

BIRCH STREET RECYCLING COLLECTION CENTER

Albany Community Betterment Organization (ACBO) sponsored an Albany Town Hall meeting in January 2009 to gather data regarding our citizen's priorities for community projects. *Recycling common household materials* was of significant interest to all attending and had been identified as a priority during the 2006 - 2011 MOCAPP survey.

ACBO approached industries, the Albany RIII Schools, the City of Albany and several retail businesses for support, both financial and physical. Johnson Controls, Inc. donated \$1,000, the City wrote for and received a grant of \$12,375 and ACBO donated \$2,000 to launch "Birch Street Recycling Collection Center". Land and site preparation was donated by the City. Two commercial roll-off containers were purchased with Northwest Missouri Solid Waste Management District grant monies and fencing materials were purchased with ACBO monies.

In the fall of 2009 the Conservation Science class at Albany RIII Middle School attended a preparatory program at the "EmPower U" campus, designed to launch a community project. The class partnered with ACBO's efforts and the students chose "*Make A Scene – Go Green*" as their slogan for recycling. They researched and developed an education program to promote "how to" and awareness of the importance of recycling. Then they presented this program to other students, teachers, staff and community organizations. The class and members of the Albany community toured the Biomass Plant at Northwest Missouri State University and saw first-hand how our recycled products would be used to heat and cool the University campus. A pizza party celebration was held at the school after the student project completion.
