



Upper Peninsula Recycling Coalition

P. O. Box 1284 Escanaba, MI 49829

UPRC Elects New Chairperson

The Upper Peninsula Recycling Coalition elected officers at the Annual Conference held on October 10, 2002. Officers were elected for Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer positions.

Pete Rossato, Work Activities Production Manager for TRICO Opportunities, Inc. in Kingsford, Michigan was elected as Chairperson.

Pete has been an employee of TRICO for fourteen years and has held his current position for the past two years. TRICO recycles paper and cardboard at their facility under the Work Activities Program. Other activities include packaging, labeling, and stenciling items for area businesses, and with wooden sign making.

TRICO employs persons with disabilities, providing work skills training and implementing goals for each consumer to achieve their maximum potential.

Board Member Terry Banes invited Pete to a UPRC meeting in 1999. Pete then became a Board Member in 2000.

Fellow Board Members have been beneficial to TRICO's recycling program, offering guidance and support in TRICO's early stages. Continued support through networking and sharing of ideas has enhanced the program.

Acting within the Board, Pete helped set up the UPRC website [www.uprecycles.com] and has spoken at presentations offered by the UPRC and the Department of Environmental Quality on various recycling topics. He also attends recycling presentations/conferences throughout the State of Michigan, keeping abreast of recycling issues.

Pete feels it is an honor to be elected as Chairperson and is committed to helping the Upper Peninsula move forward in it's recycling efforts.

To find out more about recycling in your area, contact the UPRC using their website - www.uprecycles.com - or call Pete at 906.774.5718 with any questions you have regarding the UPRC, or to become a member.

Three U.P. Schools Receive "Young Recyclers" Award

During the October 2002 UPRC Conference, new awards were given to U.P. Schools. The "Young Recycler Award" was offered to programs that promote recycling in their respective school or community.

The St. Francis de Sales School in Manistique runs an "open-house" program, along with encouraging it's parishioners by having a drop site for recyclable materials available in their parking lot. Collected for recycling are newspapers and magazines. In a nine-month period from January to September of 2002, the program has collected nearly 65 tons of recyclable materials. The kindergarten through fifth grade school hopes teaching kids the importance of recycling will have a life-long effect.

Another school active in recycling is the Sault Area High School's Secondary Transition Program. The program itself has been in place for ten years and collects about 39 tons of materials annually. Paper, cardboard, and metal cans are collected through the program. Along with their efforts in collection of materials, students in the program are able to learn "hands on" at the recycling center, with summer employment options for some of the students.

The Republic-Michigamme Schools began a school-wide recycling program in January 2002. First grade students designed recycle boxes for each classroom and spoke to their fellow classmates on the importance of recycling. Over a ton of paper was recycled in a five-month period throughout the school. Emphasis on reuse and reduce were also a factor in the program as chalkboards were used instead of paper, when able, and some of the collected paper was used to make paper as gifts for the student's families.

The UPRC congratulates this year's winners! Winners received a \$100 cash award for his or her efforts.

The UPRC will be proud sponsors of the Junior Recycler Awards in the years to come. Any information you may know of is welcome and we will be happy to pass it along to our fellow recyclers.

The Evolution of the waste can



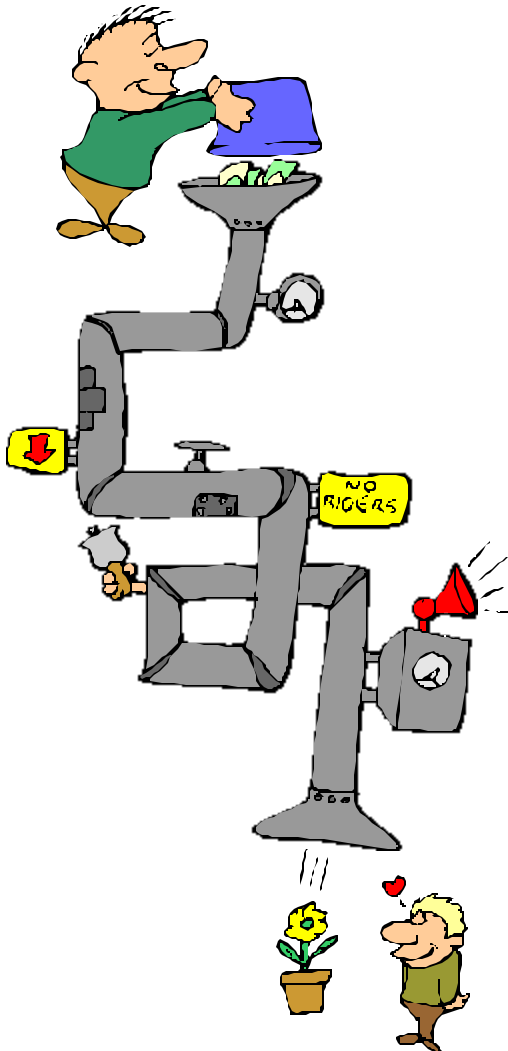
RECYCLER OF THE YEAR

Once again, the UPRC had excellent candidates for the "Recycler of the Year" Awards.

Mr. Ron Bloch of St. Ignace received the **2002 Individual Recycler of the Year Award**. Mr. Bloch started his recycling efforts in 1988 as part of a Comstock Park School District project. Mr. Bloch has continued his recycling efforts by recruiting people and organizing wherever he goes to recycle. Bloch said, "I have been an outdoorsman and conservationist all my life I believe strongly in stewardship of our natural resources, forests, and wildlife. In that sense, recycling has always made sense to me."

Great Lakes Pulp and Fibre was the recipient of the **2002 Organization Recycler of the Year Award**. Great Lakes Pulp and Fibre has a mill in Menominee, Michigan, and its business is producing recycled product. Process modifications enhance the Menominee mill's ability to produce premium de-inked market pulp using lower quality recovered paper as furnish in order to control costs.

The Upper Peninsula Recycling Coalition is proud to recognize two quality recyclers.



Know any RECYCLERS in your area?

If you know of a program in your area that is actively involved in recycling, or an individual who strives to make a difference in their community, let us know and they will receive recognition in our newsletter!!

Forward your ideas for articles via email to info@uprecycles.org or mail them to P.O. Box 1284, Escanaba, MI 49829-6284.

Help us promote recycling in the U.P. by getting the word out!

IRON COUNTY RECYCLING ACTIVITY PROGRAM

I was fortunate enough to tour the Northpointe Behavioral Healthcare Systems Iron County Activity Program where a recycling program is in place. The program consists of re-using shredded office paper to make greeting cards, invitations, note pads, and other types of stationery.

The program was started in 2000 to provide an activity for the consumers that Northpointe provides services for. Persons who have varying types of disabilities provide the labor for the program, with all the proceeds going back into the program and to fund different events for the consumers throughout the year.

Betty Anderson, Program Supervisor, stated that a lot of "trial and error" was involved in the initial set-up of the project. Today, Northpointe has a process that is efficient to run and is beneficial to their consumers, as they are able to perform most of the labor involved.

Northpointe has all-purpose cards available at the facility, and also manufacture custom items (wedding invitations, etc.)

For more information, contact Northpointe at 906.265.5126.

Pete Rossato