

Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County News

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Send Your Middle Schooler to a Weeklong Summer Camp to Dive Into the Wonder of Waste

Promo Graphic: Attached

Middle school students are invited to participate in a one-week Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rethink (4R) adventure into the world of waste. The Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County's 4R Ambassador summer camp runs June 3-7, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily.

Campers will engage in hands-on activities and field trips to learn all about the environment from an integrated solid waste perspective. Activities will include behind-the-scenes access, allowing them to explore:

- a home chemical and recycling center that collects hazardous materials
- a landfill and its planet-protecting construction
- the Recovered Materials Processing Facility (recycling facility), where recyclables are sorted and processed for market
- Renewable Energy Facility 2, where trash is turned into electricity
- a transfer station, where garbage and recyclables are moved from small curbside trucks to larger tractor trailers
- the SWA Greenway Trail System and its wild inhabitants
- community partners, such as Resource Depot, Loxahatchee River District, and Grassy Waters Preserve

After students learn about the concept of "AWAY," they'll graduate as official SWA 4R Ambassadors. With this credential, they're encouraged to teach their family and friends how their waste behaviors can affect our environment.

The program is free; however, we encourage participants to bring an old electronic device to be recycled. Applications are due Friday, May 17, and will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Students interested in the week-long summer camp must have:

- Completed grades 6, 7 or 8
- Minimum 3.0 GPA (transcript from school)
- Membership in a school club (Environmental, SECME, Garden, etc.) and a letter from its sponsor
- Recommendation letter from a science teacher

For more information, visit swa.org/4r, call 561-640-8949, or email education@swa.org.

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About the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County

The Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County (SWA or Authority) is a Dependent Special District that was created by the Florida Legislature in 1975. Since then, the SWA has developed an award-winning integrated solid waste management system to handle the county's waste and recyclables. We call ourselves AWAY: whether you throw it, recycle it or flush it AWAY, we put your waste to work. Each year, we:

- Process 100,000 tons of [recyclables](#)
- Combust approximately 1.8 million tons of trash to generate electricity at [renewable energy facilities](#)
- Produce enough electricity to power approximately 90,000 homes
- Recycle more than 130,000 tons of [wastewater treatment residuals](#) (sludge from flushes) into an environmentally-friendly fertilizer amendment
- Safely recycle or dispose of almost 4.9 million pounds of [home hazards](#)
- Collect rainwater from the roofs of [Renewable Energy Facility 2](#) and store it in a 2-million gallon cistern, which is used as part of the energy making process

Anyone can [sign up on the SWA's website](#) to receive SWA news, calendar updates, job announcements or other web postings of interest. Should you sign up online to receive SWA's news releases, we can remove you from the distribution list by sending a reply with the subject "REMOVE" as a reply to this email.

Connect with the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County at [swa.org](#) or on social media: