



June 2011 Newsletter

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Join Gabriel for our annual Summer Cruise!



Enjoy the summer afternoon as we sail along the Chicago River and out onto Lake Michigan, enjoying drinks and food on our chartered ship, the "Summer of George".

Wednesday, July 20th

Boards at 3:00 p.m.

Sails 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Gabriel Gazette

June 2011

Chicago Offers Green Gardening Rebates

The City of Chicago's Sustainable Backyard Program is offering rebates to Chicago residents to encourage planting trees and native plants, composting, and reusing rainwater.



This program has the following rebates, up to 50% of their original costs:

- TREES (up to \$100 back)

The benefits of trees, beyond aesthetic appeal, include improved air quality; stormwater management; reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; and improved energy conservation

- NATIVE PLANTS (up to \$60 back)

Native Midwestern plants have evolved to thrive in our natural conditions and once established require little maintenance.

- COMPOST BINS (up to \$50 back)

Composting is a natural way to turn your fruit, vegetable, and yard waste into a dark, soil-like natural fertilizer for your garden, lawn, or indoor plants.

- RAIN BARRELS (up to \$40 back)

Up to 40% of the water used at home is spent on watering lawns and gardens during hot summer months.

Due to the ship's capacity, space is limited. Reservations are taken on a first-come, first-serve basis. Guests are welcome, but there is a limit of 2 people from each company.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Sara Scardina at 773-486-2123 or gabriel@gabrielenvironmental.com

Recipe Corner!



Summertime Tuna Pasta Salad

- 2, 12 oz. cans of tuna
- 1 package of shell or bow-tie pasta
- 1/2 cup Italian dressing
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 2 tbsp mustard (Dijon or yellow)
- 2 tsp dill
- 1/4 tsp pepper
- 2 tsp salt
- 1 cucumber, thinly sliced
- 3-4 celery stalks, thinly chopped

- 1) Combine the tuna, pasta, dill, cucumber & celery in a large bowl.
- 2) In a smaller bowl, whisk the Italian dressing, mayo and mustard together, until combined.
- 3) Add the dressing to the ingredients in the bowl and add the salt & pepper. Mix well.

Instead of using water from the tap, use a rain barrel to collect and store rainwater from roofs through a disconnected downspout.

Products must be purchased between September 1, 2010, and December 31, 2011. The rebates are available to City of Chicago residents only, and are not available to schools, churches, organizations or businesses. Funding for rebates comes from the [US Environmental Protection Agency's Pollution Prevention Program](#) and a [USDA Forest Service Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant](#).

For more information on this program or to download rebate forms, visit the [Sustainable Backyard Program's website](#).

Roofing Company Busted by IEPA for Asbestos Violations



Advanced Roofing, Inc. has been cited by the Illinois EPA for failure to properly test for asbestos prior to removal of roofing materials and subsequent improperly handling of the asbestos-containing materials during the removal process.

While working on a project in Yorkville, Advanced Roofing failed to obtain the proper demolition permit prior removing an existing roof and installing a new one. The Illinois EPA received a complaint that the roofing material likely contained asbestos but wasn't being handled correctly. Their inspector confirmed that the roofing materials did contain asbestos, and therefore the roofing workers were not treating the materials properly. They were being hauled in open wheelbarrows, disposed in unlined containers, and stepped on and broken by workers. Furthermore, despite having water access on-site, the materials were not watered down during removal, which would help prevent asbestos from being released into the air.

Advanced Roofing was ordered to hire a licensed asbestos abatement contractor to properly remove the remaining asbestos-containing roofing materials. The Illinois EPA has also turned over this case to the Illinois Attorney General for enforcement action. The roofing firm will likely be facing financial penalties for their illegal removal actions.

Be sure to properly remove asbestos before renovation

Advanced Roofing's case serves as a good reminder to

Marissa Ambrosius
2nd Place, Salad Contest 2010

Discounted Rain Barrels



The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District is offering discounted rain barrels to Cook County residents.

For \$51, you can purchase a 55-gallon rain barrel in blue, black, terra cotta, or grey. Sales are credit card only and must be reserved in advance. Pickup locations include MWRD facilities in Worth, Cicero, Skokie, and Schaumburg.

Visit the [MWRD rain barrel website](#) for the order form, pickup times, and more information.

properly test for asbestos before renovation of any areas that may contain asbestos (roofing materials, pipe insulation, floor tiles, ceiling tiles, etc.). The State of Illinois, City of Chicago and other municipalities require inspections and testing by licensed asbestos personnel prior to any demolition or renovation activities.

To learn more about the hazards of asbestos and how Gabriel can help you comply before your next project, visit our [asbestos webpage](#) or contact Steve Sawyer at ssawyer@gabrielenvironmental.com or 773-486-2123.

Source: IEPA Newsroom

EPA and DOT Release New Fuel Economy Labels

The U.S. EPA and Department of Transportation (DOT) recently announced new fuel economy labels, which will be standard on all new vehicles beginning with the 2013 model year.

The labels will feature an estimate of the car's fuel savings compared with the average car over five years, with the idea that consumers will be more willing to buy fuel-efficient cars if they know they will cost less in the long term. In addition to emphasizing gas mileage, the new version also includes information on the car's emissions. Each car receives a ranking on a scale of one to 10 for smog and fuel efficiency.



"Reducing consumption and demand for oil is best way to reduce pressure demand on fuel prices," said EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson.

For more information on the new fuel economy labels, visit fuelconomy.gov/feg/label/

Source: eponline.com