MILWAUKEE RECYCLE FOR GOOD!

Recycling and Waste Reduction

KEEPING MILWAUKEE CLEAN AND GREEN

Fall 2016 • City of Milwaukee Department of Public Works • MilwaukeeRecycles.com • 414-286-CITY (2489)

FOOD WASTE

40 BY 2020

40% DIVERSION OF SOLID WASTE BY 2020

Many Milwaukee residents are familiar with the traditional three R's – Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. Even once paper, bottles, and cans are sorted into the recycling cart, there is still garbage going to the landfill. Food waste is the largest waste category and makes up 21% of our garbage.

The Mayor has a goal of 40 x 2020 – to achieve an annual 40% landfill diversion rate by 2020. Tackling food waste will help us achieve this goal! It is important to increase our landfill diversion because it saves natural resources, money, and landfill space.

There are now 6 R's as we think about waste issues in this new way – Rethink, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Rot. Looking at food through these 6 R's gives us lots of ideas of how to waste less and save more!

Rethink. The average meal travels 1,500 miles from farm to plate. A huge amount of natural resources, energy, money, and human effort go into this journey. Even after all of this effort, some food goes to waste. An important step to tackling this issue is to think about food as a resource and commit to reducing what is wasted! For example, scarred and oddly shaped fruits and vegetables are perfectly normal and OK to buy. If they are not bought, they might be headed for the trash.

Refuse. There are lots of ways to refuse to let food go to waste. To avoid buying too much food, stick to a list at the grocery store to avoid impulse buys. Ask that extra food packets not be included in your to-go order. However you choose to refuse, it is a great way to make less waste.

Reduce. Send less food to the landfill by storing food so that it lasts longer. SaveTheFood.com has a food storage directory that will help you get the most time out of your food. This also includes understanding different dates listed on food items. Just because an item has a "Sell By" or "Best By" date on the package, doesn't necessarily mean that it is unsafe to eat after that date. Visit our website's food waste page for a full rundown of the different food packaging phrases and their meanings.

Do you have fresh food that is reaching a point where it needs to be used quickly? Freeze, preserve, or can surplus food to use it in different ways and recipes. Herbs can be frozen in oil in an ice cube tray; bananas or zucchini can be made into breads. There are many ways to ensure fresh produce doesn't go to waste.

Reuse. Gardeners know that sometimes there is just too much food. A great way to make sure an abundant harvest doesn't go to waste is to donate it to someone else. Whether you share extras with a neighbor or a food bank, giving to others makes less waste.

The Environmental Protection Agency has a prioritized list for recovering food waste. The food recovery hierarchy encourages people to first reduce the amount of food waste they create and then use extra food to feed hungry people. If the food can't be given to people, the next best option is to feed animals. Learn more about these options on our website.

Recycle. Certain food wastes can be recycled to make new items. Putting food scraps down your garbage disposal sends these materials to Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District's wastewater treatment plant. There, materials are made into Milorganite and energy.

Cooking oil can be taken to either of Milwaukee's Drop Off Centers. Cooking oil cannot be put in your cart for recycling.

Rot. 95% of food waste that could be composted ends up in landfills. Composting is a great way to waste less. Backyard composting is a fun and easy way to send less to the landfill. Fall is a great time to start a new compost bin because of all of the leaves you can include.

No space for a backyard bin? Kompost Kids, a local non-profit, has community drop-off sites around the City. Visit our website to learn more.

DPW is running a pilot program to study the feasibility of an organics collection program. A limited number of residents in and around Bay View, Riverwest, and the East Side can choose to have a separate 65 gallon cart for yard and food waste. Residents that opt to be in this program will pay for this separate collection. The pilot will run through next Fall. For program updates and to learn more visit city.milwaukee.gov/Milwaukee-Recycles/organics today!

RECYCLING GUIDELINES *Please Recycle!*

PAPER
Clean and dry. Include cardboard, cereal boxes, newspaper, mail, paper egg cartons, paper tubes, etc.

METAL
Clean and dry. Labels are OK. Include aluminum cans, foil, and pans. Steel cans and empty aerosol cans. Pots and pans.

PLASTIC
Clean and dry. Rigid containers #1, #2, #4, and #5 which includes milk jugs, water and soda bottles, shampoo bottles, yogurt tubs, kitty litter buckets, 5 gal. buckets, etc. No bags, pouches, or wrap. No motor oil/antifreeze bottles.

GLASS BOTTLES AND JARS
Clean and dry. No window glass, light bulbs, ceramics, or china.

