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Fall 2018

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Manitowoc County 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 Manitowoccounty.com/recyclingcenter to learn more about local recycling and disposal options. Or try www.recyclemorewisconsin.org for information about recycling issues and guidelines throughout Wisconsin. If you want to do more, then make an effort to buy green products that contain recycled content or purchase products that can be easily recycled in your community. You could even take a recycling pledge on the America Recycles Day website at <http://americarecyclesday.org> to show your support for 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 30,000 per year because of the recycling and waste reduction efforts. In 2017 there was 5.75 million pounds of paper and cardboard and 531,000 pounds of plastic bottles recycled at the local recycling center. Despite these impressive numbers, there is still room to improve. 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 page 5. 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, participants have helped improve our community, environment and economics. Visit the Recycling Center at Manitowoccounty.com/recyclingcenter or call 920-683-4333 to learn more about these programs and help improve recycling Manitowoc County.

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
Manitowoccounty.com/recyclingcenter



ASHES - Never dump ASHES off at the compost site. We do not accept them. Sure, you may have added them to your garden but we do not want them in our compost site for two important reasons. First, ashes may contain undesirable chemicals from whatever was burned and we have no way to know if it was clean wood, treated lumber, or worse. Second, even if ashes seem cool they often still contain embers that can start fires. The best thing to do with your ashes is to use them at your property in your garden or thoroughly douse them in water and let them sit at least a month before taking them to the landfill. If you use a solid waste hauler or municipal drop off site be sure to check their guidelines too; many places do not accept ashes for fire safety reasons.



NEVER drop ashes off at the compost site!

COMPOST SITE UPDATE—Beginning November 16 the Basswood Road and Woodland Drive Compost Sites will have new operating hours. The Basswood Road Compost Site will be open Monday-Friday, 7:00 am to 4:00 pm and Saturday from 8:00 am until noon. Beginning November 16, the Woodland Drive Compost Site will be closed until April 2019. Beginning November 1, the Recycling Center Main Office will be closed on Saturdays and will reopen on Saturdays beginning April 2019.

Accepted Items: Grass, leaves, flowers, plants, pumpkins, fruits, vegetables, garden waste, yard waste, brush, branches (not more than 6 inches in diameter or longer than 5 feet), clean woodchips, clean saw dust, and natural holiday trees.

Unacceptable Items: Stumps, ashes, animal waste, sod, topsoil/dirt, rocks, gravel, lumber, garbage, large branches greater than 6 inches in diameter or longer than 5 feet.

Loads may be subject to inspection by Recycling Center staff. Illegal dumping is subject to fine per Manitowoc Code section 6.17. Placing unaccepted items in an otherwise designated recycling container or pile is considered illegal dumping and is subject to fine. If you have questions about a particular material, call 683-4333 and ask.

BASSWOOD SITE
 3000 Basswood Rd.
 Mon-Fri 7am-4pm
 Sat 8am-4pm

WOODLAND SITE
 4189 Woodland Dr.
 Mon-Fri 10am-4pm
 Sat 8am-4pm

COMPOST PRODUCTS—Wood mulch and compost are available at the Recycling Center Main Office during the posted office hours. Purchases must be made before loading. Note that the office hours are different than the drop off site hours. Loading is generally available Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 3:30pm. Deliveries can also be set up within Manitowoc County. Call 920-683-4333 for more info.

RECYCLING CENTER OFFICE
 3000 Basswood Rd, Manitowoc
 Mon-Fri 7am-4pm
 Sat 8am-Noon

SCREENED COMPOST PRICES

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

UNSCREENED COMPOST PRICES

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

WOOD MULCH SPECIAL

- Wood Mulch Free
- Loading Fee \$2.00
- 6 cubic yards including delivery: \$30.50



LEAVES

Fall is a great time to stockpile leaves for home composting. Dry leaves are usually in short supply during the greener growing season but they are important for good composting for a number of reasons. Dry leaves are a good source of carbon. Mixing leaves with food scraps and grass clippings, both which have more nitrogen, will help to balance the nutrients that the decomposer organisms within your compost pile need in order to work well. Leaves also help soak up the extra moisture that can reduce airflow in your compost pile. Air is critical for composting well and to minimize odors. Your pile will benefit from the mixing process too. Leaves are also great for covering your kitchen scraps and garden waste so it does not attract pest as easily, or gross out your neighbors.



Keep a stockpile of leaves next to your compost pile and add them as needed throughout the year. A mulching mower or shredder can reduce the pile size and make them easier to handle. Turn them occasionally and they will start to decompose on their own.

