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Spring 2022

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Manitowoc County
Recycling Center & Compost Sites



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Mission Statement

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

VOLUNTEER CALL

The Manitowoc County Recycling Center is looking for volunteers to assist with tasks at the Compost Sites and Recycling Depot. This is a great way to learn more about recycling and composting in your community! All volunteers will be trained by the site manager. If you are interested in helping with recycling and composting efforts in our community this is a great and flexible opportunity. Contact the Recycling Center Main Office at 683-4333 for more details or to sign up.

- All volunteers must fill out the Manitowoc County Volunteer Application and meet with the Operations Manager.
- All volunteers will receive initial training and checkups from the site Operations Manager.
- Volunteer tasks include:
 - Control litter by routinely monitoring the sites and picking up... help keep our compost and environment clean
 - Notify the main office of any illegal dumping.
 - Greet and direct customers at the Recycling Depot, Basswood Compost Site, or Woodland Compost Site.
 - Help answer customer questions.
 - Inspect incoming loads and provide friendly feedback.
 - Record temperatures in compost piles.
 - Tasks can be modified to the comfort level of each volunteer.
- Volunteers earn freebies or discounts for various products and services at our facility as they log hours. Discounts include compost products and electronics recycling services.
 - For every 10-15hrs of service, volunteers may receive a voucher for a yard of wood mulch, screened compost, disposal of a small tv, or items of similar value.
- The Recycling Center will provide a reflective safety vest, trash grabber, a container/bag, and any informational handouts that may be needed.
- Dress for the weather! Work is primarily outdoors.
- Bring your favorite gloves and footwear appropriate for dust or mud.
- Work when you want and for how long you want.
- Volunteer hours can be used to fill service requirements for school or court if needed.



Volunteers Needed



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



RESPONSIBLE ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

The Manitowoc County Recycling Center urges you to make informed decisions when choosing how to recycle your unwanted electronics. The images below were provided by the Wisconsin Dept of Natural Resources E-Cycle Program; they are from 4 sites in Wisconsin that have since been cleaned up. These sites' cleanup costs were well over \$100,000 each. Most of the items in the pictures are broken lead-glass cathode ray tubes and plastic housing from old televisions. The circuit boards and copper wiring were mostly removed, leaving behind the hazardous and problematic components. While these are some large cleanup sites, they highlight the theme at the heart of the problem: someone collects your unwanted items, often at no or low cost, they remove the parts they can get paid for, and discard the parts that they would have to pay disposal for.

Choosing a responsible electronics recycler helps to avoid this issue. Proper recycling will allow the materials and components in your unwanted electronics to be recycled and processed using the best available methods to protect the environment, your community, and the workers handling the materials.

Many electronics recyclers are registered with the WDNR E-Cycle program. You can search their list for your area and the type of material you have at the [WDNR Certified Electronics Collector List](#).

The Manitowoc County Recycling Center program is a WDNR certified collection site and will accept most electronics for a reasonable fee. Our guidelines and rates are online at <https://manitowocountywi.gov/departments/recycling-center/electronics-collection/>.

**E-CYCLE
WISCONSIN**

Photo credit: WDNR E-cycle Program

COMPOST SITES—SEASONAL HOURS

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.

Both the Basswood Road and Woodland Drive Compost Sites are available for drop off of acceptable yard materials during the posted hours. Remove plastic bags and other unacceptable debris from the materials you drop off. Brush drop offs should be placed on the brush pile. Keeping your yard material drop offs clean and free of unacceptable items will help us create better compost products. When using the compost sites drive slow and watch for traffic. It is advisable to avoid using the compost sites during or after heavy rains since they can easily become rutted and slippery. Do not use the compost sites outside of the posted hours.

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: **ASHES**, stumps, animal waste, sod with soil, 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 COMPOST SITE

3000 Basswood Rd, Manitowoc
Mon-Fri 7am-6pm
Sat 8am-6pm

WOODLAND COMPOST SITE

4191 Woodland Dr, Two Rivers
Mon-Fri 10am-6pm
Sat 8am-6pm

Please check your loads for *micro-trash* like wrappers, plant tags, bottle caps, or other small garbage.

