

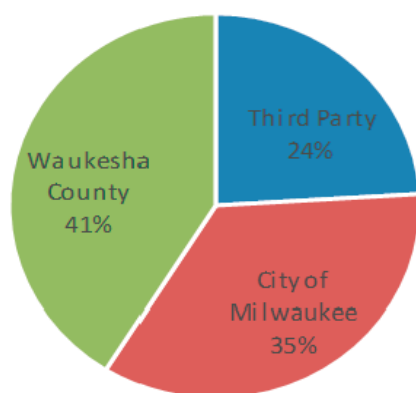
Recycling and Solid Waste *2016 Program Highlights*

40% Increase in Recycling Since 2015

The Joint Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), located in the Menomonee Valley, opened in 2015 through a cooperative agreement between Waukesha County and the City of Milwaukee. ReCommunity Recycling privately operates the MRF. This regional recycling facility processed almost 73,000 tons in 2016, including materials from 27 municipalities in the county recycling program, the City of Milwaukee, and other third parties.

For the county portion, the conversion to single-sort recycling in 2015 resulted in residents recycling 40% more materials, greatly exceeding program goals of a 25% increase. Congratulations to our community partners and residents!

Joint MRF Recyclables Processed by Source: 2016



Municipal Recycling Dividends

Waukesha County, in its role as a Responsible Unit (RU), receives state grant funds and generates revenue from the sale of recyclables. These funds, along with continued success of the county recycling program, aid in the operation of an effective recycling program that meets state requirements and enables distribution of recycling dividend payments to program partners. On behalf of community partners, Waukesha County received \$992,735 in state grants to administer the recycling program in 2016.

“Due to the high participation level from our citizens, the county distributed \$1.75 million in total dividend payments as tax relief to municipal partners, including \$550,000 in financial assistance for recycling containers and direct hauling to the Joint MRF. Since 2001, participating communities have received a return on investment totaling almost \$16 million in recycling dividends,” said Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow.

Household Hazardous Waste

In 2016, 5,265 residents dropped off 238,447 pounds of hazardous materials for safe disposal at a permanent or satellite (temporary) collection site. Since 2002, this cooperative, countywide program has safely disposed of over 3 million pounds of household hazardous waste (HHW) from approximately 72,000 residents.

There were also 290 residents that took advantage of the Product Exchange Program, which reduces disposal costs by allowing unopened or partially used hazardous products to be dropped off and utilized by other residents. Hazardous waste collection programs are expensive; therefore, disposal should be the last option. Residents are encouraged to look for alternatives such as purchasing non-toxic products, purchase only the amount needed, or utilizing the Product Exchange Program at select HHW sites (*see Pg. 2 for more disposal options*).

Recycling or ‘Wish Cycling’

Have you ever put something in your recycling container, unsure if it was recyclable, but hoping it would be? Industry professionals are combating the increasing contamination of residential recycling through this practice called, ‘wish cycling’. Examples of wish cycling include propane tanks, plastic bags, foam containers, scrap metal and wood. While many of these may be recyclable, none of them should be placed in a curbside recycling container. The equipment used to process curbside recyclables is not designed to handle these materials. Propane tanks risk explosions and fires at the recycling facility; scrap metal, such as brake rotors, cause serious damage to the equipment and plastic bags clog the system by wrapping around numerous rotating shafts. All of these items, also known as residue, decrease the quality and value of recyclable materials and increase the landfill disposal costs.

Since local communities switched to single sort recycling in 2015, the percent of residue at



Above: Plastic bags jamming rotating shafts

the recycling facility has increased from 4% to over 9% of the total material collected from residents. Higher residue content reduces operating efficiencies, increases operating costs, causes costly equipment damage and worker safety concerns, along with lost revenue.

Fortunately, there are many things that you can do to prevent wish cycling! Residents are encouraged to know the acceptable recyclables, along with those that are not accepted, in your curbside recycling container. Most items not accepted have safe disposal or recycling options within the community. To learn more about what and how to recycle, to safely dispose of items at home or where to take them, download the *Waukesha County Recycles* mobile app now available on Google Play and the App Store!

Recycling Containers REMAIN WITH THE PROPERTY

If you are moving, please remember that the blue recycling containers, or both garbage and recycling carts, are provided by the contractor for your use while residing in your home and must remain at the property after you move for the next property owner. Please do not take these containers with you when you move, as it is an added cost to the municipality/new property owner to replace these containers.



