individually or in pairs, create a comic strip that demonstrates the "four Rs": citizens reduce, reuse, and recycle, and Pinellas County's Waste-to-Energy Facility recovers metals and energy from the remaining waste. This is further explained on Page 5. For example, a person buying bananas at the grocery store and choosing not to bag the bananas would demonstrate the concept of reduce. The comic strip should include four frames, one for each of the four Rs, and they should be placed in the correct hierarchy. Use the comics in the e-Edition of the Tampa Bay Times as inspiration.

Florida Standards: SC.912.L.17.14; SC.912.L.17.16; G.K12.5.1.3c; ELA.312.C.1.3; ELA.312.C.1.4; ELA.312.C.2.1; ELA.312.C.3.1; ELA.312.C.4.1; ELA.312.F.1.1; ELA.312.F.1.2; ELA.312.F.1.3; ELA.312.F.1.4; ELA.312.R.2.1; ELA.312.R.2.2; ELA.312.R.2.3; ELA.312.R.2.4; VA.312.C.1.1; VA.312.O.2.1; VA.312.O.3.1

What's the best way to get rid of something?









**Source Reduction & Reuse** 

he EPA's waste management hierarchy ranks the most preferred to least preferred ways to manage our waste.

Source reduction and reuse is all about not creating as much waste in the first place. Examples include buying only what you need and donating or gifting usable

**Recycling and composting** turn the waste we do create into new materials. For example, a plastic water bottle may become a park bench in a new life, while composting food scraps creates nutrient-dense soil.

Pinellas County's Waste-to-Energy Facility burns garbage to create energy, which is an example of energy **recovery**. This reduces the volume of waste by 90 percent, which saves space in the county's one and only landfill.

Finally, treatment and disposal, or landfilling, is the least preferred way to manage our waste. Burying things in a landfill means they are there forever, taking up space and wasting resources.

**Recycling/Composting** 

**Energy Recovery** 

Treatment & **Disposal** 

# **How do I know** what my options are?

You're in luck! The Where Does it Go? Search Tool offers quick and helpful quidance about what to do with an item you're looking to get rid of in Pinellas County.

The searchable database includes hundreds of materials and local instructions for reuse, recycling and disposal.



Visit Pinellas.gov/wheredoesitgo or scan this QR code to start searching!

# Where Does it Go? Search Tool



|  | ¾ English ∨ ▼                 | ☐ Share   ✓ |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Q</b> Where Does it Go?   | Need help?                    |             |
|  |                               |             |
| Type the name of the item you w<br>reuse, recycle, or dispose of it. | ant to get rid of to find the | best way to |

# RECYCLING DROP-OFF

#### **BELLEAIR**

16 John J. Osborne Public Works Building • 1075 Ponce de Leon Blvd.

#### **DUNEDIN**

- Highlander Park Recycling Site Ed Eckert Dr., across from Highlander Pool
- Lake Haven Recycling Center 817 Lake Haven Road

#### **CLEARWATER**

- 14 Clearwater Solid Waste Facility 1701 N Hercules Ave.
- Pinellas County Government Center 29582 U.S. 19 N, west side, south of Curlew Road
- Sand Key Park 1060 Gulf Blvd.
- Walmart 23106 U.S. 19 N, southeast corner of parking lot

#### **GULFPORT**

38 49th Street Neighborhood Center • 1617 49th St. S

#### **INDIAN ROCKS BEACH**

- **Brown Park Bay Boulevard and Second Street**
- Indian Rocks Beach Nature Preserve 903 Gulf Blvd.
- Indian Rocks Historical Museum 203 Fourth Ave.
- Kolb Park 1507 Bay Palm Blvd.

#### **INDIAN SHORES**

Indian Shores Town Hall • 19305 Gulf Blvd.