**Help keep
our compost
clean!**

**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 of 6 cubic yards/load can also be set up within Manitowoc County. Call 920-683-4333 for more info.



Screened Compost



Shredded Leaf Mulch



Wood Mulch

RECYCLING CENTER OFFICE

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

SCREENED COMPOST PRICES

- 1 bushel: \$3.00
- 1 cubic yard: \$15.00

UNSCREENED COMPOST PRICES

- 1 bushel: \$1.00
- 1 cubic yard: \$3.00

WOOD MULCH

- 1 bushel: \$1.00
- 1 cubic yard: \$10.00

SHREDDED LEAF MULCH

- 1 bushel: \$1.00
- 1 cubic yard: \$10.00

DELIVERY

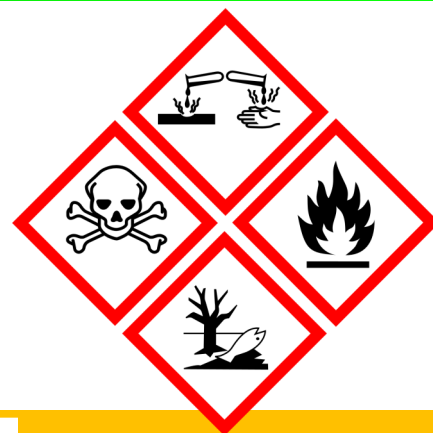
- Zone 1 (within 10mi) \$40.00
- Zone 2 (over 10mi) \$65.00

*1 bushel is about 10 gallons of material
and a cubic yard is 3'X3'X3'.*

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**.

Thanks to our participants and volunteers, since our collection started in 1985, we have collected 1,114,346 pounds of unwanted chemicals.



Manitowoc County Highway Shop 3500 HWY 310

Residents

Saturday, **May 14**, 9am - Noon

Farms and Businesses

Friday, **May 13**, 2pm - 4pm

Pre-registration is required by May 6

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.

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

Recycling.manitowocountywi.gov

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.
- Place items in your trunk or the back of your vehicle.
- Gas cans, totes, and other containers will not be returned.
- When arriving at the Clean Sweep site, slow down and follow traffic directions.
- Remain in your vehicle at all times.
- Do not come before or after the listed times.
- Farms and businesses must register by May 6. Call 920-683-4333.

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

TIRE COLLECTION

The Manitowoc County Recycling Center tire collection will run from April through October. The Tire Collection started in 1998 as a 2 week event and has since collected approximately 4.01 million pounds of waste tires. 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.

Fees and Guidelines

- \$5.85—per car tire or smaller (5 tires or less).
- \$7.75—per standard truck tire (5 tires or less).
- 19 cents per pound (\$380 per ton) for:
 - Quantities of 6 or more tires
 - Semi tires
 - Tires on rims
- 24 cents per pound (\$480 per ton) for off road tires including:
 - Agricultural equipment tires
 - Mining equipment tires
 - Mixed loads containing off road tires
- Stop in the Recycling Center Main Office **before** dropping off tires.
- Bring your waste tires to the Manitowoc County Recycling Center during normal office hours.
- 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 load or larger quantities of tires must call the Recycling Center before coming.
- For more information call the Recycling Center at 920-683-4333 or visit Recycling.manitowoccountymi.gov.

Location & Hours:

3000 Basswood Road
Manitowoc

Monday—Friday

7am—4pm

Saturday

8am—Noon

Tires Accepted:

Car

Truck

Semi

Tractor

Motorcycle

ATV

Bicycle

***Rubber products that are not tires
are not accepted.**

DRUG DISPOSAL PROGRAM

Drug Drop Boxes are available year-round at participating law enforcement buildings. Since the Drug Disposal Program started in 2006, 21,100.7lbs of unwanted medications have been collected for proper disposal. 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. 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.

