

# MRF TURF



## Spring 2018

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Manitowoc County Recycling Center



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### COMPOST SITE SPRING UPDATE

Beginning April 1st the Basswood Road and Woodland Drive Compost Sites will have new hours. The Basswood Site yard material drop off area will be open Monday-Friday, 7am to 6pm and Saturday from 8am until 6pm. The Basswood Site is located at 3000 Basswood Road in Manitowoc. The Woodland Site, located at 4191 Woodland Drive in Two Rivers, will be open Monday-Friday, 10am to 6pm and Saturday from 8am until 6pm. The Recycling Center Main Office will be open on Saturdays from 8am to Noon beginning April 1st.

When using the sites please follow the posted guidelines. Remove items from plastic bags. Take your empty plastic bags home with you to dispose of in your garbage or reuse. Acceptable items for the compost pile include leaves, grass, garden waste, fruits, vegetables, weeds, flowers, woodchips, sawdust from untreated wood, and sod that has had the soil removed. Acceptable items for the brush pile include brush, branches and trees cut less than 6 inches in diameter and 5 feet long.

Items that are NOT ACCEPTED include soil, sand, rock, ashes, animal waste and lumber. Leaving these items at either compost site is considered illegal dumping.

Wood Mulch and Screened Compost are available for a small fee at the Basswood Site during the Recycling Center Main Office hours. Deliveries can be arranged at the Main Office or by calling 920-683-4333. Loading is generally available for small loads with trailers or open truck beds Monday-Friday from 7:30am to 3:30pm only. Compost and Wood Mulch are available while supplies last and as weather and site conditions permit.

### SCREENED COMPOST PRICES

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

### UNSCREENED COMPOST PRICES

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

### WOOD MULCH PRICES

- 1 bushel: \$0.75
- 1 cubic yard: \$8.00
- 6 cubic yards including Delivery Charge: \$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.

### Mission Statement

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



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

[Manitowocounty.com/recyclingcenter](http://Manitowocounty.com/recyclingcenter)



## DRUG DISPOSAL PROGRAM

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 drug disposal event. Recycle or dispose of the empty pill bottles and boxes at home. Liquids, creams, and powders stay in their original container with the caps tightened.

### 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



### PERMANENT DROP BOX LOCATIONS:

- Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office: 1025 South 9<sup>th</sup> 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

### NEXT DRUG DISPOSAL EVENT:

- Saturday, April 21st: 9am-Noon, Healthy Kids Day, YMCA 205 Maritime Dr., Manitowoc
- Thursday, September 13th: 2-5pm, Kiel Community Center, 510 3rd St., Kiel
- Saturday, October 20th: 10am-2pm, Crime Prevention Day, Expo Merchants Building, 4921 Expo Dr., Manitowoc

## MERCURY REDUCTION PROGRAM UPDATE

Very small amounts of mercury can do significant damage. One gram of mercury is enough to contaminate all the fish in a lake with a surface area of 20 acres. A typical mercury thermometer contains approximately 0.7 grams of mercury (700 milligrams), but larger thermometers can contain as much as three grams. Both short term and long term exposure to mercury or mercury vapors can cause serious health problems for humans and wildlife. Mercury affects the nervous system and can impair the way we hear, talk, see, walk, feel and think. Humans are exposed to mercury through contaminated air, water, food, or directly through the skin.

Drop off items listed below at a designated mercury drop-off site. Each household will qualify for one free digital thermometer in exchange for any mercury fever thermometer(s) brought to the Manitowoc County Recycling Center, while supplies last.

### Guidelines:

- Household devices/material only.
- Items must be 7" by 12" or less. Oversized household items can be taken to the annual Household Hazardous Waste Clean Sweep event.
- When transporting mercury the item must be cushioned in a **sealed, non-metal container**.
- Do not open or damage mercury containing devices.
- Businesses can contact the Recycling Center about options for mercury disposal.