#### **LARGO**

- Bank of America 10900 Seminole Blvd.
- Hamlin Boulevard 4-H 14644 113th Ave. N
- Pinellas County Extension 12520 Ulmerton Road, north of Ulmerton Road, entrance on 125th St. N Frontage Road
- Starkey Road Recycling Center 1551 Starkey Road, north of Ulmerton Road, south of East Bay Drive
- Tri-City Plaza U.S. 19 N and East Bay Drive, behind Ross store 24

#### **PALM HARBOR**

- Curlew Retention Pond 1740 Curlew Road, between Belcher Road and CR 1
- John Chesnut Sr. Park 2200 East Lake Road
- William E. Dunn Water Reclamation Facility 4111 Dunn Dr., Off Alt U.S. 19 N

#### **REDINGTON SHORES**

Redington Shores Town Hall • 17425 Gulf Blvd.

#### SAFETY HARBOR

- Safety Harbor Fire Station 53 · 3095 McMullen-Booth Road
- Safety Harbor Public Works 1200 Railroad Ave.

#### **SEMINOLE**

Lake Seminole Park • 10015 Park Blvd., east of Seminole Boulevard



#### **READING CHARTS AND MAPS**

Using the information on the cover of this publication, make a list of items you use on a daily, weekly and monthly basis that can be recycled in Pinellas County.

While all municipalities have recycling collection, not all multi-family properties (such as apartments and condominiums) or commercial properties (such as schools, offices or warehouses) have this service. Use the chart on Pages 6-7, the map on Page 7, or scan the QR code on Page 7, to find the closest drop-off recycling site to your school, parents' workplace or your home.

Finally, identify one item that you use daily that is not recyclable in Pinellas County. Use the Where Does it Go? Search Tool at Pinellas.gov/wheredoesitgo to find out how you should get rid of of it in the most environmentally friendly way.

As a class, discuss your findings.

Florida Standards: SS.312.A.1.2; SS.312.G.1.1; SS.312.G.1.4; ELA.312.C.1.3; ELA.312.C.1.4; ELA.312.C.2.1; ELA.312.C.3.1; ELA.312.C.4.1; ELA.312.F.1.1; ELA.312.F.1.2; ELA.312.F.1.3; ELA.312.F.1.4; ELA.312.R.2.1; ELA.312.R.2.2; ELA.312.R.2.3; ELA.312.R.2.4



# CENTERS

#### ST. PETERSBURG

City of St. Petersburg Recycling/Brush Sites:

- 30 • 1000 62nd Ave. NE
- 35 • 7750 26th Ave. N
- 2453 20th Ave. N
- 2500 26th Ave. S
- 4015 Dr. MLK Jr. St. S 37
- Clearview United Methodist Church 4515 38th Ave. N
- Crescent Lake Park 1320 Fifth St. N 31
- 29 Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste • 2855 109th Ave. N
- St. Petersburg Municipal Marina 300 Second Ave. SE **32**

#### **TARPON SPRINGS**

- A.L. Anderson Park 39699 U.S. 19 N, between Klosterman Road and Tarpon Avenue
- **Brooker Creek Education Center 3940 Keystone Road**
- Tarpon Springs Fire Rescue Station 70 1023 Gulf Road
- Tarpon Springs Yard Waste Facility 898 S Levis Ave.

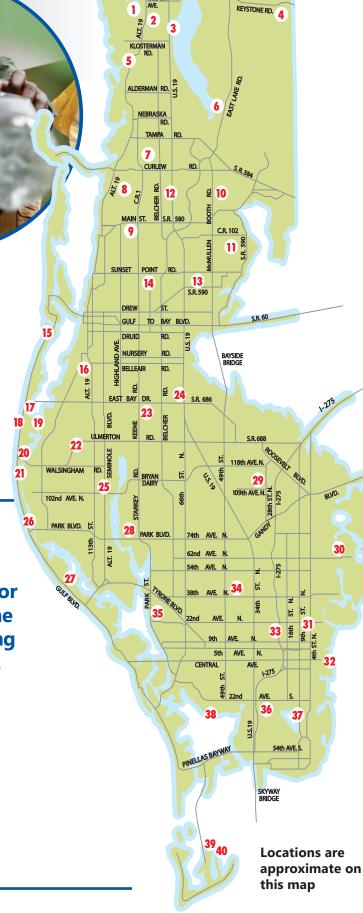
#### **TIERRA VERDE**

- 39 Fort De Soto Park boat ramp overflow parking area - 3600 Pinellas Bayway S
- Fort De Soto Park campground 3500 Pinellas Bayway S



