

Report of the Creation Care Ministry April 2010

In honor of Earth Day, the Creation Care Committee submits the following report to the parish on its efforts to make the parish a better steward of the environment.



Garbage Study: The dumpster is unloaded 5 times weekly. The Committee unloaded the dumpster and conducted a waste audit. The Committee discovered that a significant amount could be recycled. The Committee would like to recycle enough trash so the dumpster would only have to be unloaded 3 times per week. Currently the pick-up driver is determining if one of the pick-ups per week can be stopped. This would save the parish \$100 per month.



School Cafeteria Trash Study: The Committee worked with the student council on March 9, 2010 at lunch to determine how much of the trash at lunch could be recycled. The Committee concluded that of the 25 55 gallon bags of trash that are generated on average at lunch over 80% of the contents could be recycled. The team is working with SASWAMA (Summit Akron Solid Waste Management Authority) to understand what organizations could be of assistance to recycle the garbage.



Composting Coffee Grounds: Coffee grounds from the parish are now being composted.



Paper Recycling: Additional recycling bins have been placed throughout the parish and the school. We now recycle telephone books and cardboard. We now have a third green and yellow Abitibi bin. Due to the amount of paper that is being placed into the Abitibi bins, the parish has been recognized with additional rewards each month. The Committee is continuing to promote the recycling of paper by the parish, school and the parishioners. If we recycle 65.5 tons in April we double our earnings from Abitibi.



Can and plastic bottle recycling: From a donation the parish purchased 5 blue recycle bins for the parish and school. The boy scouts currently recycle cans. A parishioner currently recycles plastic bottles generated at the parish. Beginning in September of 2010 the parish will participate in SASWAMA's *Recycling a Work Program* and will begin recycling cans, plastic 1 & 2 and glass. Included will be an educational program to the parish.



Lighting: A lighting study was completed and motion sensor lights were installed in the bathrooms of the parish and school.



Weekly tips: The Committee provides weekly sustainability tips for parishioners titled *Care for Creation* in the bulletin.



Styrofoam cups: The Committee is working with various groups to decrease and hopefully end the use of Styrofoam cups at the parish.



Office supplies: After completing an analysis of the purpose of office supplies, the Committee recommended changes in the purchasing of copy paper.

