

# Patch Requirements

Do any two or more of the bulleted requirements (or make up one of your own), as per the best judgment of the leader/mentor for the organization. If you have questions on how to complete individual requirements, please contact the Monroe County Department of Environmental Services ([mcdes@monroecounty.gov](mailto:mcdes@monroecounty.gov)) for details. Contact DES to receive your patches upon completion of the chosen requirements.

- **Visit the Mill Seat or High Acres Landfill**

Both of these landfills, located in Monroe County, offer Scout Days to showcase their operations. Visit [highacreslandfill.wm.com](http://highacreslandfill.wm.com) or [millseatlandfill.wm.com](http://millseatlandfill.wm.com) for details. The Mill Seat Landfill's total property occupies some 385 acres. The footprint of the landfill is 98.6 acres. The construction cost was approximately \$60 million. The design capacity is for 1,945 tons per day. Stage one and stage two of the landfill includes 52.3 acres. Future stages will add approximately 46.3 acres. The site life is expected to last until 2018.



- **Survey Your Neighborhood Recycling Boxes**

Your Troop may find that some residents are not aware of all the materials that can be recycled here in Monroe County. The law states, in general, that **residents must** recycle tin and aluminum cans; glass bottles, jugs and jars; plastic bottles, jugs, jars and tubs; and newspapers, magazines and corrugated cardboard.

Visit [www.monroecounty.gov/recycling](http://www.monroecounty.gov/recycling) for the most up-to-date listing of materials that are acceptable in curbside recycling and [www.monroecounty.gov/ecopark](http://www.monroecounty.gov/ecopark) for a complete listing of what materials should be brought to the ecopark.

- **Start a Home Composting Project**

Take some individual action. Composting is the most environmentally-friendly way to handle your yard waste and can be easier and cheaper than bagging it. Compost improves your soil and the plants growing in it. If you have a garden, a lawn, trees, shrubs, or even planter boxes, you have a use for compost.

- **Host a Clothing Drive**

Reclaimed textiles can contribute considerably to reducing the impact of textile processes on the environment including the demand for chemicals, water and energy consumption (used heavily in the generation of new textiles). Local organizations provide a great outlet for these materials. Some of these companies will come to your door to pick up this reusable material and you may receive a receipt for a tax deduction. Remember: textiles must be clean, dry and odorless to be acceptable for recycling.

- **Promote a Household Hazardous Waste or E-Waste Collection**

Most household paint and chemicals are safe when used and stored properly. When disposed of improperly, household wastes can become environmental hazards. Monroe County provides residents with a way to safely recycle or dispose of this household hazardous waste (HHW) **free-of-charge**.

- **Research the Life Cycle of a Product's Packaging**

Chose a product and find out where the product life began, what raw material was used to create it, and then consider every conceivable phase of the material until its "death." This can be displayed in pictures, on a time-line, or you can write an autobiography of the product.

- **Visit Your Local Market. How Many Products are Recyclable or Made from Recycled Materials?**

Visit the market near by and check out all the products on the shelf. How many of them are recyclable? How many are made from recycled materials? How do you feel about what you find? After your research, write a letter to the market with your comments and suggestions.

- **Organize a Cell Phone Collection**

More than 156 Million Americans now use cell phones and many of them are teens. Like any product, making a cell phone uses natural resources and energy. Cell phones can also contain materials such as mercury, nickel-cadmium or lead acid. You can help minimize the environmental impact by reusing or recycling your phone. Local companies such as Imagine-It Recycling, T-Mobile and Radio Shack will also accept collected phones.