

# RECYCLING NEWS

2023 vol. 2

*Lower Allen Township*

## PAPER PLATE FUN FACTS

Where did the paper plate come from? Whose responsible for the modern convenience? Did you know these facts?

- The paper plate was invented by Martin Keyes in the early 1900's
- The first paper plates shipped in 1904
- Martin Keyes' company is now called Chinet
- Paper accounts for 26% of landfill waste
- Recycling 1 ton of paper saves approximately 17 trees and 1400 liters of oil
- consider chlorine free plates or those made of recyclable material



## Can You Make The Switch?

In the January Challenge, residents were asked to analyze their trash. What were you throwing away? Now that a few weeks have passed with time to analyze your trash, can you make a switch? What is in your trash that could be reduced? Do you use paper or disposable plates for every meal? Could you trade out those disposable plates one day? If you could make the switch for just one day, how much would you reduce your trash? One paper plate can take up to 6 months or more to decompose in a landfill. Factors like thickness, material, decorations, contamination, temperature, and moisture content can affect the decomposition of a paper plate in a landfill. Ceramic dishes are still the best option to reduce the trash. Are you trading convenience for green space?

**February Challenge = Trash < Recycling**