

Waukesha County Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) Information

- * This is a county-owned facility. A private company operates the plant and markets the materials.
- * The plant began operating in 1991 and was expanded in 1996 from 18,880 sq. ft. to 29,312 sq. ft., increasing the processing capacity from 80 to 140 tons per day.
- * There are two sort lines: one for paper and one for containers. The private company has about 20 people working on the plant floor and 2 in the office. Employees on the sorting lines wear safety glasses, earplugs, special gloves and sleeves.
- * In 2011, the plant processed **21,431** tons of recyclables from **87,969** households in 25 participating communities. Private haulers collect the recyclables.
- * Daily tonnage varies - the average is @ 85-90 tons per day. That is about 32-34 truckloads.
 - **Each year**, over 50,000 cubic yards of landfill space is saved because of the county recycling program. That is equivalent to a football field filled over 30 feet high!
 - **One year of recyclables** shipped to market would fill over 1,000 semi loads (20 tons per load). If lined up bumper to bumper, the trucks would measure about 12 miles! That is from our MRF to downtown Delafield!

2011 Processing Information and Environmental Impact

Material	Where Shipped To	Avg. Bale lbs.	Avg. Bales/day (% Total Material)	Total Tons	Avg. # Shipments /wk	Energy Savings (1)	Reduced GHG's (2)	Cubic Yards Landfill Space Saved
Paper*	Wisconsin Michigan Illinois Tennessee	1200 - 1500	75 (63%)	12,750	11	1,168		31,212
PET plastic	Georgia	1100	6 (5%)	1,041	1	295		8,753
HDPE plastic	Michigan	1200	4(3%)	679	1	116		Plastic combined
Steel/Tin	Milwaukee	1240	3(3%)	555	1	124		2,494
Aluminum	St. Louis, MO	740	1(2%)	277	1 1/2 per month	416		1,288
Glass	Wisconsin Illinois	N/A	N/A(24%)	4,941	N/A	175		6,588
TOTAL			89	20,243		2,294 Households	6,400	50,336 yards³

*Includes newspaper, phone books, magazines, corrugated cardboard, household mail/paper, boxboard (cereal boxes, beverage carriers).

(1) Equals energy use for number of households per year. – NRC Calculator

(2) Equals greenhouse gas emission reduction in passenger car equivalents (# of cars off the road per year)- EPA WARM calculator.

www.waukeshacounty.gov/recycling