

Trash Talk!

Winter 2005



Adopt-A-Block

Is there an area in your neighborhood that you would like to help keep clean? Why not “Adopt-A-Block” that could use some tender loving care (TLC)? Clean City’s Adopt-A-Block Program helps beautify our neighborhoods and allows citizens like you and your families to take an active role in cleaning and greening the District. As a part of the Clean City Initiative, Adopt-A-Block offers a hands-on project for people and organizations, allowing those who take part to make a noticeable contribution to their communities.

At a recent Citizen Summit, over 3,000 District residents came together and many focused on the importance of clean communities. Citizens said that the government must do its part to keep the city clean, but recognized that government can’t do everything. Teamwork between government and citizens is key. Only by involving all residents and each community can we create a city as beautiful as we know the District can be. Success begins with one citizen and one community deciding to make a difference.

To be a part of **clean&greenDC’s** Adopt-A-Block Program, your group:

- Adopts a minimum of two square blocks of a residential area in the District of Columbia, including the alleys within the blocks and both sides of all streets in the adopted area.
- Agrees to “clean and green” the adopted area at least once every three months for a two-year period by conducting a cleanup day that gets the community involved. (Greening the area includes planting flowers, mulching tree box areas, watering trees, etc.)

When you, your family, or your group become involved and Adopt-A-Block, we all enjoy these benefits:

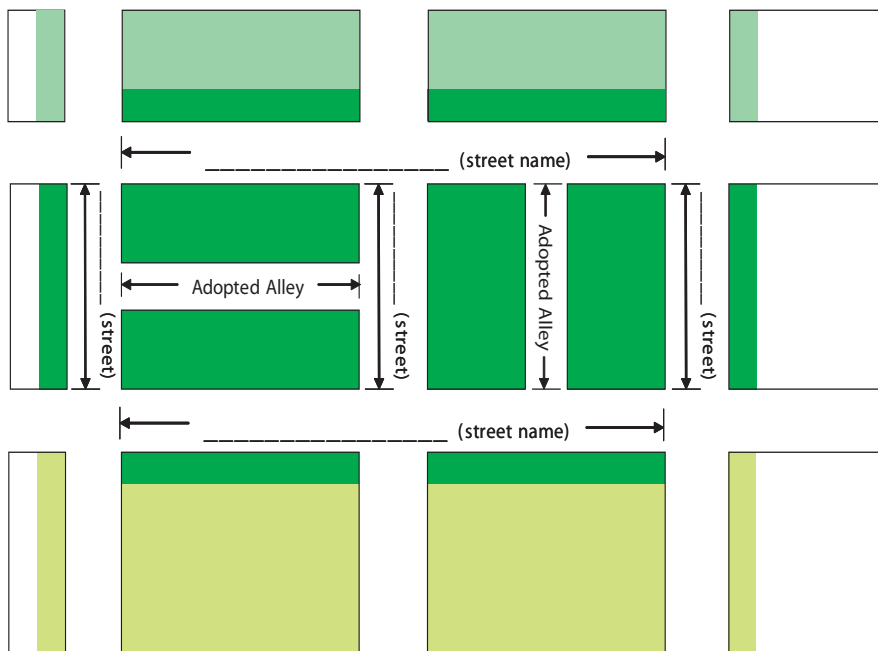
- Adopting a block reminds everyone of the importance of litter control. This program targets litter and illegal dumping throughout all neighborhoods.
- Litter-free, more attractive communities are created, helping to discourage unwanted and illegal activity.
- The quality of life in your neighborhood is improved. The appearance of our community contributes to the quality of life we all share.
- Signs with your group’s name let people know the area is being watched and cared for by concerned citizens. Your commitment shows the community that you care and will be an example to those who see it.

GreenDC Week 2006

In celebration of Earth Day 2006, numerous DC Government Agencies, non-profit organizations, and private companies will participate in GreenDC Week, which will be held



April 17–22, 2006. The events planned for GreenDC Week will educate the citizens of the District about the local environment and show them how to get involved in caring for and improving our environment. These community events will include opportunities for community service, easy actions that can help the environment, and ways to change harmful behaviors. Look for our events in your community and learn how your actions impact energy use, the economy, health, and quality of life in your community—Washington, DC.



