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EDITORIAL: Get Blue

You can still participate in the recycling program, but please do it the correct way

The Lufkin Daily News

Wednesday, April 01, 2009

Many Lufkin residents, we're sure, simply forgot — or didn't know — to let the city know they wanted to keep recycling. Many, we're afraid, don't care.

Either way, the city on Thursday will begin picking up the blue cans of households that have not signed up for Lufkin's recycled recycling program.

The Lufkin Daily News supports the new Go Green and Get Blue campaign, which has led to a third of Lufkin's 12,000 households signing up for the program before the city begins repossessing the blue recycling bins from people who don't intend to use them.

It's sad that the city has to go to so much effort to change its solid waste and recycling workflow, but we are confident the new system will result in a much more clean and efficient process. Too many people have tainted the recyclable material with regular garbage. If you're one of those people, you don't deserve the privilege of using the blue can.

If you are not one of those people, but have not signed up yet to continue your recycling efforts, take heart: It's not too late. The city won't be able to pick up all of the unused (or improperly used) blue cans this week, by any means, and the city would love to have you back on board. You can even request one of the larger, 96-gallon blue cans that hold even more material. (The older cans hold 65 gallons.)

You can do so online at cityoflufkin.com/recycle, or by calling 633-0281. Once you're in the program, the city asks that you continue placing your blue cart curbside by 7 a.m. on your regular collection day. If you've asked for a larger blue cart, leave the smaller one by the curb until 5 p.m., since the crews wait until the carts have been emptied before they switch them out.

We encourage everyone in Lufkin to recycle, but only if you're going to do it the right way. If you can't play by the rules, please don't try to get your blue can back.



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