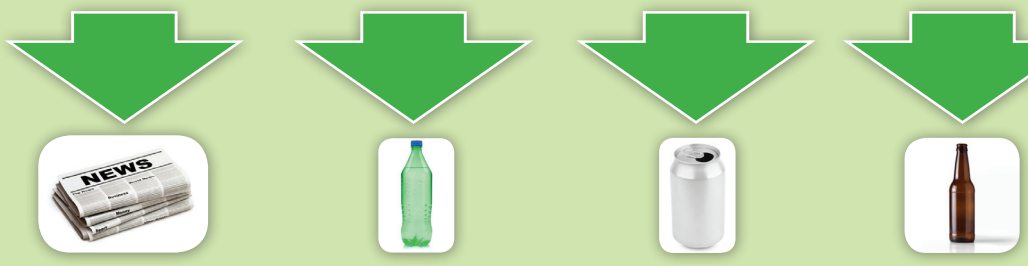
CARTONS
Clean and dry. Includes milk, juice, and soup cartons. No frozen food boxes.

Why do we recycle?

SAVE RESOURCES

SUPPORT JOBS

MAKE NEW PRODUCTS



SAY 'NO' TO THE DIRTY DOZEN

- NO PLASTIC BAGS OR WRAPS
- NO FIRE HAZARDS (i.e. propane tanks and batteries)
- NO TANGLERS (i.e. hoses, wire, cords and cables)
- NO NEEDLES OR SHARPS
- NO WINDOW GLASS, MIRRORS OR BULBS
- NO CERAMICS, DISHWARE OR DRINKING GLASSES
- NO SCRAP METAL
- NO WOOD OR FURNITURE
- NO FOOD OR YARD WASTE
- NO STYROFOAM, PLASTIC $3, #6, #7 OR UNMARKED ITEMS
- NO HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS (or containers that held oil, gas, antifreeze, pesticides, etc.)
- NO DIAPERS

Home HazMat COLLECTION

Clean up your house and your community by dropping off your old and unused
→ chemicals → gas
→ batteries and more!

Permanent Drop-Off Locations

Franklin	Milwaukee	Menomonee Falls
10518 S. 124th St.	3879 W. Lincoln Ave.	W124 N9451 Boundary Rd.

MMSD PARTNERS FOR A CLEANER ENVIRONMENT

→ For a comprehensive list of items we accept and collection hours go to **mmsd.com**

For Milwaukee County residents only. Please, no businesses.

Recycle clean, dry plastic bags and film packaging

Recycle at participating retailers

never place in your recycling cart

Do You Recycle Right?

Loose in bin - no plastic bags

Boxes

Flatten

Shredded Paper

In a paper bag

Plastics

Empty, rinsed, cap on

Glass

Empty, rinsed, lid off

Metal

Empty, rinsed, lids pushed in

Recycling by the Numbers

All of those bottles, cans, envelopes, and cardboard boxes you put in your recycling cart add up to a great deal of environmental and economic savings!

First, your materials come to the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) to be sorted and baled with other similar materials. The City's MRF underwent a major retrofit in 2014/2015 through an intergovernmental partnership with Waukesha County. It is now a regional single-stream facility featuring state-of-the-art processing equipment. The publically owned MRF is privately operated by ReCommunity Recycling. The new MRF began operating in March 2015, sorting and processing recyclables from approximately 300,000 households in Southeastern Wisconsin. The MRF is projected to process 1.36 billion pounds of recyclables this year on a one-shift operation, with more than 50 million pounds coming from Milwaukee residents.

In 2015 Milwaukee residents

- Saved more than 239,800 trees
- Conserved the equivalent of 387 railway cars of coal
- Reduced Greenhouse Gas emissions the equivalent of taking 15,205 cars off the road
- Avoided $ 1,084,253 in landfill disposal costs

Thanks for recycling more and recycling right!

FAQ

Should I crush my plastic and metal containers?

No. In the past crushing your items was a great way to save room in your cart. However, the new facility needs your items to be uncrushed and 3-D. Curious to see this in person? Join us for a tour. Learn more online.

Why can't I recycle plastic bags and wrap in my cart?

Our recycling facility is not designed to process this type of material as the bags get wrapped around equipment and cause problems. The film also gets dirty when it is included with all of your other bottles and cans and then isn't marketable. Many area stores collect clean, dry film for recycling. By keeping it separate it retains its value for recycling!

Can I recycle phone books?

Yes. Phone books are completely recyclable. Always remove plastic wrapping and recycle at a participating WRAP retailer or discard the bag as garbage. Visit YellowPagesOptOut.com if you no longer wish to receive phone books delivered to you.

Sensational Set Out

Set out by 7 AM on scheduled collection day*

Between curb & sidewalk or at alley line; 3 feet clearance on all sides

Pickups postponed due to winter weather should be left at your collection point until emptied.

*In winter many recycling routes don't have scheduled collection days. Crews collect carts from your visible, accessible storage area. Collection ranges are available online.

