



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The City of Ruston Launches Ruston 21 Recycling Program

RUSTON, LA – The City of Ruston is taking steps to address the issue of recycling through the Ruston 21 comprehensive planning effort. Mayor Dan Hollingsworth states, “During our Community Visioning Day last November, several of our citizens voiced an interest in making recycling part of our focus, and we are working diligently on this topic.”

“The first step is for the city to incorporate recycling into its daily operations so we have partnered with Trailblazer Recycling to create an internal recycling program,” says Mayor Hollingsworth.

This city’s internal recycling program will be operational by the end of this month. The program consists of placing mixed- paper and aluminum can collection points throughout all city facilities, and the city will collect and deliver the recyclable goods to the Trailblazer drop off point at Wal-Mart.

Lewis Love, City of Ruston Public Works Director states, “it just makes sense to partner with Trailblazer Recycling. They have been in the recycling business for more than a decade and doing it in an eight parish region. By leveraging their expertise, we can avoid wasting time and money trying to get up to speed on this recycling effort.”

This initiative is being done in conjunction with the Household Hazardous Waste collection program that the city manages for the entire parish. The city of Ruston is implementing a dedicated collection site for local citizens to drop off their household hazardous waste which will be located at the Public Works Complex located at 701 East Tennessee Avenue. “We have always tried to be a leader in this region, and in order to lead, one must be willing to set an

example. The City of Ruston has been at the forefront of every conservation issue under my administration. We did it with the Sparta issue, the construction of our state-of-the-art waste water treatment plant, with our power and water conservation program that was implemented in our schools, and we will do it with recycling,” states Mayor Hollingsworth.

Ken Tipton, Ruston 21 project consultant states, “The goal of Ruston 21 is to prepare for the future, and the future starts today. Recycling is part of that future, but the citizens of Ruston need to realize that creating a recycling program takes time and money. We need time to figure out how to collect it and where to take the recyclables, and money to pay for the program. This first step in the Ruston 21 recycling initiative is just the beginning of the process. There are residents in Ruston that want a fully developed program today, but they don’t have to be concerned with the details of how to get there. Mayor Hollingsworth and other city staff actually have to deal with the realities associated with this topic, and I am very impressed with how they are handling it.”

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