Here is an example of a two-block, adopted area (shown in the dark green).

AND YOUR PINT IS?

In 1972, there were 21.75 aluminum cans in a pound. Today, there are 32 cans in a pound. The average 1-gallon milk jug weighs 30 percent less than it did 20 years ago. Making containers and packaging lighter, thinner, and less wasteful is called "lightweighting."

Circle the main purpose of this paragraph:

- Persuade
- Entertain
- Inform



A MESSAGE FROM THE ROMAN RUINS

Use the code below to learn how to reduce your waste.

L VI XL X MCM LXXX IV CI C CL XIX CD II
 a b c d e f g h i j k l m
 D XC V MD I M CM MM DC XV CX IX CIV
 n o p q r s t u v w x y z

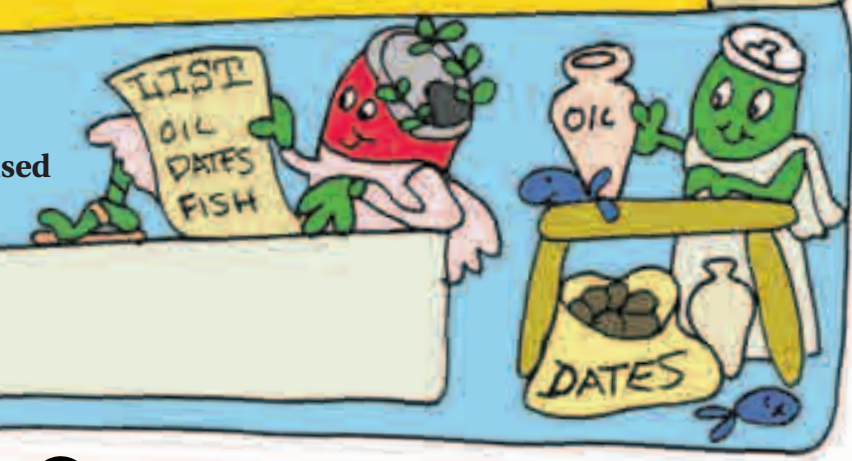
B
 VI MM IX XC D CD IX
 XV CI L CM IX XC MM
 I MCM L CD CD IX
 D MCM MCM X !

Now, add these Roman numerals and write your answer in Roman and modern numerals:

VI + MM + IX = MMXV 2,015
 XC + D + CD + IX = _____
 XV + CI + L + CM = _____

BONUS:

Sum the Roman numerals used for the coded sentence. Write your answer here:



BETTER IN BULK?

Use the numbers on the products pictured to fill in the blanks. (Hint: You will use each number once.)

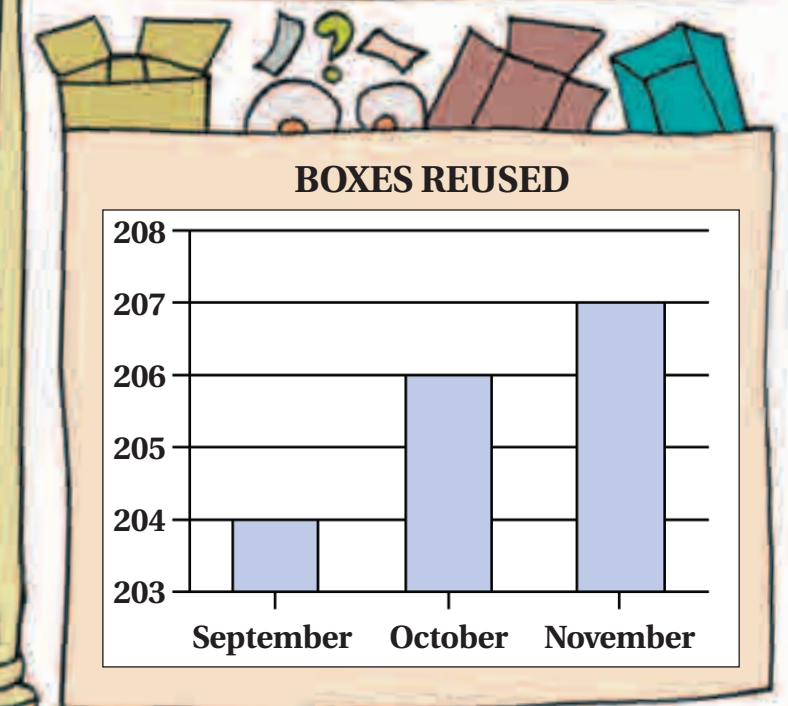
The Yummy-O's Family Cereal contains twenty 1.1 ounce servings. The box contains _____ ounces of cereal. A box of Yummy-O's Family Cereal sells for \$ _____. Each serving costs about _____ cents.

