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Fall 2019

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Manitowoc County Recycling Center



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Mission Statement

To provide materials recycling and recovery services to the citizens of Manitowoc County and to keep the public informed about recycling issues.



COMPOST CLEANLINESS

Our community compost site needs your help to keep compost clean. While many people are mindful of what they drop off at our site, and observe our guidelines, there are people who choose to ignore them. The complete guidelines are listed on our website, on our main flyer, and on signs at both the Basswood and Woodland Compost Sites.

After randomly inspecting many loads, we have identified ways you can improve compost cleanliness:

- ♦ Follow our posted guidelines. If you have a questionable material that is not mentioned in our guidelines, then contact our main office for guidance. Some common violations include: ashes, logs, topsoil, sod, rocks, and concrete.
- ♦ Inspect your loads for non-acceptable materials. Often times these items are off loaded with brush, leaves, or grass clippings. Remove any plastic bottles, bags, pots, gloves, chainsaws, leaf blowers.
- ♦ Take your trash home with you. We do not accept any garbage at our sites. Even if it is just one bag.
- ♦ Start at home! When the curbside leaf or brush collection starts, make sure the materials that you put out are free of debris, because they end up at our compost site. Make sure your truck or trailer bed is clean before loading yard materials in it.
- ♦ Hone in on the small stuff. All those snivels of plastic add up.
- ♦ Do not create piles of stuff you think others will scavenge. This is not an exchange site! We do not want potted plants lined up along our fence, or large firewood piles in the middle of the site.
- ♦ DO not mix brush in with the leaves, grass clippings and garden debris. It should go in the BRUSH pile. Branches clog the screener when we sift finished compost.
- ♦ DO not mix leaves, grass clippings and garden debris in with the brush pile. Yes, we realize there are leaves on the branches, the point is to minimize the material we need to chip since it is a large expense.

Your efforts help us run more efficiently. Keeping compost clean saves staff time, disposal fees, hauling expenses, screening and grinding costs, and helps create better end products.



Manitowoc County Recycling Center & Compost Sites
3000 Basswood Road, Manitowoc WI
920-683-4333

Manitowoccounty.com/recyclingcenter



COMPOST SITE UPDATE

Beginning November 16 the Basswood Road and Woodland Drive Compost Sites will have new operating hours. The Basswood Road Compost Site will be open Monday-Friday, 7:00 am to 4:00 pm and Saturday from 8:00 am until noon.

Beginning November 16, the Woodland Drive Compost Site will be closed until April 2020. Beginning November 1, the Recycling Center Main Office will be closed on Saturdays and will reopen on Saturdays beginning April 2020. Both the Basswood Road and Woodland Drive Compost Sites are available for drop off of acceptable yard materials during the posted hours. When using the compost sites drive slow and watch for traffic. It is advisable to avoid using the compost sites during or after heavy rains since they can easily become rutted and slippery. Do not use the compost sites outside of the posted hours.

Accepted Items: Grass, leaves, flowers, plants, pumpkins, fruits, vegetables, garden waste, yard waste, brush, branches (not more than 6 inches in diameter or longer than 5 feet), clean woodchips, clean saw dust, and natural holiday trees.

Unacceptable Items: Stumps, ashes, animal waste, sod with soil, topsoil or dirt, rocks, gravel, lumber, garbage, large branches greater than 6 inches in diameter or longer than 5 feet.

Loads may be subject to inspection by Recycling Center staff. Illegal dumping is subject to fine per Manitowoc Code Section 6.17. Placing unaccepted items in an otherwise designated recycling container or pile is considered illegal dumping and is subject to fine. The sites are monitored by video surveillance. If you have questions about a particular material, call 683-4333 and ask.

BASSWOOD COMPOST SITE

3000 Basswood Rd, Manitowoc
Mon-Fri 7am-4pm
Sat 8am-4pm

WOODLAND COMPOST SITE

4191 Woodland Dr, Two Rivers
Mon-Fri 10am-4pm
Sat 8am-4pm

**COMPOST PRODUCTS**

Wood mulch and compost are available at the Recycling Center Main Office during the posted office hours. Purchases must be made before loading. Note that the office hours are different than the drop off site hours. Loading is generally available Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 3:30pm. Deliveries can also be set up within Manitowoc County. Call 920-683-4333 for more info.