PERMANENT DROP BOX LOCATIONS:

- Manitowoc Co. Sheriff's Office: 1025 South 9th St, 8am-3:30pm 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
- Mishicot Village Police: 511 East Main St, Mishicot, open during [Village Hall](#) hours
- Kiel Police Dept: 619 Paine St, Kiel, open 7:30a-3p M-F

DISPOSAL EVENT:

- Saturday, April 30th: 9am-Noon, Holy Family Memorial Main Entrance, 2300 Western Ave., Manitowoc

YES



NO



UNDERSTANDING PFAS

(press release from the Wisconsin Solid Waste PFAS Coalition)

Throughout the nation, communities face the challenge of managing per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), commonly referred to as “forever chemicals.” From understanding the health impacts of PFAS exposure to environmental damage caused by spills to proper disposal of wastes contaminated with PFAS, there are no clear answers. While landfills, transfer facilities, materials recovery facility and composting facilities are not producers of PFAS, they receive household and industrial wastes laden with PFAS.

The solid waste industry’s entire mission is to reduce the impact of all kinds of wastes and to protect human health and the environment. One strategy for achieving that mission related to PFAS can be seen in a new informational website, www.wisolidwastePFAS.org. The main purpose of this website is to help people understand this issue and take action to reduce exposure to PFAS containing materials.

PFAS are a group of over 5,000 compounds created and used by industry since the 1930s. Since that time, PFAS have been used in abundance in household products like Teflon®, Scotchguard®, personal care items such as lotions, hair conditioners and deodorants, waterproof clothing and footwear, stain-free carpets and many other household items. PFAS were also used in food packaging, including wrappers for fast food. PFAS are also used in fire-fighting foams because of their ability to withstand heat and not breakdown in the presence of water.

In 2019, the Solid Waste PFAS Work Group started to help address the concerns of PFAS in our society. As the receivers of anything disposed from industries and residents, we take the job of protecting people and our environment seriously. More information and implications of the use of PFAS continues to become known. Managing PFAS safely, effectively, and economically has become a priority to the solid waste industry in Wisconsin.

This website is the newest tool created to help people learn more about PFAS, how it effects our lives, and what the waste management industry is doing about this issue.

The Wisconsin Solid Waste PFAS Coalition was formed in 2019 to educate and inform our industry members, lawmakers, and the public about the relationship between PFAS and our waste. The solid waste industry supports regulating these chemicals and has always held protection of human health and the environment as a core value; however, the health risks of PFAS need to be fully evaluated and weighed against other environmental pollutants before stringent standards are implemented.

(press release from the Wisconsin Solid Waste PFAS Coalition)

WISCONSIN SOLID WASTE PFAS COALITION



recyclemorewisconsin.org



swanawi.org



wcswma.org

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

The Manitowoc County Recycling Center is seeking to hire a summer worker. This position will be scheduled to work 40hrs per week starting May/June through August. Duties include operating the truck scale, front desk, sorting recyclables, compost site monitoring, assisting with surveys/outreach, and other tasks. Must be 18 years old and have a valid WI driver's license. Persons enrolled in a secondary education program with a focus on recycling, solid waste management or related field are encouraged to apply. Other summer employment opportunities are available through the Manitowoc County Expo and Public Works Department as well. For more information or to apply, visit us online at Manitowoc County Employment Opportunities and search for the job title.



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.
- Due to Covid-19, please practice social distancing and other precautions at the recycling depot.



The recycling and compost areas are monitored for illegal dumping, littering, and other issues. Please follow all posted guidelines.

Paper

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.



Plastic

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.



Glass Bottles

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.



Cartons

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.



Cardboard

Should be clean and flattened. No soiled cardboard or cardboard coated with wax, tin, or plastic.



Cans

Tin, steel, and aluminum cans. Coated cans, foil, and pie tins are ok. Empty and rinse out food residue.



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@manitowoccountymi.gov 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.

SCRAP METAL DUMPSTER

The Recycling Depot now has a scrap metal dumpster available for your convenience. It is for clean scrap metal only, including steel, iron, copper, sheet/cast aluminum, tin, and mixed metals. Please remove excessive non-metal components.

- NO propane (or other) tanks
- NO electronics or appliances
- NO batteries or lamps
- NO garbage, plastic, wood, or rubber
- NO chemicals, gas, oil, or other hazardous wastes.



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.

