

Your Community Connection

Vol. 1, 2013

News from Waste Management's Pine Tree Acres Landfill

Featured employee - Mike Kuzdal



Mike Kuzdal

Mike Kuzdal grew up in Richmond and is a graduate of Richmond High School. His mom, Marlene, is a teacher in Richmond Schools and his dad, Larry, is the manager of the local 1st State Bank. One of WM's biggest challenges is finding heavy equipment mechanics. When a mechanic has to pick between working on heavy equipment pushing dirt all day or a piece of heavy

machinery pushing everyone's waste, well, you understand the challenges we face. Today's heavy equipment mechanics often come from the Military, but in Michigan, Ferris State University offers a program Mike enrolled in after high school. Mike was able to intern for WM at Pine Tree Acres for three summers and graduated from Ferris State in May of 2012 with a Bachelor's Degree in Heavy Equipment Service Engineering Technology. WM is pleased to provide local employment to Mike who now serves as a full time mechanic/equipment operator at Waste Management's Renewable Energy plant at Pine Tree Acres.

WM encourages our next generation

Meet Jackson Bright, age 4. No, Jackson is not another WM featured employee of the month, but someday he may be! Jackson and his Grandmom Fran Chiodini live in Macomb Township. Fran called WM to see if we could arrange a tour for her grandson who is just fascinated by the WM garbage truck that services his home once a week for waste and recyclables. WM is happy to provide tours, and Jackson received a first hand educational experience about the work we do in keeping his neighborhood clean.



Jackson Bright

Jackson got to see the landfill operations and all the trucks that visit Pine Tree Acres on a typical day. Engaging youth in science and engineering early on in their development is important to their future career interests and WM is solidly behind encouraging the next generation of environmental professionals.

Visitors from around the world

The most interesting group of students Waste Management hosted at Pine Tree Acres Landfill in 2012 was a group of Chinese college students from Shanghai University, Wei Chang College. Wei Chang College is a prestigious college at the university; its students have the highest scores from the college entrance exams. **Macomb Cultural & Economic Partnership** (MCEP) hosted the visiting students for a two week study tour, taking them to cultural attractions like the Detroit Institute of Arts and Henry Ford Museum, plus visits to local state university engineering departments. The students stayed with



Shanghai University Engineering Students
(Dr. Ping Shuai is seated front row at far right)

host families from the greater Macomb community. As China's middle class economy has grown, so has waste generation in that country, so it was an important educational experience for them to learn more about proper management of solid waste.

Dr. Ping Shuai, their Chinese guide, is doing her research in the field of corporate social responsibility. She was serving as an adjunct professor at Oakland University while facilitating this educational experience for these students. "WM is a very good case for me to study" said Dr. Shuai.

Here is a summary of the things she and the student's were most impressed with:

- How WM supports programs to educate the next generation.
- How WM sets up a natural zone around the landfill, which improves working conditions for employees and the community.
- How much Waste Management cares about communities and maintains continuous dialogue with local citizens, helping WM stay in touch with the local people.
- How hard WM works to support sustainability of earth with projects like the Wildlife Habitat Program to support biological species.

WM received high marks in corporate social responsibility from Dr. Shuai, "The transition from waste to energy or to be recycled, is quite different from current Chinese practices. China is in transition period and is looking for better ways to solve its pollution issue, WM is a really good example".

Pine Tree Acres Landfill

36600 29 Mile Road
Lenox, MI 48048


Telephone
586-749-9698
Fax
586-749-6440

Call for current hours of operation as hours may change seasonally.
Monday-Friday 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Saturday 7 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Recycling Hours
Every day during normal business hours

For tours or public education presentations, please call 586-749-9698.

LANDFILL CONCERNS HOTLINE
1-877-360-8582
Please keep this number handy.

 Printed on recycled paper.



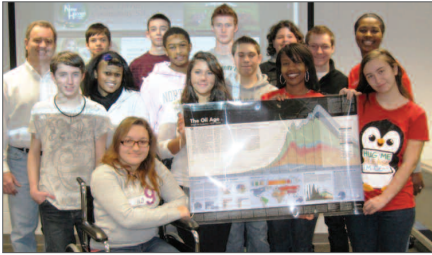
<http://pinetreeacres.wm.com>

THINK GREEN®



Pine Tree Acres Landfill
36600 29 Mile Road
Lenox, MI 48048

Visitors closer to home



New Haven High School Renewable Energy Class

New Haven Schools Superintendent Keith Wunderlich, Renewable Energy Curriculum teacher Felicia Holifield and New Haven School Liaison Natasha Williams recently toured Pine Tree Acres Landfill to get an understanding of how the local landfill facility can be incorporated into educational curriculums taught at their school. Pine Tree Acres will assist the

students in gaining a better appreciation of how the life styles we live create the waste we need to manage, and through technology, how waste can be transformed into renewable energy. It is always important for everyone to remember though, that reducing and reusing are equally as important as recycling and renewable energy!

Waste Management is all about Education

In October of 2012, WM provided educational stipends for teachers and MSU Environmental Education teaching students (pictured below). All attended the Michigan Alliance of Environmental and Outdoor Education annual conference held at the Kettunen 4-H Center in Tustin, Michigan. Outdoor and environmental education is documented to have an impact on student interest in the fields of science and engineering. It is a national sustainability measure to get students interested in these disciplines in their early formative years. Our industry relies upon these two fields of study to produce the next generation of environmental profes-



sionals. Each year, WM takes part in important efforts to raise student and public awareness around conservation and individual responsibility for environmental impact.

WM wishes to congratulate Michele Arquette, Streamleaders Education Program Director for the Clinton River Watershed Council. Michele was selected as the Chevy Green Educator of the Year for 2012. Michele is pictured second from left in photo at right.



MDEQ recognizes GM for its educational partnerships in 2012. L to R - Kathleen Klein of Waste Management, Michele Arquette of CRWC, Science Teacher Carol Bingeser of Scripps Middle School in Orion, MI and Jessica Alderton of GM Orion

WM named Top Ten Corporate Citizen

In October of 2012, Waste Management was pleased to be named a Top 10 Corporate Citizen in the category of "Service Industry" by *Corporate Responsibility Magazine* at its second annual Top 10 Best Corporate Citizens rankings Awards Dinner in New York City. *CR Magazine* is America's leading voice on corporate responsibility, providing case studies, analyzing best practices, and tracking trends

in the five primary segments of corporate responsibility: energy and the environment, risk management, governance and compliance, employee relations, and human rights.

For information on the 100 Best Corporate Citizens ranking and methodology visit <http://www.thecro.com/content/apples-apples>