**RECYCLING CENTER OFFICE**

3000 Basswood Rd, Manitowoc
Mon-Fri 7am-4pm
Sat 8am-Noon

SCREENED COMPOST PRICES

- 1 bushel: \$2.50
- 1 cubic yard: \$13.00
- 6 cubic yards including delivery: \$108.50

UNSCREENED COMPOST PRICES

- 1 bushel: \$0.50
- 1 cubic yard: \$1.50
- 6 cubic yards including delivery: \$39.50

WOOD MULCH

- 1 bushel: \$0.75
- 1 cubic yard: \$8.00
- 6 cubic yards including delivery: \$78.50

**HOME COMPOSTING**

Gardeners and homeowners, turn your household food scraps into rich compost for your garden or plants. Mix kitchen scraps and grass clipping with leaves and turn the pile occasionally until it breaks down. Not only does home composting provide excellent compost, but you can reduce the amount of materials going into your garbage. Large, 13-cubic foot compost bins with locking lids are available at the Recycling Center for only \$60.00 (tax included).

Stop by the Recycling Center at any time during normal business hours and take a look at our floor model. Educational resources for home composting are available as well.



Fall leaves can make a great addition to your home compost pile. Especially if they are shredded with a mower.

DRUG COLLECTION PROGRAM—TWO RIVERS HEALTH FAIR

The next drug collection event will be on Thursday, October 17th at the Health Fair at the JE Hamilton House in Two Rivers. The event runs from 8am to Noon and will also have educational booths, presentations, and health screenings. If you can't make it for the Drug Collection, don't worry... there is a permanent drop box at the Two Rivers Police station.

Participants should remove pills from the original container and put them in a "ziplock" style bag that is quart size or smaller. Pills can be mixed in one bag. Bring the bag to a law enforcement drug drop box or a drug disposal event. Please review the guidelines and follow them.

Guidelines:

- ◆ Accepted drugs include prescriptions, over the counter, pet medications, controlled substances, and supplements.
- ◆ Place pills in a "ziplock" style bag that is quart size or less. Liquids, cremes, and powders can stay in the original container with caps tightened.
- ◆ Pill bottles and boxes are NOT accepted. Cross out your personal information and dispose of them, or recycle them, at home.
- ◆ Needles, sharps, mercury devices, chemical waste, electronic glucose monitors, non-medical inhalers, and personal care products like shampoo and cosmetics will NOT be accepted.
- ◆ Do NOT bring medications to drug disposal events before or after the listed times.
- ◆ Households only. Businesses should call 683-4333 for disposal information.
- ◆ **Practice safe storage by keeping medications in a secured location.**
- ◆ Practice reduction by consulting with your physician about your medication needs.
- ◆ Never share your prescriptions with another person.

YES**NO****NEXT DRUG DISPOSAL EVENT:**

-Thursday, October 17th: 8am-Noon, JE Hamilton House—Health Fair, 1520 17th Street, Two Rivers

PERMANENT DROP BOX LOCATIONS:

-Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office: 1025 South 9th St, 8am-4:30pm M-F
 -Manitowoc City Police Dept: 910 Jay St, Manitowoc, 7:30am-4:30pm M-F
 -Two Rivers Police Dept: 1717 East Park St, Two Rivers, 8am-4:30pm M-F

Recycle all cartons**CARTON RECYCLING**

The Manitowoc County Recycling Center accepts food and beverage cartons for recycling. These familiar cartons are used to contain a variety of products commonly found on your grocery lists. Some examples are containers for wine, milk, soy milk, juice, cream, soup, broth, and egg substitutes. Cartons are made from paper fibers, plastic, and aluminum so they are highly recyclable. When bringing your cartons to the Manitowoc County Recycling Center they can be placed in with the plastic bottles. Cartons should be emptied and flattened but there is no need to rinse them. Do not place any cartons with significant amount of product left in them in your recycling. If you have curbside pickup in the City of Manitowoc or City of Two Rivers you should place your cartons in with the plastic containers. Otherwise, check with your local hauler or drop off center for availability and guidelines.