Scan this QR code for an interactive online map of the Recycling **Drop-Off Centers.** 





# **HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL** COLLECTION

Jordan (left) and Ervin (below) are assisting customers at at a Mobile Collection Event.

**CONVENIENT OPTIONS:** 

Pinellas.gov/household-chemical-collection/

#### HEC3:

For hours of operation, visit website or call (727) 464-7500 2855 109th Ave. N St. Petersburg 33716

**MOBILE COLLECTION EVENTS:** 

**Select Saturdays** 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

It's easy to drop off your unwanted chemicals at HEC3. Drive up to the stop sign, turn off your car, and unload the chemicals onto the cart. Helpful staff are there to assist!

Government-issued ID required for proof of residency.

For information about business waste disposal, visit Pinellas.gov/bizwaste.

Trained staff like Edwin (center) and Luis (below right) properly sort and store the chemicals



GOING BEYONG THE TEXT ACTIVITY

#### RECHARGEABLE BATTERY DISPOSAL

Watch the PBS NOVA video "Lithium's Properties and Power Potential" at florida. pbslearningmedia.org/resource/nvsb-sci-<u>licell/wgbh-nova-search-for-the-super-</u> battery-inside-a-lithium-metal-cell/.

A 2021 EPA report found 245 fires caused by lithium metal or lithium-ion batteries between 2013 and 2020 at 64 waste facilities. The fires happen at Materials Recovery Facilities, in transportation vehicles such as garbage trucks, and at garbage disposal facilities. For example, in April 2022, it took first responders roughly 26 hours to fully contain a fire most likely caused by a lithium-ion battery explosion at a scrap metal facility in Manatee County. Read and watch the WTSP story "Plant manager: Lithium battery explosion sparked shred yard fire" at wtsp.com/ article/news/local/lithium-batteryexplosion-sparked-shred-yard-firemanatee-county/67-38ebeae8-2e4e-46b1-8b93-4c99a2630a03.

The danger happens when machines compress and consolidate waste. This type of battery can be damaged easily and, when damaged, can start fires by igniting the surrounding materials.

Working in small groups, look through the Tampa Bay Times to find ads that you find persuasive. Using these ads as your models, create a newspaper advertisement that explains the importance of properly disposing of

rechargeable batteries and encourages Pinellas County residents to do so. Your goal is to grab the reader's attention and communicate a clear "Call to Action."

Florida Standards: ELA.312.C.1.3: ELA.312.C.1.4; ELA.312.C.2.1; ELA.312.C.3.1; ELA.312.C.4.1; ELA.312.F.1.1; ELA.312.F.1.2; ELA.312.F.1.3; ELA.312.F.1.4; ELA.312.R.2.1; ELA.312.R.2.2; ELA.312.R.2.3; ELA.312.R.2.4; SP.PK12. VI.9.11; WL.K12.AH.1.4; WL.K12.AI.1.4

# WHAT TO BRING



#### **AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS**

- Oils and antifreeze (Limit: 5 gallons)
- · Gasoline and diesel (Limit: 2 five-gallon DOT containers. No tanks.)