Of course, if you have more than you can use they can go to the municipal compost site. However, by using them for home composting you help reduce the amount of material that needs to be transported to and processed at the municipal compost sites.

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.

WASTE TIRE COLLECTION

The Manitowoc County Waste Tire Collection now runs from April through October. Previous tire collections were limited to 2 weeks in September but recent facility changes have allowed us to accept them seasonally. With the expanded service this year, participants have brought in a total of 30 tons of tires so far. Residents and businesses can drop off tires for a fee at the Manitowoc County Recycling Center during normal office hours. Please review the rates and guidelines before bringing tires.



Fees and Guidelines

- Pay in the Recycling Center Main Office before dropping off any tires
- \$4.00 per car tire or smaller (5 tires or less)
- \$5.50 per standard truck tire (5 tires or less)
- 14.5 cents per pound (\$290 per ton) for road tires including:
 - Quantities of 6 or more tires
 - Semi tires
 - Tires on rims
- 19.5 cents per pound (\$390 per ton) for off-road tires including:
 - Agricultural equipment tires
 - Mining equipment tires
 - Mixed loads containing off road tires
- Pay in the Recycling Center Main Office **before** dropping off tires
- Bring your waste tires during the listed times for the Main Office
- Collection employees reserve the right to judge, based on tire size and quantity, whether a customer is charged on a per tire basis or by tire weight.
- Residents and businesses with dump truck loads or larger quantities of tires must call the Recycling Center before coming
- Rubber products that are not tires are not accepted

Location & Hours:

3000 Basswood Road
Manitowoc

Monday—Friday
7am—4pm
Saturday
8am—Noon

Tires Accepted:

- Car
- Truck
- Semi
- Tractor
- Motorcycle
- ATV
- Bicycle

DRUG DISPOSAL —CRIME PREVENTION DAY The next drug collection event will be held at the Crime Prevention Day at the Manitowoc County Expo Merchants Building on October 20 from 10am to 2pm. Residents may drop off their unwanted medications for FREE. Please see below for program guidelines.

The Manitowoc County Drug Collection has been a popular and successful program. Since the beginning of the program in 2006, there has been 14,999 pounds of unwanted medications (not including packaging) collected and 3 permanent drop boxes installed.

Prescription and over-the-counter medications are often stored in the home long after they have expired, creating stockpiles of easily accessible drugs that can contribute to drug abuse, overdose, and accidental poisonings. To reduce the potential for abuse, medications should be removed from the home and disposed of properly at a drug drop box or collection event. The past practices of flushing meds down the toilet or throwing them in the trash is not a safe solution, as they can allow medication to enter waterways and contaminate our drinking water supply. Waste water treatment plants, which handle water that is flushed down toilets and drains and treat landfill leachate, are not designed to filter out drugs. Medicine discarded in garbage bins may also become a target for desperate drug abusers who search for unused medication in household waste.

MERCURY THERMOMETER EXCHANGE
As part of the Crime Prevention Day Drug Collection you can bring your mercury fever thermometers and receive a complimentary digital thermometer. All household mercury and mercury containing devices less than 7" by 12" will be accepted; however, only household thermometers are eligible for the exchange program. The limit is one digital thermometer per household while supplies last.

Be sure to transport mercury in a sealed, cushioned container and keep them separate from any medications you are dropping off.



If you miss this collection don't worry, the Manitowoc County Recycling Center will exchange your mercury fever thermometer anytime during office hours. For questions call 920-683-4333 or visit:

Manitowocounty.com/recyclingcenter.

DRUG DISPOSAL GUIDELINES

Remove pills from the original container and put them in a sealed "ziplock" style bag that is quart size or smaller before placing in the drug drop box. Empty pill containers may be placed in your home recycling or trash.

Guidelines:

- Accepted drugs include prescriptions, over the counter, pet medications, supplements, and controlled substances.
- Place pills in a "ziplock" style bag that is quart size or less. Pills may be mixed in the same bags. 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 your medications in a secured location.
- Practice reduction by consulting with your physician about your medication needs.
- Never share your prescriptions with another person.



Permanent Dropbox Locations:

Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office: 1025 South 9th Street, Manitowoc, 8am—4:30pm Monday—Friday

Manitowoc City Police Dept: 910 Jay Street, Manitowoc, 7:30am—4:30pm Monday—Friday

Two Rivers Police Dept: 1717 East Park Street, Two Rivers, 8am—4:30pm Monday—Friday

If you have questions, visit Manitowocounty.com/recyclingcenter or call the Manitowoc County Recycling Center at 683-4333.

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. We only accept #1 and #2 bottles and jars. 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 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 Ascend Services Inc. Formerly Holiday House of Manitowoc Inc.



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.

