



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.manitowoccountywi.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 can learn more about America Recycles Day website at Americarecyclesday.org.



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.manitowoccountywi.gov. Recycling programs can differ depending on the municipality you live in or the curbside hauler providing your service, this can cause confusion about what is acceptable and how to handle it. 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.

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 32,000 per year because of the recycling and waste reduction efforts. In 2023 there was 4.4 million pounds of paper and cardboard, and 669,280 pounds of plastic bottles recycled through the local recycling center. Despite these impressive numbers, there is room to improve. For example, the recycling center cleaned out 167,120 pounds of contamination from the local recycling stream. Also, numbers taken from the [WDNR statewide waste composition study](#) suggest that about 16% of materials going into landfills are

commonly recycled materials, like #1 PET bottles/jars (1.7%), office paper (1.4%), corrugated cardboard boxes (3.2%) and other recyclables.

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.

This year, we invite you to participate in a tour of the Manitowoc County Recycling Center. Tours are available on November 14 and 15 starting at 1pm. The tour will take about 1hr depending on participants' questions; it will cover the recycling center and associated programs. Please register by calling 920-683-4333 M-F between 7a and 4p. Group size is limited to 12 people each.