Recycling in the Community

Recycling is not limited to items accepted in the curbside recycling container! There are many other common household items that can be recycled in your community, including at retail stores, thrift shops, non-profit organizations, home improvement and electronics stores. Download the free **Waukesha County Recycles** mobile app available on Google Play and the App Store for more recycling options.

Call retailers for details, as policies, items accepted and fees change frequently. This is not an all-inclusive list. No endorsement of any business by Waukesha County is intended.

ITEM/MATERIAL	DESCRIPTION	LOCATIONS FOR RECYCLING OR DISPOSAL OPTIONS
Plastic Bags & Plastic Film	Clean, dry plastic bags from produce, newspapers, bread, dry cleaning, plastic case wrap from snack and beverage cases, and plastic packaging wrap from napkins, paper towels, bathroom tissue, and diaper packaging.	Pick 'n Save, Sam's Club, Metro Market, Woodman's, Target, Kohl's, JC Penney, Walmart. Please visit www.PlasticFilmRecycling.org for more locations that accept plastic film for recycling.
Light Bulbs & Tubes	Compact fluorescent bulbs, fluorescent tubes, circular fluorescents, U-bend fluorescents, ballasts, etc.	Batteries Plus Bulbs, Lowe's, Home Depot (collects CFLs only). Minimal fees may apply. Visit www.lamprecycle.org for a complete list of participating businesses.
Shredded Paper	Junk mail applications can be torn in half and recycled. Mail with a basic name and address is not considered sensitive, so shred only what's necessary.	Office Depot, Pirana or Kard Recycling in New Berlin. Minimal fees may apply. Look for shredding events at local banking institutions.
Latex Paint	A water-based paint that is non-hazardous.	If it can't be used or donated, latex paint can be safely disposed with household trash. Paint must be dried or absorbed. To speed up the drying process, paint hardener is available at most home improvement stores.

For more information about batteries, medications, sharps, textiles and many other items that can be recycled or properly disposed of in the community, download the free **Waukesha County Recycles** mobile app.

Yard Waste Alternatives

Residents often call the county office for assistance regarding options for proper disposal of leaves and other yard waste. As a reminder, there is no county yard waste collection site for residents. Each city, town or village oversees their own yard waste program for residents, and some communities choose not to offer them. The only other option is to hire a contractor or utilize a local, private landfill that has a composting operation.

There are better, no-cost alternatives! Attend one of our Fall Yard & Lawn Care programs and learn how to mulch large quantities of leaves, take home a large leaf-pile quick compost recipe, and more. Why bag, drag, and create more work? Check the news and events on our free **Waukesha County Recycles** mobile app, website or public program guide.

Electronics & Appliance Recycling

Collection events will continue monthly in 2017 in cooperation with partner communities throughout Waukesha County on the second Saturday of each month from 9am to noon. The events are open to all Waukesha County residents. Check the website or our **Waukesha County Recycles** mobile app for event listings.

Electronics Accepted	Appliances Accepted
Items collected for a fee (cash only): Televisions Sets (\$25 each), CRT Computer Monitors (\$10 each)	Items collected at no fee: Air Conditioners, Dehumidifiers, Refrigerators, Microwaves, Water Coolers, Freezers, Water Heaters, Washer/Dryers, Stoves, Oven/Ranges, Dishwashers
Items collected at no fee: Other Computer Monitors & LCDs, Computers, Keyboards, Laptops, Printers, Scanners, Cell Phones, Telephones, DVD Players, VCRs & Stereos	

These collection events are for household electronics and appliances only. Businesses are required by Wisconsin law to recycle and there are several options to contract for these services listed on our website.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Information

Safely dispose of your chemicals and household hazardous items.