**PAINT PRODUCTS** 

· Paints/stains · Solvents (Limit: 20 one-gallon, 5 five-gallon)



#### **MERCURY-CONTAINING DEVICES**

- Thermometers Thermostats
- Fluorescent bulbs (Limit: 12)



**POOL & SPA PRODUCTS** 

- Chlorine Muriatic acid
- Cleaners/clarifiers



**CHEMICALS** 

- Adhesives/epoxies
- Aerosols Cleaners



**CHEMICALS** 

- Pesticides/herbicides
- Fertilizers Sprayers



**SIGNAL FLARES** 

· Marine · Road



#### **RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES**

- Including lithium-ion, mercury, nickel cadmium, and lithium
- Items with rechargeable batteries that cannot be removed



# Don't let a battery blow up the day.

Rechargeable batteries can cause fires if placed in garbage or recycling containers. Always take rechargeable batteries to a drop-off location. Use the Where Does it Go? Search Tool to find the closest one to you!



# Diving into the Artificial Reef Program

Pinellas County's
Artificial Reef Program
was started by fishermen
in the 1960s with the
hopes of enhancing
fishing opportunities.
It worked!

Today, the Artificial Reef
Program focuses on reuse.
The reefs are constructed from
environmentally safe building
and demolition waste, such as
concrete pipes, steel beams
or entire ships!

Artificial reefs improve fishing opportunities and create new destinations for scuba diving. These reefs provide valuable underwater habitats for marine life.

Pinellas County installed a series of artificial reefs from 200 yards to 38 miles off the gulf coast. There are 13 offshore reef sites and 29 inshore reefs.

Pinella County

Artificial Reef Map

Scan this QR code or visit Pinellas.gov/reef to access an online map of the artificial reefs.

GOING BEYONG THE TEXT ACTIVITY

### **ARTIFICIAL REEFS**

Watch the video "Pinellas County's Artificial Reefs" at <u>youtube.com/watch?v=cZhM9-o5cSM</u>. Use the information in the video, the information on Page 10 and the information on Pinellas County's artificial reef webpage (<u>Pinellas.gov/reef</u>) to compile a list of the environmental and economic benefits of artificial reefs. Next, write an editorial summarizing why artificial reefs are beneficial to Pinellas County. Be sure to back up your argument with specific facts! Use the editorials and opinion columns in the Opinion section of the Tampa Bay Times as examples.

Florida Standards: ELA.312.C.1.3; ELA.312.C.1.4; ELA.312.C.2.1; ELA.312.C.3.1; ELA.312.C.4.1; ELA.312.F.1.1; ELA.312.F.1.2; ELA.312.F.1.3; ELA.312.F.1.4; ELA.312.R.2.1; ELA.312.R.2.2; ELA.312.R.2.3; ELA.312.R.2.4; SPPK12.VI.9.11; WL.K12.AH.1.4; WL.K12.AH.1.4

# TAKE A TOUR OF THE **SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL COMPLEX!**

Learn about our vision of zero waste to landfill by 2050.

The 90-minute tour includes a classroom presentation where participants will learn about the importance of Pinellas County's vision of zero waste to landfill by 2050 and how you can help. It also includes a driving tour for an up-close look at the Waste-to-Energy facility, landfill and more!

# TOURS ARE OPEN TO EVERYONE **AGES 8 & OLDER**

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SIGN UP FOR A TOUR:

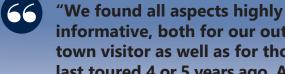
Call 727-464-7500 • Email recycle@pinellas.gov

Visit Pinellas.gov/educational-resources-garbage-and-recycling



#### **MEET OUR OUTREACH** TEAM!

(left to right) Leslie, Ashley, Emily, Jasmine and Stephanie



informative, both for our out-oftown visitor as well as for those who last toured 4 or 5 years ago. A lot has changed — and keeps changing."

— Richard B.



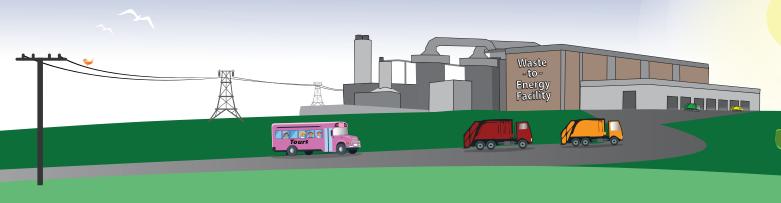
"Thanks so much for a great tour!"