Our cartons are sorted out of the plastic stream, baled, and shipped to Sustana's Fox River Facility in DePere, WI. You can learn more about Sustana at www.sustanagroup.com/

Please call the Manitowoc County Recycling Center at 683-4333 or visit Manitowoccounty.com/recyclingcenter for more information.



AMERICA RECYCLES DAY

Recycling is one of the easiest things that we can all do to improve our communities, conserve natural resources and create green jobs.

America Recycles Day is a nationally recognized day designed to build awareness of recycling and its benefits and to encourage people to recycle correctly and buy recycled products. By recycling, you can help reduce emissions of greenhouse gas and water pollution, save energy, supply valuable manufacturing materials, create jobs, and reduce the need for new landfills. People can easily participate by making an effort to learn about the recycling programs in their community. Visit the Manitowoc County Recycling Center website at Manitowoccounty.com/recyclingcenter to learn more about local recycling and disposal options. Or try www.recyclemorewisconsin.org for information about recycling issues and guidelines throughout Wisconsin. If you want to do more, then make an effort to minimize contamination in your recycling bin, buy green products that contain recycled content, and purchase products that can be easily recycled in your community. You could even take a recycling pledge on the America Recycles Day website at <http://americarecyclesday.org> to show your support for recycling. Reduction and reuse are also great tools that compliment recycling.



Manitowoc County has demonstrated a very proactive approach towards recycling. In the early 90's approximately 58,000 Tons of solid waste per year were landfilled from Manitowoc County. That number has been reduced to about 30,000 per year because of the recycling and waste reduction efforts. In 2018 there was 5.41 million pounds of paper and cardboard, and 563,000 pounds of plastic bottles recycled at the local recycling center. Despite these impressive numbers, there is still room to improve. For example, the recycling center cleaned out 186,000 pounds of contamination from the local recycling stream. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that Americans recycled 63% of their paper and cardboard in 2010. The National Association for PET Container Resources estimated that just 29% of the PET bottles were recycled in 2011.

We would like to encourage everyone to review the recycling guidelines for their curbside program or local drop off site. Ours are listed on page 5. Make sure you know the common items that should be recycled. Contamination in recycling is a big issue and it often happens when people assume they know what to recycle, when in fact they are overlooking some important details.

The Manitowoc County Recycling Center would like to thank Manitowoc County residents and businesses for participating in recycling and special collection programs like the Hazardous Waste Clean Sweep, Drug Disposal Program, Waste Tire Collection, Electronics Collection and the Composting Sites. By taking the time to learn about and use these programs and others, participants have helped improve our community, environment and economics. Visit the Recycling Center at Manitowoccounty.com/recyclingcenter or call 920-683-4333 to learn more about these programs and help improve recycling Manitowoc County.

REDUCE AND REUSE

The most effective way to reduce waste is to not create it in the first place. Making a new product requires a lot of materials and energy: raw materials must be extracted from the earth, and the product must be fabricated and then transported to wherever it will be sold. As a result, reduction and reuse are the most effective ways you can save natural resources, protect the environment, and save money.

Reducing and Reusing can help prevent pollution caused by reducing the need to harvest new raw materials and reduce greenhouse gases that contribute to global climate change. This can also save energy and resources and help sustain the environment for future generations.

Tips on how to Reduce and Reuse:

- ◆ Use products made with recycled materials
- ◆ Buy used items.
- ◆ Use products with less packaging.
- ◆ Buy reusable items over disposable ones.
- ◆ Use energy-efficient light bulbs and rechargeable batteries.
- ◆ Shop with reusable cloth bags.
- ◆ Reuse plastic bags, cups and containers.
- ◆ Maintain and repair items instead of throwing them away.
- ◆ Compost your food and yard waste.
- ◆ Donate unwanted items
- ◆ Borrow, rent or share infrequently used items

REUSE AT RUMMAGE A RAMA

Reuse occurs whenever we use an item again, for its intended or unintended purpose, rather than just throwing it away.