Collection Sites - Open to all Waukesha County Residents

MUSKEGO W144 S6347 College Ct. • February – November 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 8am – 12pm	WAUKESHA 900 Sentry Dr. • February – March & November 2nd Saturday, 8am – 12pm • April – October 2nd and 4th Saturdays, 8am – 12pm
MEMONEE FALLS W124 N9451 Boundary Rd. (124 th St.) • January – December Mondays and Wednesdays, 11am – 6pm Saturdays, 8am – 2pm	SPECIAL ONE-DAY COLLECTIONS 8am – noon Mukwonago – May 20 th Brookfield – June 3 rd Delafield – June 17 th Oconomowoc – September 9 th
FRANKLIN (MILWAUKEE COUNTY) 10518 S. 124 th St. • February – November 2nd and 4th Saturdays, 8am – 2pm	

*Locations, days, and times of permanent and one day collections subject to change

Items Accepted at HHW Collection Sites

- Cleaning solutions with solvents
- Thermometers, thermostats w/ mercury
- Fertilizer w/ weed killer
- Pesticides/herbicides
- Rat/rodent poison
- Insect/bug killer
- Compact fluorescent light bulbs and tubes (check local retailers for recycling)
- Gasoline, fuels
- Lead-based/oil-based paint
- Paint remover
- Paint thinner/turpentine
- Stain, varnish, lacquer
- Automotive chemicals & solvents

Unacceptable at HHW Drop-offs:

- Ammunition/fireworks
- Batteries
- Waste from businesses or institutions
- Radioactive materials (smoke detectors)
- Antifreeze & motor oil (see drop-off site listings below for recycling locations)
- Empty containers
- Latex paint
- Sharps (needles/syringes)
- Medicines

Use less toxins in the home

Before purchasing a cleaning, automotive or garden product, see what's available at a Product Exchange Program. This free program is available at all permanent county HHW sites except Muskego. Quantities and types of materials vary.

Participants are required to sign a liability waiver and standard release forms. IDENTIFICATION IS REQUIRED.

For more information about household hazardous waste (HHW), including a detailed list of what is accepted at collection sites and the holiday closing schedule, download the free **Waukesha County Recycles** mobile app or visit: waukeshacounty.gov/hazardouswaste

Recycling Drop-Off Sites

Listed below are common household items accepted from all Waukesha County residents at these municipal sites (NO garbage):

COMMUNITY	HOURS	SUMMARY OF ACCEPTED ITEMS FROM ANY COUNTY RESIDENT
City of Brookfield ci.brookfield.wi.us	April – Nov: Tues & Thurs 1 pm – 7 pm All Year: Sat 8 am – 5 pm	All Curbside Recyclables, Scrap Metal
Village of Hartland villageofhartland.com	April – Nov: 2 nd & 4 th Sat 9 am – 1 pm April – Nov: 2 nd & 4 th Tues 6 pm – 8 pm All Year: Fri 9 am – 3 pm	All Curbside Recyclables, Motor Oil/ Filters, Antifreeze, Scrap Metal
Town of Lisbon townoflisbonwi.com	All day, every day (unstaffed drop-off)	Motor Oil/ Filters and Antifreeze
Town of Merton townofmerton.com	All Year: 1 st Sat 8 am – 12 pm	All Curbside Recyclables, Motor Oil/ Filters, Antifreeze, Scrap Metal
Village of Pewaukee villageofpewaukee.wi.us	Jan – Feb: Closed March – Oct: Wed 4 pm – 7 pm March – Dec: Sat 9 am – 3 pm	All Curbside Recyclables, Motor Oil/ Filters, Antifreeze, Scrap Metal
City of Waukesha waukesha-wi.gov	April – Nov: Wed 11 am – 7 pm All Year: Sat 8 am – 4 pm	All Curbside Recyclables, Motor Oil/ Filters, Antifreeze, Scrap Metal, Cooking Oil/ Grease, Textiles

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY SITES

Big Bend Delafield (City) Elm Grove	New Berlin Oconomowoc (City & Town) Pewaukee (City)	Summit Vernon Waukesha (Town)
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These sites accept certain items from their residents only.



You're Invited!

Got questions? Need information? Looking for something fun to do?
Visit our booth, event, or themed workshop in a community near you! Download the free
Waukesha County Recycles mobile app for specific locations, dates, and times.

ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE!