— Laura T.



(6) "We had an amazing time! You're doing an incredible job and I'd love to stay in touch!"

— Caulin D.



#### **About NIE**

The Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education program (NIE) serves educators, students and families by providing K-12 schools with class sets of the Pulitzer Prize-winning Tampa Bay Times a "living textbook" – plus award-winning original curriculum supplements, teacher guides, lesson plans, teacher professional development resources and much more – all at no cost to schools, teachers or families.

In 2021-2022, NIE provided more than 10.5 million digital licenses and almost half a million print copies of the Times to area classrooms free of charge thanks to our generous subscribers and individual, corporate and foundation sponsors.

NIE is a member of Florida Press Educational Services, a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote reading and critical thinking, particularly for young people.

For more information about NIE, visit tampabay.com/nie, call 727-893-8138 or email ordernie@tampabay.com.

Follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/TBTimesNIE. Find us on Facebook at facebook.com/TBTNIE.

#### Florida Standards

This publication and its activities incorporate the following Florida Standards: B.E.S.T.: ELA.312.C.1.3; ELA.312.C.1.4; ELA.312.C.2.1; ELA.312.C.3.1; ELA.312.C.4.1; ELA.312.F.1.1; ELA.312.F.1.2; ELA.312.F.1.3; ELA.312.F.1.4; ELA.312.R.2.1; ELA.312.R.2.2; ELA.312.R.2.3; ELA.312.R.2.4 Geography: G.K12.5.1.3c Science: SC.312.N.2.1; SC.912.L.17.14; SC.912.L.17.16 **Social Studies:** SP.312.VI.3.3; Special Skills: SP.PK12.VI.9.11; SS.312.FL.1.2; SS.312.A.1.2; SS.312.G.1.1; SS.312.G.1.4 Visual Arts: VA.312.C.1.1; VA.312.O.2.1; VA.312.O.3.1 World Languages: WL.K12.AH.1.4; WL.K12.AI.1.4

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#### **Credits**

Written by: Sue Bedry, Times staff, and Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste staff

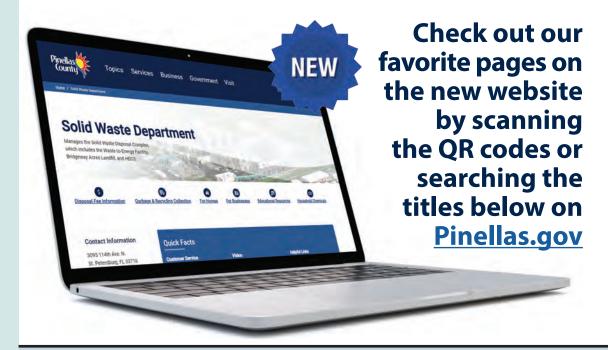
Curriculum activities by: Sue Bedry and Jodi Pushkin, Times staff

Designed by: Stacy Rector, Fluid Graphic Design

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A text-only version of this guide can be found at Pinellas.gov/recyclequide

EDUCATORS Share 100 words about how you used this resource in your classroom for a chance to win a \$15 gift card! Visit tampabay.com/nie for details and to enter.







# **Holiday and Gift-Giving Guide**

According to a survey by finder.com and Pureprofile, Americans spent around \$15.2 billion on unwanted holiday gifts in 2019, and 4 percent of them ended up in the trash. Learn how to host a sustainable party and gift low-waste items with this helpful guide.

# **Recycling FAQ**

Check out these Frequently Asked Questions to learn where your recyclables are processed, what the numbers on plastic containers mean, what Pinellas County's recycling rate is, and more!





tampabay.com/nie



# **Waste-to-Energy Facility**

Pinellas County operates one of ten Waste-to-Energy (WTE) facilities in the state of Florida. Visit this page to learn about the benefits of WTE.