



# Recycling and Waste Reduction

KEEPING MILWAUKEE CLEAN AND GREEN

Fall 2013 City of Milwaukee Department of Public Works • [www.MilwaukeeRecycles.com](http://www.MilwaukeeRecycles.com) • 414-286-CITY (2489)

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## TAKE THE PLEDGE



Pledge to be a better recycler and you could win a compost bin! Make sure to enter "Fall Mailer" in the "How did you hear about us" box.

[www.MilwaukeeRecycles.com](http://www.MilwaukeeRecycles.com)



## Recycle - Make it NEW Again!

We do it every day – tossing old cans, jars, bottles, paper and cardboard into the recycling cart to turn them into something new! These recyclables are turned into a wide variety of products including paper toweling and writing paper, cardboard boxes and newsprint, new soda cans and beverage bottles, carpeting, patio furniture, auto parts, construction materials and more.

While Milwaukee residents recycled over 24,000 tons of household materials in 2012, we can still do more! So, give your recyclables new life and keep them out of the trash! Learn more at [www.MilwaukeeRecycles.com](http://www.MilwaukeeRecycles.com).

See inside for a complete listing of what's recyclable!



Visit [IWantToBeRecycled.org](http://IWantToBeRecycled.org) to learn about the recycling journeys of other materials!

## Increasing Efficiency: AUTOMATED COLLECTION

To increase efficiency and reduce costs, the City of Milwaukee Department of Public Works (DPW) collects garbage and recyclables in some neighborhoods utilizing a fully automated system. Using a mechanical arm, the truck retrieves carts from their collection points and empties their contents into the body of the truck.

**WHY?** Utilizing a fully automated system where feasible

results in more efficient service and decreased pollution through reduced truck idling. DPW is able to service more households using fewer resources. The efficiencies gained save money that helps to offset other rising costs.

**HOW?** DPW can only reap the benefits of this automated system with cooperation from residents! If you live in a neighborhood with automated garbage and/or recycling collection, you have already received a schedule with special instructions. As a reminder, your collection schedule continues through the winter, and you must follow special set out guidelines in order for DPW to collect your carts:

- Cart(s) must be placed at the collection

point by 7:00am on collection days (within a foot of the curb or right at the alley line)

- Keep 3 feet of clearance between carts and other objects (garages, vehicles, mailboxes, poles, trees, snow banks, etc.)

- Face handle of carts away from the street



All City residents may view or download schedules online at [mpw.milwaukee.gov/services/garbage\\_day](http://mpw.milwaukee.gov/services/garbage_day) or by calling 286-CITY (2489).



# THE GOOD -

Please Recycle:



- ✓ All plastic bottles and containers numbered
- ✓ Aluminum containers, foil & pans
- ✓ Bulky #2 plastics (eg. 5-gallon buckets)
- ✓ Cardboard & paperboard
- ✓ Cartons
- ✓ Glass bottles & jars
- ✓ Metal pots & pans
- ✓ Mixed paper & junk mail
- ✓ Newspapers, magazines & catalogs
- ✓ Phone books
- ✓ Steel cans & empty aerosol cans

## PREPARATION GUIDELINES:

Please empty and rinse all recyclable containers. Break down or flatten corrugated cardboard boxes. Place shredded paper in a clear plastic bag (tied-off) or a paper bag, stapled shut.



## THE BAD - Do NOT place in recycling cart



- ✗ Batteries
- ✗ Ceramics or China
- ✗ Coat hangers
- ✗ Drinking glasses
- ✗ Food soiled paper (clean pizza boxes ok)
- ✗ Glass cookware/bake ware
- ✗ Household items such as toasters & microwaves, etc.
- ✗ Light bulbs
- ✗ Mirrors
- ✗ Needle & sharps, other medical waste
- ✗ Porcelain
- ✗ Plastic bag & film
- ✗ #3, 6, 7 or unmarked plastics
- ✗ Plastic bottles that contained motor oil or antifreeze
- ✗ Plastic buckets with paint or other product residue
- ✗ Styrofoam or foam packaging material
- ✗ Trash
- ✗ Tissue & paper towels
- ✗ Window or auto glass

**REMEMBER - although these items will contaminate your recycling cart, some of them may be recyclable through other avenues.**

Have Questions? Call (414) 286-CITY (2489)  
www.MilwaukeeRecycles.com

## Disposing of - BULKY ITEMS

**Bulky Waste:** There is no charge for collection of up to 1 cubic yard of bulky waste (about the size of an easy chair). Place your materials at your collection point on your collection day for pick up. Call to request a pickup of larger quantities; fees & restrictions apply.

**Brush:** April through November only. The City will not collect brush piles larger than 2 cubic yards. There is no brush collection during the months of December through March. Call to request a pickup.

**Project Clean & Green 2014:** During your spring Clean & Green week, place unwanted bulky items at your collection point on your scheduled garbage pickup day. Af-

ter your Clean & Green week, there is a charge for all bulky collections larger than the size of an easy chair. Call or visit us online for information on restricted items.