APRIL

- April 3** Rain Gardens & Rain Barrels Presentation – New Berlin Public Library ■ 6pm
- April 10** Clean Water, Healthy Lawn Workshop – New Berlin Public Library ■ 6pm
- April 11** Home Composting Workshop – Oconomowoc Public Library ■ 6pm
- April 22** **FRIENDS OF RETZER NATURE CENTER'S EARTH WEEK FINALE EVENT** at Retzer Nature Center ■ 10am - 3pm
Families can learn about the water bug life cycle at the pond among many other family friendly activities!
- April 27** Rain Gardens & Rain Barrels Presentation – Poplar Creek Gardens, New Berlin ■ 6:30pm
- April 29** **SPRING SALE & WORKSHOP EVENT** at Retzer Nature Center ■ 9am-1pm
Attend free workshops and learn about home composting, rain gardens & rain barrels, native plant landscaping or take a guided native wildflower walk. Pre-order native plants, compost bins and rain barrels online at waukeshacounty.gov/SpringSale until April 5 at great sale prices! Pick up ordered items at the Spring Sale & Workshop Event on April 29! Pre-orders are encouraged as very limited quantities available for purchase at the event.

JUNE

- June 10** **MILWAUKEE PUBLIC MUSEUM'S THIRD ANNUAL BIO BLITZ** at Fox River Park ■ 10am-3pm
See how many plant and animal species scientists are finding and take part in hands-on activities - BioBlitz is fun for the whole family! Also learn about citizen science opportunities

- June 24** Lake Country Clean Water Festival Booth – Pewaukee Lakefront Park Beach ■ 10am-3pm

JULY

- July 26** Hartland Kids Day Booth – Nixon Park, Hartland ■ 9am-3pm

SEPTEMBER

- September 23** **DOORS OPEN MILWAUKEE EVENT** at the City of Milwaukee/Waukesha County Materials Recycling Facility, 1401 W. Mount Vernon, Milwaukee ■ 10am-3pm
Take a free tour of the City of Milwaukee/Waukesha County Materials Recycling Facility!
- September 23** Apple Harvest Fest Booth – Retzer Nature Center ■ 9am-5pm



Like Waukesha County Recycles



Download the Waukesha County Recycles Mobile App



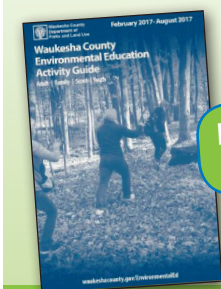
Follow @WauCoRecycles



Sign up for our Recycling E-News at waukeshacounty.gov/recycling

2017: New Year, New Recycling Education Opportunities!

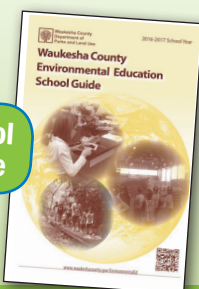
Waukesha County Recycling staff provided presentations and recycling facility tours to 7,045 residents in 2016, an 83% increase over the previous year. Presentations focused on recycling right, reducing waste, best practices for yard materials and recycling beyond curbside collection. Recycling education will reach a new level of excitement in 2017, as Retzer Nature Center will be remodeled to incorporate classroom and exhibit space for recycling and water education. In addition to new interactive exhibits, recycling and water programs will be available for schools, scouts, and the general public that can be paired with existing Retzer Nature Center programs. For more information about Waukesha County Environmental Education activities, special events, and programs, get your copy of the Waukesha County Environmental Education Activity Guide online at www.waukeshacounty.gov/environmentaleducation.



Public Guide

Waukesha County Environmental Education Guides!

School Guide



Find out more at: waukeshacounty.gov/EnvironmentalEd

Citizen Science at Work for You

Everyone wants clean lakes, rivers and streams. Do you know how your home, yard and actions affect our local rivers and streams? Storm drains deliver water that runs off our rooftops, lawns and streets directly to local water bodies with no filtration or cleaning, carrying fertilizers, pet waste, oil, sediment and a host of other pollutants down the drain and into our waters.



Above: Michael measures turbidity

How bad is it? That is what our volunteer stream monitors are helping to determine. Once a month, these citizens don their waders and visit a local stream or river to collect water quality data. The data is loaded into the WI-DNR water database known as SWIMS, where it can be used by researchers, government agencies, nonprofit groups, or even other interested citizens.

Jim Praeger, Ray Pope and Michael DePrey have been monitoring the Pewaukee River together since 2014. Michael is the “new guy” in the neighborhood, having lived here only 37 years! The other two “lifers” took an interest in their local river and decided to try citizen stream monitoring. Year one, Jim, Mike and Ray started monitoring a site on the Pewaukee river south of I-94 and enjoyed it enough to quickly offer taking on a second site.

