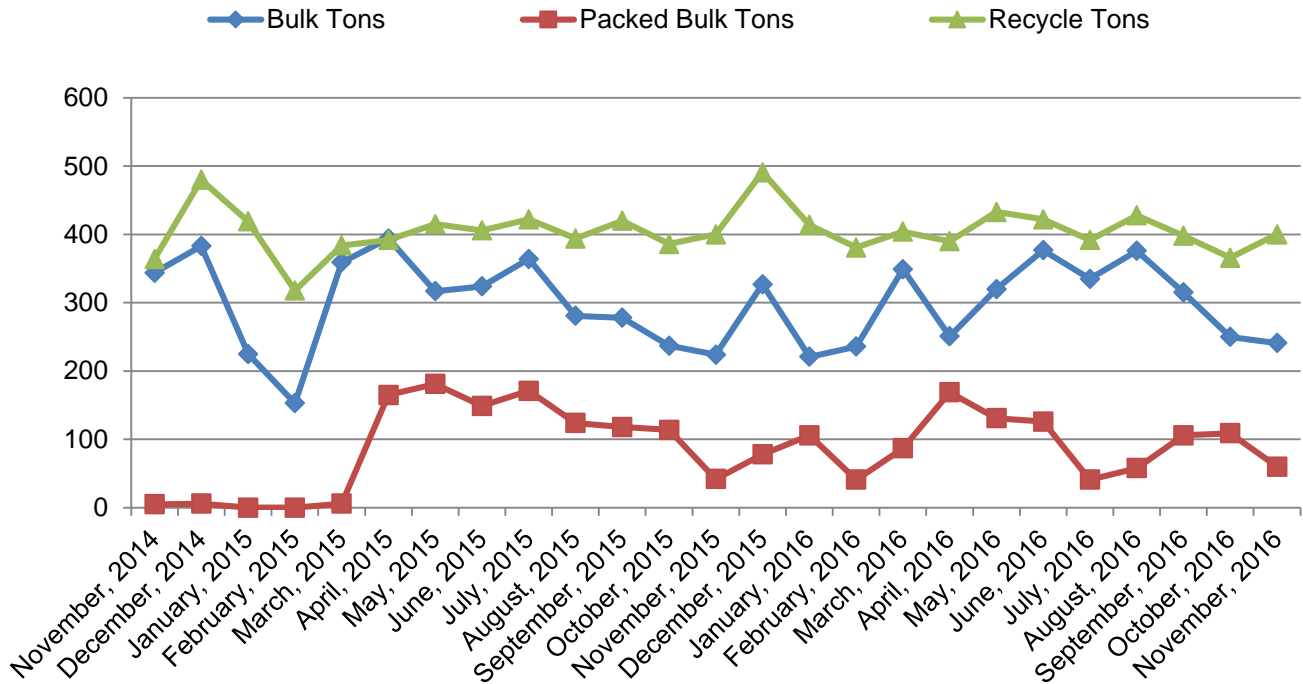


# Solid Waste Division

## 2 Year Refuse by Month



**Public Works Front Office**  
**The front office staff has processed the**  
**following permits during November 2016**

Engineering Permits	
Overweight Loads	22 issued permits for \$1,570
Dumpster/Traffic Control/Excavation/Erosion	8 issued permit for \$275 (waived \$60)
Erosion Control/Complaints Report	
New/Maintenance Erosion Control Inspections	88
New Erosion/Storm Water Complaints	6
Inspection & Complaint Files Closed	18

## Streets & Sewers

POTHoles	61
WATER DITCHES	18
CAVE-INS	9
PERMANENT ASPHALT PATCHES	14
INLET REPAIR	1
MAILBOXES	1

## Fleet Division

	<i>November 2015</i>	<i>November 2016</i>
<b>Work Orders</b>	366	447
<b>Total Repair Orders Closed</b>	339	398
<b>Preventative Maintenance</b>	27	49