### Accepted Items:

- Thermometers
- Thermostats
- Mercury switches
- Manometers
- Barometers
- Blood pressure monitors
- Dental amalgams
- Bulk mercury

**Manitowoc County Recycling Center**  
 3000 Basswood Road, Manitowoc  
 M – F: 7 am – 4 pm.  
 For Questions call 920-683-4333 or visit:  
[Manitowocounty.com/recyclingcenter](http://Manitowocounty.com/recyclingcenter)



# Hazardous Waste Clean Sweep



Many common items like automotive products, household cleaners, pesticides, and home improvement products are hazardous when used, stored, or disposed of improperly. Look for items that contain the following on their labels: **Danger, Warning, Caution, Poison, Combustible, Flammable, Corrosive, and Toxic.**

Help make 2018 the **“Million Pound Year”** for the Manitowoc County Clean Sweep! Since our collection started in 1985 we have collected 979,839 pounds of chemicals. With your help we hope to reach that milestone this year.

Manitowoc County Highway Shop  
3500 HWY 310

**Residents**

Saturday, **May 19**, 9am - Noon

**Farms and Businesses**

Friday, **May 18**, 2pm - 4pm

Pre-registration is required by May 10  
Call 920-683-4333

Many cleansers, home improvement products, automotive products and pesticides can be dangerous when stored or disposed of improperly. They can contaminate the soil, water, and air when spilt or illegally dumped. Improperly stored items could be involved in accidental poisonings of children and pets. The Clean Sweep Program provides an opportunity to safely dispose of these materials for free and for eligible businesses to save on their disposal costs.

All of the collected items are properly recycled, neutralized or disposed of at special disposal sites or hazardous waste incinerators that render the materials harmless.

The Manitowoc County Clean Sweep is part of a regional partnership with Sheboygan and Fond du Lac County. It is possible partly through grant funding from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, a donation from the Ridgeview Landfill and volunteer labor. If you are interested in contributing to the Clean Sweep program contact the Recycling Center at 920-683-4333.

**REDUCTION IS YOUR FIRST CHOICE!**

**Before you buy:**

- Read the labels
- Choose safer alternatives
- Buy the smallest amount needed for the job

**After you buy:**

- Follow directions for safe use
- Store properly in the original container
- Share what you can't use
- Dispose of leftovers properly

**ACCEPTABLE ITEMS**

- Pesticides and poisons
- Oil and lead based paints
- Wood preservatives
- Solvents
- Aerosols
- Cleansers and polishes
- Contaminated oil
- Antifreeze
- Gasoline
- Mercury and mercury containing devices
- Pool chemicals

Disposal or recycling options exist for many unacceptable items. Contact the Manitowoc County Recycling Center at 920-683-4333 or visit

[Manitowoccounty.com/recyclingcenter](http://Manitowoccounty.com/recyclingcenter)

**UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS**

- **LATEX PAINT\***
- Explosives such as ammunition
- Radioactive materials such as smoke detectors
- Compressed gas tanks such as fire extinguishers and propane tanks
- Unknown chemicals
- Tires
- Infectious and biological waste including sharps
- Light bulbs and batteries
- TVs and electronics
- Appliances
- Freon gases
- Pharmaceuticals



\*Residents are encouraged to dispose of latex paint in their trash. Just take the lid off and let it dry or add paint hardener or cat litter. Once hard, latex paint can be disposed of in the trash.

**GUIDELINES**

- Household and farms may dispose of acceptable hazardous waste items at no cost.
- Participants must be residents of Manitowoc County.
- Wastes must be brought in the original containers. Keep materials separate. Do NOT mix chemicals.
- To prepare materials for transport, line a cardboard box with a plastic bag, place them in the box and separate with cardboard.
- When arriving at the Clean Sweep site, slow down and follow traffic directions.
- If unable to attend, then ask a friend or neighbor to take your materials. Do not come before or after the listed times.
- Farms and businesses must register by May 10, 2018. Call 920-683-4333.

**Program Sponsors:** Manitowoc County Solid Waste Dept., Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP), Waste Management Inc., Veolia Environmental Services, Holiday House of Manitowoc Inc., and Manitowoc County UW Extension.

