



Recycling E-News

Recycling Information from
Waukesha County
waukeshacounty.gov/recycling

As the leaves change colors and the temperatures cool, it's a great time to get cozy with the latest recycling news from Waukesha County!



Pay-As-You-Throw: how to pay for trash services?

Recently, a public policy has been getting attention in local media: the Pay-As-You-Throw system for residential trash collection.

While the idea is starting to make headlines in Waukesha County, the concept is not new, and has already been an established policy in many communities around Wisconsin and the country.



In communities with Pay-As-You-Throw programs, residents are charged for the collection of household trash based on the amount they throw away.

Traditionally, residents pay for trash collection

Get the Meds Out!



Got old meds for disposal, but not sure how to do it safely?

Waukesha County residents can take part in a Great Lakes watershed project aimed at safe collection and disposal of unused medications.

Pick up a free mail-back envelope at several locations, then package and ship unwanted meds to a secure disposal facility.

Check out the program [website](#) to find out where you can get your free mail-back envelope!

MRF Family Open House

through property taxes or a fixed fee, regardless of how much - or how little - trash they generate. Pay-As-You-Throw Treats trash services just like electricity, gas, and other utilities. Households pay a variable rate depending on the amount of service they use.

Pay-As-You-Throw has positive environmental implications as well. Under this system, residents have financial incentive to find ways to reduce the amount of trash they create, resulting in less overall garbage sent to the landfill and more recycling.

The recycling program would still operate the same way and Waukesha County communities would continue to receive a share of revenue generated from the sale of the recyclables, as they have since 2001.

For a detailed description of the Pay-As-You-Throw system, visit waukeshacounty.gov/payasyouthrow

Falling Leaves, Oh My!

What is the 'greenest' way to handle the oranges, yellows, and browns that fall everywhere this time of year?

In the past, the inclination was to rake the leaves into piles and burn them. This practice is no longer recommended, due to the toxic particulates added to the air we breathe, safety issues and creating a neighborhood annoyance. Many communities have banned this disposal method.



One of the best practices for handling leaves is simply mowing them into the lawn. This process has many benefits compared to the alternatives, including: no raking, bagging, dragging or tending a smoldering burn pile.

Additionally, mulching leaves into your lawn returns the nutrients to the tree, which spent an entire season creating the leaves as next year's food source! Leaves are rich in carbon, phosphorus, and potassium - all of which help sustain your trees naturally while also supporting a healthier lawn.

This year, put away the rake and bring out the mower to handle those colorful fallen leaves. Your trees, and your neighbors, will thank you!

For details, visit waukeshacounty.gov/leaves

Reduce Your Waste Stream Challenge!



2011 Community Open House!

**Recycling Facility
220 S. Prairie Ave.
Waukesha**

Saturday, November 12, 2011
10am--noon

Free family fun, refreshments!

Free recycling bins!

**Reduce Household
Hazardous Waste**



Save money and protect your family!

Read labels when purchasing products to see if they are ignitable (burn readily), toxic (poisonous), corrosive, or reactive. Follow directions and use up as directed. Consider purchasing less toxic products such as water-based paints and stains. You can also make your own cleaning products.

STORAGE: Store paints, stains and driveways sealers where they will not freeze. Keep materials in their original container with labels intact. If container is leaking, be sure to re-label the new container that the material is transferred to. Store in a separate, locked cabinet or area out of reach of children and pets. Do not store hazardous materials near food, water, or medical supplies. Store flammable chemicals separately and

Waukesha County Recycling is back at it with the 2nd year of the **Reduce Your Waste Stream Challenge!**

This year, in partnership with the Waukesha School District STEM Academy, 27 families are reducing, reusing, recycling, and composting with one of the most unique environmental Challenges around!



Once again, this year's families are asked to weigh their trash and recycling separately and submit their numbers weekly. Over the course of 5 weeks, the families are challenged to see if they can get their trash weights down and their recycling weights as high as possible.

You can follow the family action right now at the exclusive Challenge website or encourage your school, church or civic group to take part. We will give your group encouragement and provide some incentives to participating families to make it fun!

ReduceYourWasteStream.org

away from heat, flame, or spark. Do not store hazardous materials in food or beverage containers.

For further information, visit: waukeshacounty.gov/hazardouswaste

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