	<i>November 2015</i>	<i>November 2016</i>
<b>Total No Lead Gallons</b>	15,488	14,894
<b>Total Cost</b>	\$27,305	\$27,585
<b>Avg Price per Gallon</b>	\$1.76	\$1.85

	<i>November 2015</i>	<i>November 2016</i>
<b>Total Diesel Gallons</b>	17,410	17,844
<b>Total Cost</b>	\$41,607	\$34,379
<b>Avg Price per Gallon</b>	\$2.39	\$1.93

	<i>MONTH</i>	<i>YTD</i>	<i>Budgeted</i>	<i>FY %</i>
<b>Parts</b>	\$48,059	\$292,330	\$586,085	49.87%
<b>Outside Repairs</b>	\$46,801	\$206,332	\$418,563	49.29%
<b>Fuel</b>	\$142,587	\$419,611	\$1,175,000	35.71%

# Solar Bloomington-Normal: A Shining Success!

33 homes and businesses in McLean county are installing 439kW of solar! As a result, they'll offset an estimated 831,000 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub>, and will save almost \$50,000 on utility bills in the next year alone.

Collectively, the program surpassed all three group-buy milestones (100kW, 150kW and 250 kW) which resulted in an additional 3% rebate for participants on top of the already lower than average negotiated group-buy pricing.

The program's success is due in large part to the strong interest and support from home and business owners like you. The numbers were also boosted by larger business installations at the new "Foundry" site under construction (future home to Green Top Grocery, Bloomington Cycle and Fitness, and the Gingerbread House) with a 124kW array and Varney Law with a 75kW array.

With the success of this program, the EAC hopes to continue to grow solar in our community in the future. Thank you to everyone who participated and congratulations on your new solar systems!

Solar Bloomington-Normal is a community-wide residential and commercial discount program for solar. Offered by the Ecology Action Center and the Midwest Renewable Energy Association, home and business owners all over McLean county participated in this program to help pool their buying power to secure significant discounts, making installing solar more affordable than ever.



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## Help Fight Climate Change - Support Climate Ride

In 2016 the level of carbon emissions reached a new threshold, never dropping below 400 ppm at any time over the course of the year; this is the first time this has ever happened during the human existence.

Average global temperatures continue to increase each and every year, to levels never



seen before. The first American climate refugees began their resettlement from Isle De Jean Charles, Louisiana to higher ground. Extreme weather events continue to increase in frequency. **The impacts of climate change are just beginning and much needs to be done to address the issue.**

The Ecology Action Center is working to do its part, educating local residents on ways to reduce one's footprint. But additionally, EAC is working to quantify our local greenhouse gas emissions and work on community-wide strategies to reduce those emissions. But these efforts take time and financial resources to bring them to fruition. [Recent political events are likely result in a sudden end to national leadership and regulations to address climate change](#); local action may become the main source of progress towards emissions reduction and adaptation planning.



Your help is needed; both in adopting more sustainable practices but also in [financially supporting climate initiatives](#). **Local cyclists Kevin Loseke and EAC Executive Director Michael Brown will bicycle 250 miles across Death Valley in February 2017 as part of Climate Ride**, an event designed to raise awareness of climate change and raise funds organizations working to address climate change, including the Ecology Action Center.

Climate Ride is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that organizes life-changing charitable events to raise awareness and support sustainability, active transportation, and environmental causes. Climate Ride events support a collection of beneficiary organizations including the Ecology Action Center and Illinois Green Economy Network that are working to engage citizens in the possibility of a green economy, educate the public about the interconnected web of environmental issues related to the climate crisis, mobilize government and businesses to enact sound energy policies that promote renewables, and raise the profile of green transportation.



**Please support the EAC's climate efforts through a tax-deductible contribution to [Climate Ride](#).**

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## Weatherize your Utility Bills!