They have noticed great differences from month to month, especially in water depth and dissolved oxygen levels. That's not surprising considering the urban/suburban nature of the Pewaukee River. Charlie Shong, president of the Pewaukee River Partnership, says: “What happens on the land will show up in the water eventually. Development and changes are coming at a rapid pace in Waukesha County, so monitoring is extremely important. The information that comes from these small streams is especially valuable because no one else is collecting it and it helps give us a good picture of what is happening in the watershed.”

Citizen stream monitors are a dedicated and lively crew. Once a month, from May to October, they monitor their site, collecting data on temperature, dissolved oxygen, turbidity (cloudiness), flow, biotic index (living organisms) and – in some cases – phosphorus. Every March, monitors are invited to a thank you lunch for their efforts, where they can also learn from each other about their monitoring experiences.

If you would like to join the ranks of Waukesha County's Citizen Stream Monitors, call Jayne Jenks at 262-896-8305. Waukesha County has a limited amount of equipment available for stream monitoring. Volunteers must attend a one-day training. Equipment and training are provided at no cost, but pre-registration is required to attend the training class on Saturday, May 6th.

Even without becoming a stream monitor, you can help protect our local waters. Simple practices such as picking up pet waste, testing soil before applying fertilizer, and keeping grass clippings and leaves out of the street will help lakes and rivers. Installing a rain garden or using rain barrels will help reduce runoff from your home. Visit www.waukeshacounty.gov/cleanwater for more information. By adopting clean water practices at home, our lakes, rivers and streams will be cleaner and healthier.



Above: Ray and Michael measure dissolved oxygen



Above: Jim, Michael and Ray

Missed pick up? Bulk pick up? Call your hauler!

John's Disposal
262-473-4700
or
Advanced Disposal Services
262-367-6040

Not sure which hauler picks up your recycling? Visit waukeshacounty.gov/recyclinghauler or download the free *Waukesha County Recycles* mobile app to find out.



ONLINE SERVICES
for Waukesha County Parks & Land Use

waukeshacountyparks.com

Program Registration Campsite Reservations
Golf Gift Cards Annual Stickers
Online Store Facility Rental

@WaukeshaCoParks Waukesha County Parks

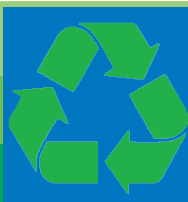
PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Fond du Lac, WI
Permit No. 317

Department of Parks and Land Use
Land Resources Division
515 W. Moreland Blvd., AC 260
Waukesha, WI 53188

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The Recycling & Clean Water Newsletter is produced in part to fulfill state and federal water quality and recycling program requirements.



ENTER to WIN!



Download the **FREE**
Waukesha County Recycles
mobile app

for a chance to win the following great prizes!

- 2-pack of 18 holes with cart at Wanaki Golf Course
- 2-pack of 18 holes with cart at Naga-Waukee Golf Course
- 2-pack of 18 holes Foot Golf at Moor Downs Golf Course
- 2017 Waukesha County Parks Sticker
- 4 Ice Arena Passes



Once the app is downloaded, select the "News & Events" tab and click the ENTER HERE banner to register to win!



Download on the
App Store

GET IT ON
Google Play

LET'S RECYCLE,
WAUKESHA COUNTY!

Spring Sale Pre-Orders

Available
through April 5

Compost Bins
Native Plants
Rain Barrels

Order Now!

Pick up on April 29 at the
Spring Sale & Workshop Event
(See event below)

waukeshacounty.gov/springsale

Compost Bins

\$50
(\$60 value)



Rain Barrel
with Diverter Kit
Rain barrel
\$60 (\$84 value)

Tandem set
\$100 (\$121 value)

Native Plants
Starting
at **\$2.50**



Spring Sale & Workshop Event

Sat., April 29 ♦ 9 am - 1 pm
Rain or Shine

FREE workshops

Rain Gardens and Rain Barrels	8:30 - 9 am
Home Composting Workshop	9:15 - 9:45 am
Native Plant Landscaping	10 - 10:45 am
Native Wildflower Walk	11 - 11:45 am

Pick up your pre-orders and
shop the limited supplies
of compost bins, native
plants and rain barrels with
diverter kits

Pre-registration not necessary but available online at
waukeshacounty.gov/springsale