Organizations like Goodwill and the Salvation Army help to redistribute items from those who no longer need them to those who can use those items again. Rummage and estate sales also accomplish reuse. This helps to lessen the amount of municipal solid waste going into landfills, conserves the materials and energy used to manufacture and transport new items and redistributes items to those who need them.



The Manitowoc County Expo will hold Rummage Sales on December 14, February 9, and March 9 in the Merchants building from 8:30am - 2:30pm. There is a \$.50 admission fee. Over 130 tables will have a variety of clothing, antiques and collectibles.

If you have items to sell visit the Expo website at www.co.manitowoc.wi.us/expo and navigate to Rummage Sales.

RECYCLING DEPOT

The Manitowoc Recycling Center maintains a residential drop off area at the Recycling Center Main office located at 3000 Basswood Road. It is open Monday-Friday from 7am to 4pm, and Saturday from 8am to Noon. This site is intended for use by all county residents. There is no trash or garbage drop off at this location. Contact a local hauler or the Ridgeview Landfill for disposal of trash. Different municipal drop off sites may be more accessible to you depending on the city, township or village you are from.

General Drop Site Guidelines

- Place your recyclables in the bunker or receptacle labeled for that material.
- Remove any plastic bags or strings and take them home with you to place in your trash.
- Do not place nonacceptable items in the bunkers or receptacles.
- Do not place materials outside receptacles on the ground.
- Large loads of cardboard, paper or plastic can be placed on appropriate pile on the tipping floor.
- Use caution driving through the drop site and on the tipping floor.



The recycling and compost areas are monitored for illegal dumping, littering, and other issues. Please follow all posted guidelines.

Paper

Includes newspapers, junk mail, magazines, computer paper, books with metal or plastic binding removed etc.. Paper should be clean and dry. No paper contaminated with food or oil. No paper coated with foil, plastic or heavy glue. No plastic/foil wrapping paper.



Plastic

Check for a neck. **We only accept #1 and #2 bottles and jars.** Remove the caps, rinse and flatten. No tub shaped containers or bottles that contained oil or pesticide (even if rinsed). No plastic wraps, films, bags, trays, pails, packaging peanuts, Styrofoam, or any other non bottle shaped item. Please do not tie milk jugs together or tie in plastic bags.



Glass Bottles

Any color glass bottle or jar can be recycled. Put into designated bunker. Remove lids or caps and rinse. No window glass, mirrors, light bulbs, clay, ceramics, drinking glasses or ovenware.



Cartons

Cartons include shelf stable and refrigerated containers for wine, milk, juice, cream, soy milk, soup, and egg substitutes. Drop off cartons with the plastic bottles. They should be emptied and flattened.



Cardboard

Should be clean and flattened. No soiled cardboard or cardboard coated with wax, tin, or plastic.



Cans

Tin, steel, and aluminum cans. Coated cans, foil, and pie tins are ok. Empty and rinse out food residue.



ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER REQUEST

Are you interested in receiving current updates recycling programs in Manitowoc County? Join our electronic mailing list to receive our quarterly newsletter. Either call us at 920-683-4333 or email jonreisenbuechler@co.manitowoc.wi.us and request to be added to our email distribution list. The recycling center will not give away or sell your information. You will receive our quarterly newsletter detailing news and information about the recycling center and related events.

SCRAP METAL DUMPSTER

The Recycling Depot now has a scrap metal dumpster available for your convenience. It is for clean scrap metal only, including steel, iron, copper, sheet/cast aluminum, tin, and mixed metals. Please remove excessive non-metal components.

- NO propane (or other) tanks
- NO electronics or appliances
- NO batteries or lamps
- NO garbage, plastic, wood, or rubber
- NO chemicals, gas, oil, or other hazardous wastes.



The Manitowoc County Recycling Center is operated by Ascend Services Inc. Formerly Holiday House of Manitowoc Inc.



The Manitowoc County Recycling Center is a business unit of the Manitowoc County Department of Public Works and is operated in partnership with the Manitowoc County Expo Center.