**Request services and get more information by visiting us online at [milwaukee.gov/mpw](http://milwaukee.gov/mpw) or calling (414) 286-CITY(2489).**



Proper brush set-out

**The DUKES of HAZARDOUS WASTE**

**MMSD**  
PARTNERS FOR A CLEANER ENVIRONMENT

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY** BUSINESSES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO USE THIS PROGRAM.

**SOME OF THE STUFF WE COLLECT**

FLUORESCENT BULBS	SOLVENT-BASED CLEANERS
BRAKE FLUID	NAIL POLISH
DRIVEWAY SEALER	BATTERIES
PAINT THINNER	POOL CHEMICALS
VARNISH	WEED KILLER

Learn more at [www.mmsd.com/dukes](http://www.mmsd.com/dukes)

**OCTOBER STATE FAIR PARK COLLECTION**

State Fair Park Gate 8 (off of South 76th Street)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11 <sup>TH</sup>	11 AM - 6 PM
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12 <sup>TH</sup>	8 AM - 2 PM

**YEAR-ROUND DROP OFF SITE**

City of Milwaukee Self Help Center  
3879 West Lincoln Avenue

THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY 7 AM - 3 PM ONLY



# Food Waste - TACKLING THE CHALLENGE

According to the U.S. EPA, more than 36 million tons of food waste was generated in 2011 alone, while only four percent was diverted from landfills and incinerators for composting. Trashing food wastes money and all of the resources it took to grow or raise it. Additionally, when food waste decomposes in a landfill, a powerful greenhouse gas called methane is generated.

## WHAT CAN BE DONE?

There are many ways to keep food waste out of our landfills and help to save money, reduce pollution, conserve landfill space, and recover a valuable resource

**REDUCE** Stop waste before it starts. Survey your refrigerator and pantry before shopping so you can plan meals that will use up what you already have. Only buy what you need so you

don't end up with unwanted extra.

## COMPOST BIN/PILE

Let nature do the work. Composting is the natural process of breaking down organic matter into nutrient-rich material called compost. For the finer details, visit [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) and search for **composting**.

**PUBLIC DROP OFF** Visit [compost.mmsd.com](http://compost.mmsd.com) to check out a Community Compost Site Map that shows where you can drop off organic materials for composting.

Composting helps create healthy soils critical for urban agriculture and strengthening local healthy food systems, a goal which is at the heart of the City of Milwaukee's Home Garden/Winter Garden project.

**WORM BIN** Let worms do the work. Vermicomposting is one way you can compost indoors. Making and maintaining a bin is simple and odorless if done properly. For more information, visit

[www4.uwm.edu/swecc/](http://www4.uwm.edu/swecc/) and search for **composting with worms**.

**IN-SINK DISPOSER** A great option for those that don't have a yard and those not too fond of having worms in the house. Grinding up your food scraps and sending them down the drain will keep them out of the landfill and provide feedstock for MMSD to generate renewable energy and produce Milorganite. Visit [mmsd.com](http://mmsd.com) for more information.

In partnership with InSinkErator, the City of Milwaukee launched the *Clean Kitchen/Green Community* project during the summer of 2013 to reduce the amount of food waste sent to landfills. The project will test the effectiveness of two of the above strategies: in-sink food waste disposers and backyard compost bins. Once complete, project results will support development of ongoing policies and programs. Milwaukee is one of only four major cities partnering with InSinkErator on such a project.



# Electronics Recycling - RECOVERING TREASURE, PREVENTING POLLUTION

Electronic products make up one of the fastest growing components of the municipal solid waste stream. Millions of devices are discarded each year in favor of sleeker, shinier versions. If improperly discarded, electronics pose a serious threat to human and environmental health, as they may contain hazardous materials including mercury, lead, cadmium, and chemical flame retardants. After processing, they also yield valuable materials such as gold, silver, copper, plastic and glass that may be used to manufacture new products.

and laptop computers, TVs, printers, fax machines and more.

## E-CYCLE WISCONSIN



do not place old and unwanted electronics in your trash, garbage or recycling carts

do not place them at the curb or alley line

City of Milwaukee residents may recycle electronics at City e-Recycling Centers.

## Did you know?

In 2012, residents dropped off over 2.1 million pounds of electronics

100 percent of a desktop computer's energy use is in the manufacturing of it, not using it.

It takes 53 pounds of fossil fuels, 100 pounds of chemicals, and 1.5 tons of water to manufacture one computer and monitor.

Wisconsin's electronics landfill ban means that no one may discard these devices in the trash. **The City will not collect electronics including desktop**

# Proper Disposal of Needles, SHARPS



Accidental needle sticks pose a serious health threat to sanitation workers or others who may come into contact with your garbage and also endanger children and pets. **Never dispose of**

**sharps in garbage or recycling carts**. Visit [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) and search for health care waste for more information and a list of safe-disposal collection stations.