Winter is coming. Time to close-up the house and fight off the cold weather. There are numerous ways you can keep warm and reduce your energy consumption this winter.



- Change your furnace filters and schedule regular maintenance for your heating systems to keep them functioning efficiently.
- Install a programmable thermostat, and set it at a lower temperature when you aren't home to avoid paying for heat you're not using.
- Cover drafty windows with plastic sheeting or heavy drapes.
- Open up the curtains on the south-side of your home in the afternoon on sunny days to let your house absorb some natural heat.
- Keep the damper on your fireplace closed when it is not in use.

For more energy saving tips visit the [BN Energy Bright website](#), and [schedule a low-cost energy audit](#) for your home or small business.

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## America Recycles Day is Actually Every Day

America Recycles Day is officially November 15 and in honor of the holiday, the Ecology Action Center holds a MEGA Recycling Event annually in November.

At this year's event on November 5, the EAC and its partners collected nearly 10,000 pounds of materials, which were saved from the landfill, thanks to a variety of programs. In addition to that accomplishment, event participants learned *that these items are recyclable year around!* So the good news is that you are never too late to take advantage of these recycling opportunities. Here are the details:



Home Sweet Home Ministries have great **residential e-waste** and **textiles** recycling programs. Their warehouse drop-off facility at 1700 W Washington Street in Bloomington is open 24 hours a day for recycling. Please check this link for details: <http://missionmart.org/participate/recycle-and-donate>. They also have textile drop off boxes throughout the community. Be sure to look for the white boxes with blue letters,

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and the proceeds from your donations will stay in our local community to help our neighbors.

The Lions Club collects a variety of items. They accept **eye glasses, hearing aids, Christmas lights, cell phones, keys, and printer cartridges**. Check their website for locations to drop off eyeglasses anytime: <http://NormallLionwap.org>.

Even though **plastic grocery bags** are easily recycled at every grocery store in Bloomington-Normal, many people took advantage of the one-stop drop off to bring LOTS of bags MEGA Recycling, filling a Prius completely three times for delivery runs to Kroger. Fun Recycling Fact: other **#2 and #4 film** are also acceptable in these bins. That means bread bags, sleeves from newspapers, dry cleaning bags and more. Be sure to take your “bag of bags” to the grocery store on your next trip. Have you ever wondered why these can’t go in the single stream containers with other plastic? The answer is that the bags get caught on the machinery at Midwest Fiber, where our single stream materials are sorted, causing mostly damage to equipment. The grocery stores send them directly to the factory where they will be shredded and turned into new plastic bags.



The **Terracycle** volunteers collected a wide assortment of items. Cereal bags, makeup containers, lipstick tubes, toothbrushes, granola bar wrappers... the list is astonishing. Please check the EAC website for the current list and drop off locations <http://ecologyactioncenter.org/waste-and-recycling/terracycle/>.

A newer recycling opportunity in Bloomington-Normal is the Kern Mattress Outlet. As the name suggests, they recycle **mattresses and box springs**. You can take items to their facility at 300 Beech Street, Normal or arrange for a pick up. They charge a small fee for pick-up service. For more information, go to <http://www.kernmattressoutlet.com/home.html>.

Two other programs that participated in our event also take items any time. Wall-mounted **thermostats** that contain mercury may be dropped off at the Town of Normal Public Works Facility, 1301 Warriner Street, Normal. And **corks** from wine bottles can be taken to the bin in the bar at Jesse’s Grill, inside the Marriott at 201 Broadway, Normal.



As always, please call the EAC or check out the website at [ecologyactioncenter.org](http://ecologyactioncenter.org) if you have any questions about recycling! Happy America Recycles Day!

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**For more information...**

Call us at (309) 454-3169 for information on our latest programs and events or to get answers to questions on recycling, household hazardous waste, clean water, energy efficiency, radon, and more!

[ecologyactioncenter.org](http://ecologyactioncenter.org)



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