



Public Works Department: Recycling Center

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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 Recycling.manitowocountywi.gov to learn more about local recycling and disposal options. Or try Recyclemorewisconsin.org for information on how to recycle right in Wisconsin. If you want to do more, then make an effort to minimize contamination in your recycling bin, buy 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 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 34,000 per year because of the recycling and waste reduction efforts. In 2020 there was 4.68 million pounds of paper and cardboard, and 646,000 pounds of plastic bottles recycled through the local recycling center. Despite these impressive numbers, there is still room to improve. For example, the recycling center cleaned out 169,600 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 our website at Recycling.manitowocountywi.gov. 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, our participants have helped improve our community, environment and economics. Visit the Recycling Center at Recycling.manitowocountywi.gov or call 920-683-4333 to learn more about these programs.