# Plastic Grocery Bags - A RECYCLING MYSTERY SOLVED

Do not use pesky plastic bags that can't go into your recycling cart. But they can be recycled right! The answer is yes - you just have to know where to go to send them on their right path.

The City of Milwaukee does not accept plastic bags through its curbside recycling program. The sorting equipment used to process plastic bottles, jars and containers is not suited for the lightweight bags, which have a tendency to fly around and end up tangled in the machinery.

Not to worry, though. There are many retailers in the Mil-

waukee area that accept and recycle plastic bags and film, which includes produce bags, bread bags and plastic wrap used to package toilet paper and other products. Plastic bags and wraps can be made into new packaging or durable home building products such as composite decking.

Visit [plasticfilmrecycling.org](http://plasticfilmrecycling.org) to learn more and to find a collection site near you



# Self-Help CENTERS

The City of Milwaukee's Self-Help Centers provide Milwaukee residents with convenient drop-off locations to recycle and safely dispose of a long list of items.

They are located at:  
**NORTH SIDE:**  
**6660 N Industrial Rd**  
**SOUTH SIDE:**  
**3879 W Lincoln Ave**

## SELF HELP CENTERS WILL BE CLOSED:

Thanksgiving: Nov. 28 & 29  
 Christmas: Dec. 24 & 25  
 New Year's: Dec. 31, 2013 & Jan. 1, 2014

**FROM**  
 2009 through 2012  
 recycling pounds  
 per household  
**INCREASED**  
 by 13%!  
**Keep it up, Milwaukee!**

### ACCEPTED ITEMS

#### Recycled

- Used motor oil and oil filters
- Used antifreeze
- Automotive batteries
- Asphalt roofing shingles\*
- Carpet & pad (residential)\*
- Electronics (including TVs)
- Appliances
- Scrap metal
- Tires (up to 5 passenger tires)
- Corrugated cardboard
- Household recyclables
- Used shoes (any type except high-heels)
- Concrete\*
- Used cooking oil

#### Composted

- Brush
- Grass clippings
- Leaves and garden debris

#### Landfilled

- Garbage
- Old furniture
- Construction or remodeling debris\*

\*Fees and certain restrictions apply.

For hours and more information, please visit [www.Milwaukee.Gov/mpw](http://www.Milwaukee.Gov/mpw) or call 414-286-CITY (2489).

**NOTE!** \*There is a charge for all construction related material (minimal quantities exempt). This includes roofing and flooring material, brick, stones, concrete, lumber, drywall, paneling and other construction material. No commercial loads allowed.

### Christmas Trees

Want your Christmas tree to live on after the holidays? Bring it to a Self-Help Center and it will be ground into mulch or composted. Remove all decorations and wires first. If you can't make it to a Self-Help Center, you can dispose of your Christmas tree by placing it at your garbage collection point.

## Leaves & Brush 2013

Leaves, brush, grass and other yard waste are banned from landfills and must not be placed in garbage carts. They are collected separately from garbage and composted, conserving natural resources while saving the City money.

Visit [mpw.milwaukee.gov/services/garbage\\_day](http://mpw.milwaukee.gov/services/garbage_day) and enter your address for a projected 3-day window for when to expect leaf collection on your street.

- ✓ Keep leaves away from storm drains in the street
- ✓ Keep piles away from sewer grates
- ✓ Place garden debris in leaf piles
- ✓ Do not put leaves in plastic bags
- ✓ Do not put brush in the street
- ✓ Do not put leaves, brush, grass or other yard waste in your garbage carts

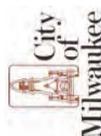
Want to ditch the rake this season? Just mow over your leaves and let the pieces lay on your lawn. It's great for the soil and a time-saver! You can do the same in the summertime with grass clippings. Visit [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) for more information on leaf mulching and grasscycling.

**Proof of City of Milwaukee residency or property ownership is required.**

**PLEASE NOTE: Dumping after hours is illegal and will result in a fine.**

PRST STD  
 US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 Waupaca, WI  
 Permit No. 81

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



**Fall leaf collection begins October 15th. You may rake leaves into the street between October 1st and November 15th.**

## WINTER GARBAGE & Recycling Collection:

Holidays and the management of snow and ice by City crews will cause garbage and recycling collection schedules to change in the winter. This year, winter collection schedule changes will begin on Monday, December 2nd, 2013. Residents must clear snow and ice to provide access to carts. Extra items must be placed at the collection point for pickup.

**NOTE!** There is a charge for collection of trash piles larger than 1 cubic yard (roughly the size of an easy chair).



### NO GARBAGE OR RECYCLING COLLECTION ON THESE CITY HOLIDAYS:

#### THANKSGIVING:

November 28 & 29, 2013

#### CHRISTMAS:

December 24 & 25, 2013

#### NEW YEAR'S:

December 31, 2013 & January 1, 2014

#### MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY:

January 20, 2014

#### GOOD FRIDAY:

April 18, 2014