**TIRE COLLECTION EXPANDED**

The Manitowoc County Recycling Center has expanded the annual tire collection to run from the start of April through the end of October. Previous tire collections were limited to 2 weeks in September but recent facility changes have allowed us to accept them seasonally. This should provide a more convenient service for our community. Be sure to check for current rates and guidelines.



The Manitowoc County Tire Collection started in 1998 and has collected approximately 3.55 million pounds of waste tires since it began. Waste tires can be reused in a number of beneficial ways. They can be shredded into rubber chips and used as artificial turf or as a groundcover in playgrounds. Tire rubber can be incorporated into asphalt roads, running tracks and used in other rubber products.

Depending on what other materials are in the tires, they may also be used as tire derived fuel at permitted facilities.

The DNR estimates that Wisconsin produces 5 million waste tires per year. Tires have been banned from landfills since 1995 because they take up too much space and their bulky size makes them hard to keep buried. Unfortunately, tires have often been illegally dumped along roadways or in illegal stockpiles. Aside from looking like a mess this can cause problems. Water accumulated inside the tires becomes a breeding ground for mosquitoes. If tire piles catch fire they can release large amounts of pollutants into the air, water and soil.

Help reduce the amount of tires being used by taking proper care of the tires on your car. Following the scheduled rotation and maintaining proper air pressure can help get more use out of each tire. Fixing alignment problems early can also save tire wear and extend their life.

For more information call the Recycling Center at 920-683-4333 or visit [Manitowocounty.com/recyclingcenter](http://Manitowocounty.com/recyclingcenter).

**Fees & Guidelines**

- ◆ \$4.00—per car tire or smaller (5 tires or less)
- ◆ \$5.50—per standard truck tire (5 tires or less)
- ◆ 14 cents per pound (\$280 per ton) for:
  - ◆ Quantities of 6 or more tires
  - ◆ Semi Tires
  - ◆ Tractor Tires
  - ◆ Tires on rims
- ◆ Register at Main Office before dropping off tires.
- ◆ Residents and businesses with large quantities of tires should call the Recycling Center.
- ◆ Collection employees reserve the right to judge, based on tire size and quantity, whether a customer is charged per tire or by weight.

**Waste Tire Collection  
Location & Hours:**

3000 Basswood Road  
Manitowoc  
**Monday—Friday**  
**7am—4pm**  
**Saturday**  
**8am—Noon**

**AGRICULTURAL FILM PLASTIC UPDATE**

According to an update from Revolution Plastics LLC, in 2017 the combined total of agricultural plastics collected in both Manitowoc and Kewaunee County was approximately 1 million pounds. Each county contributed about half of that total. It is great that this material is being recycled in a large geographic region because plastic pollution is not confined by political boundaries. The agricultural community, and UW Extension offices involved in promoting it, should be proud of this accomplishment. Especially since this is a relatively new service in this area. Previously, these plastics were either landfilled or illegally burned.



Agricultural film plastics are commonplace on many farms and include Low Density Poly Ethylene (LDPE) plastics like silage bags, bunker covers, bale wrap, irrigation tape, and hoophouse covers. Revolution Plastics LLC offers services in Manitowoc County for on farm collection of specific types of agricultural film plastics. Depending on location, type and amount of plastics being generated, Revolution Plastics may spot a dumpster on the farm for no fee. For details and contact information on this program visit Revolution Plastics website at [www.revolutionplastics.com](http://www.revolutionplastics.com).

**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.

<p><u>Paper</u> 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.</p> 	<p><u>Plastic</u> Check for a neck. <b>We only accept #1 and #2 bottles and jars.</b> 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.</p> 
<p><u>Glass Bottles</u> 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.</p> 	<p><u>Cartons</u> 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.</p> 
<p><u>Cardboard</u> Should be clean and flattened. No soiled cardboard or cardboard coated with wax, tin, or plastic.</p> 	<p><u>Cans</u> Tin, steel, and aluminum cans. Coated cans, foil, and pie tins are ok. Empty and rinse out food residue.</p> 

**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](mailto: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.

*The Manitowoc County Recycling Center is operated by Holiday House of Manitowoc County Inc. Offering choices that lead to opportunities.*



*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.*