Yummy-O's Cereal for You contains _____ serving. The box contains _____ ounces of cereal. Each box costs \$ _____. A serving costs \$ _____.

Based on the numbers you filled in, which box of cereal is a better buy (per serving)? _____



MISREADING or MISLEADING?



Use the bar graph to answer the questions.

- How many times taller does the November bar seem when compared to the September bar? _____
- Read the graph. How many boxes were reused in November? _____
September? _____
- Compare your answers in #1 and #2. Could this graph be misleading? _____
If so, how? _____
- Create a more accurate graph at left using the same data. Be sure to give your graph a title.

+ - x

Read each problem. Then circle the correct number sentence, and write the answer on the line.

Minerva just found her favorite books, "Super Scary Stories for Exceedingly Brave Kids," at a used bookstore. Each used book is \$2.49. New books cost \$7.99. How much can Minerva save per book at the used bookstore?

\$7.99 - \$2.49 \$2.49 + \$7.99 \$5.50 - \$2.49

If Minerva buys three used books, how much will she spend?

\$7.99 x 3 \$5.50 x 3 \$2.49 x 3

If Minerva buys three used books and hands the clerk a \$20 bill, how much change will she get back?

\$20.00 - \$2.49 \$20.00 - \$7.99 \$20.00 - \$7.47



Littering Affects Water Quality in the District

Please don't litter or use storm drains (sewers) as trash receptacles! In addition to the unpleasant physical appearance, trash and debris dropped or dumped on public streets, private property, and rights-of-way often wash into storm drains (also called "storm sewers") and storm inlets. Everything you put in the storm drain or sewer goes directly into the Anacostia or Potomac River!



Trash in the storm drain (sewer) can cause problems.
(Source: DC Water and Sewer Authority website, www.dcwasa.com)



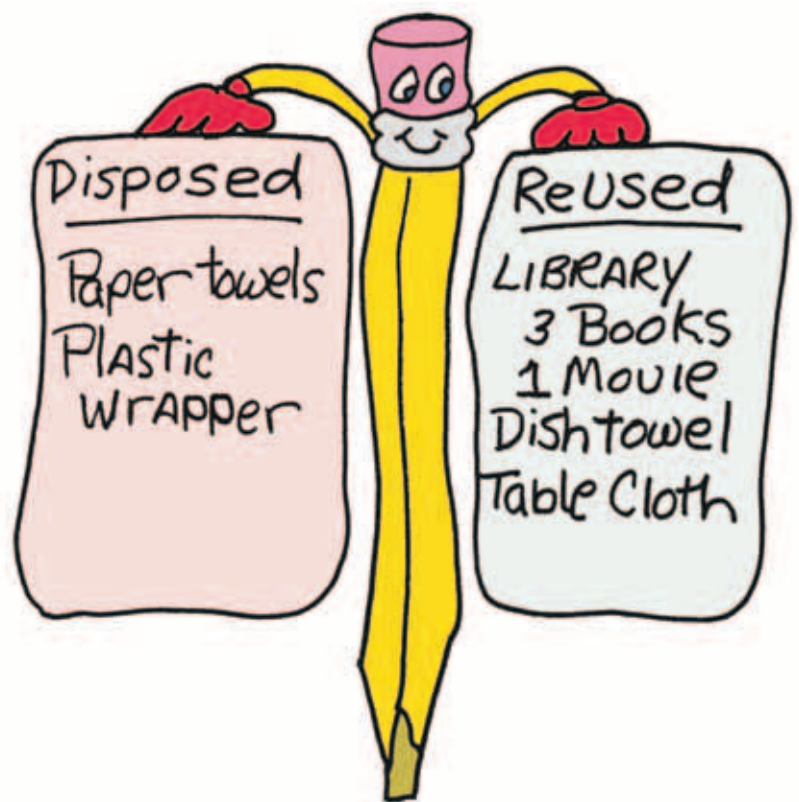
Don't use storm drains (sewers) to dispose of leaves and yard waste! Debris in storm drains or sewers can cause local flooding and increase the potential for dry weather overflows (see photos).