Call 286-CITY to request collection of up to 2 cubic yards of brush.

Free Tours

Are you curious about what happens to your recyclables once they are collected?

Come and see! Free tours for adults are available each month on the first Tuesday at noon and the third Thursday at 4:30 PM. Reservations and close-toed shoes are required. Register with Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful at (414) 272-5462 or online at www.kgmb.org. 45—90 minute programs and field trips are also available for students. A grant from DPW is available to cover the cost of this program at the MRF for K-12 classrooms in any public or private school located in the City of Milwaukee. Contact Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful, the City of Milwaukee's recycling education partner, to schedule your classroom's field trip today!

Drop Off Centers

Accepted Materials

Recycled
- Antifreeze
- Car Batteries
- Motor oil and filters
- Tires (up to 5 passenger tires)
- Appliances
- Scrap Metal
- Asphalt Shingles*
- Concrete*
- Electronics
- Cooking oil
- Shoes (paired, no heels)
- Recyclables accepted curbside
- Large corrugated cardboard

Composted
- Brush and branches
- Grass clippings
- Garden debris
- Leaves
- Logs

Landfilled
- Garbage
- Old furniture
- Construction and remodeling debris*

*There is a charge for all construction related materials. Restrictions apply. Visit our website for more information.

Locations
North - 6660 N Industrial Road
South - 3879 W Lincoln Avenue

All year - Tuesday - Saturday 7 AM - 3 PM
Open Sundays through November 26, 2016 and again April 2, 2017

MilwaukeeRecycles.com

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Waupaca, WI
Permit No. 81

City of Milwaukee
Department of Public Works
841 N. Broadway, Rm 620
Milwaukee WI, 53202

City of Milwaukee

NO GARBAGE OR RECYCLING COLLECTION ON THESE CITY HOLIDAYS:

THANKSGIVING:
November 24 & 25, 2016

CHRISTMAS:
December 23 & 26, 2016

NEW YEAR'S:
December 30, 2016 & January 2, 2017

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY:
January 16, 2017

GOOD FRIDAY:
April 14, 2017

Services by Season

FALL

Leaves, brush, and other yard waste, are banned from landfills and must **NOT be placed in carts.** They are collected separately for composting, conserving natural resources while saving the City money. To request a collection of brush piles (woody trimmings from trees and bushes) from April—November call 286-CITY. Piles must be smaller than a sofa. Other yard waste, like weeds and garden trimmings, must be taken to a Drop Off Center.

Rake your leaves to the street
October 1 – November 15

- Rake leaves into the street 1 foot away from the curb
- Do not bag leaves
- Do not put leaves in your garbage or recycling cart.
- Add garden debris to the leaf pile
- Leaves should be kept away from storm drains and sewer grates
- Brush piles should stay on the curb, not the street

WINTER

Schedule changes begin
Monday, December 5th

Garbage and recycling collection schedules will change in the winter due to holidays and snow and ice removal by City crews.

If your collection is postponed due to winter weather, **leave your cart at its collection point until it is emptied.**

Recycling collection for many City residents shifts to a projected collection date. If you are on a projected Winter Schedule Route your cart will be empted roughly every 20 work days, but your exact collection date will not be guaranteed. Crews will retrieve your recycling cart from its storage spot. Once emptied, you must return the cart to its storage location. **To ensure your cart is emptied:**

- Make sure your cart is visible
- Provide your collector a wide, shoveled path

Christmas Trees can be brought to either Drop Off Disposal Center where they will be ground into mulch or composted. Trees can also be picked up at your collection point for disposal in the landfill. Make sure all trees are "naked" with all decorations, lights, ribbon, and beads removed.

SPRING

Each spring, **Project Clean & Green** helps residents clean up, green up, and beautify their homes and neighborhoods. The program is designed to foster neighborhood pride and ownership through coordinated cleanups, street and alley sweeping, graffiti removal, and neighborhood beautification activities sponsored by community organizations. During your Clean & Green week, place unwanted bulky items* at your collection point on your scheduled garbage pickup day. Outside of your Clean & Green week there is a charge for all bulky collections larger than the size of an easy chair. To find your Clean & Green week visit our website or call 286-CITY with your address.

Register your neighborhood cleanup with Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful at www.kgmb.org or by calling 272-5462 and get cleanup bags or borrow cleanup tools.

Go Green by donating unwanted items. Learn more on our website.

**Appliances, more than 5 tires, Household Hazardous Waste, Construction materials, computers and entertainment electronics, and excess brush over the size of a sofa will not be collected.*

CONNECT WITH US

Want more than an annual update? Visit our new website or connect with us on Facebook and Twitter to get important service updates, program information and fun facts that will help you rethink recycling!

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