City services help you!

The Government of the District of Columbia provides city services that can help you, your family, and your neighbors. These services are available by calling the Citywide Call Center at (202) 727-1000 or logging onto www.dc.gov:

- Abandoned Auto
- Autumn Leaf Collection
- Bulk Trash Collection
- Dead Animal Removal

- Graffiti Removal
- Grass & Weed Mowing
- Illegal Dumping
- Litter Cans (Service)
- Parking Enforcement
- Rat Abatement
- Recycling Services
- Sanitation Enforcement
- Sidewalk Repair
- Street/Alley Cleaning
- Street/Alley Light Repair
- Street/Alley Repair
- Street Sign Repair
- Supercan Repairs
- Traffic Signals
- Trash Collection
- Tree Related Issues
- Yard Waste

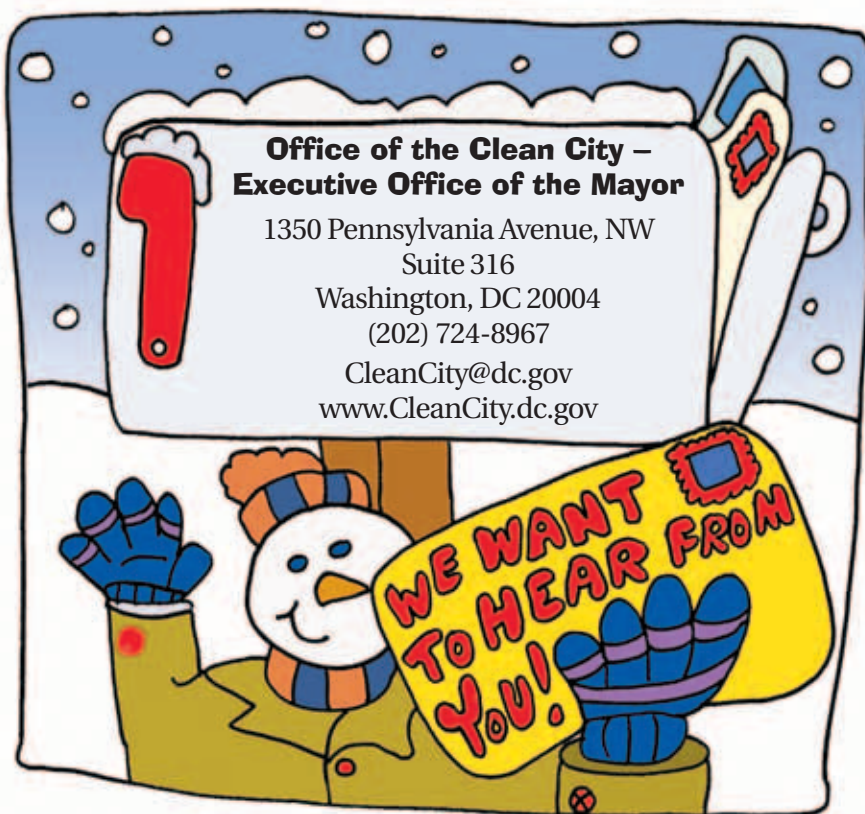


What is "reuse"?

Reuse is a valuable tool in the effort to create less waste. To reuse, you might select things that will last a long time and take good care of them. You could repair or mend something you already have. You might find a new use or a new home for an old item. For example, have you upgraded your computer instead of buying a new one? Do you take lunch to school in a reusable bag? Have you ever put new wheels on your inline skates? Do you borrow books, movies, and music CDs from the library?

For one day, make these two lists: things that you reused and things that you disposed. At the end of the day, look at your lists. Could you have avoided more disposables? Plan to reuse more tomorrow!

Do you want to learn more about where and how to reuse? Check the Yellow Pages or visit www.Earth911.org on the Internet.



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