

Waukesha County
**Community Recycling and
Stormwater Education Meeting**

January 29, 2026

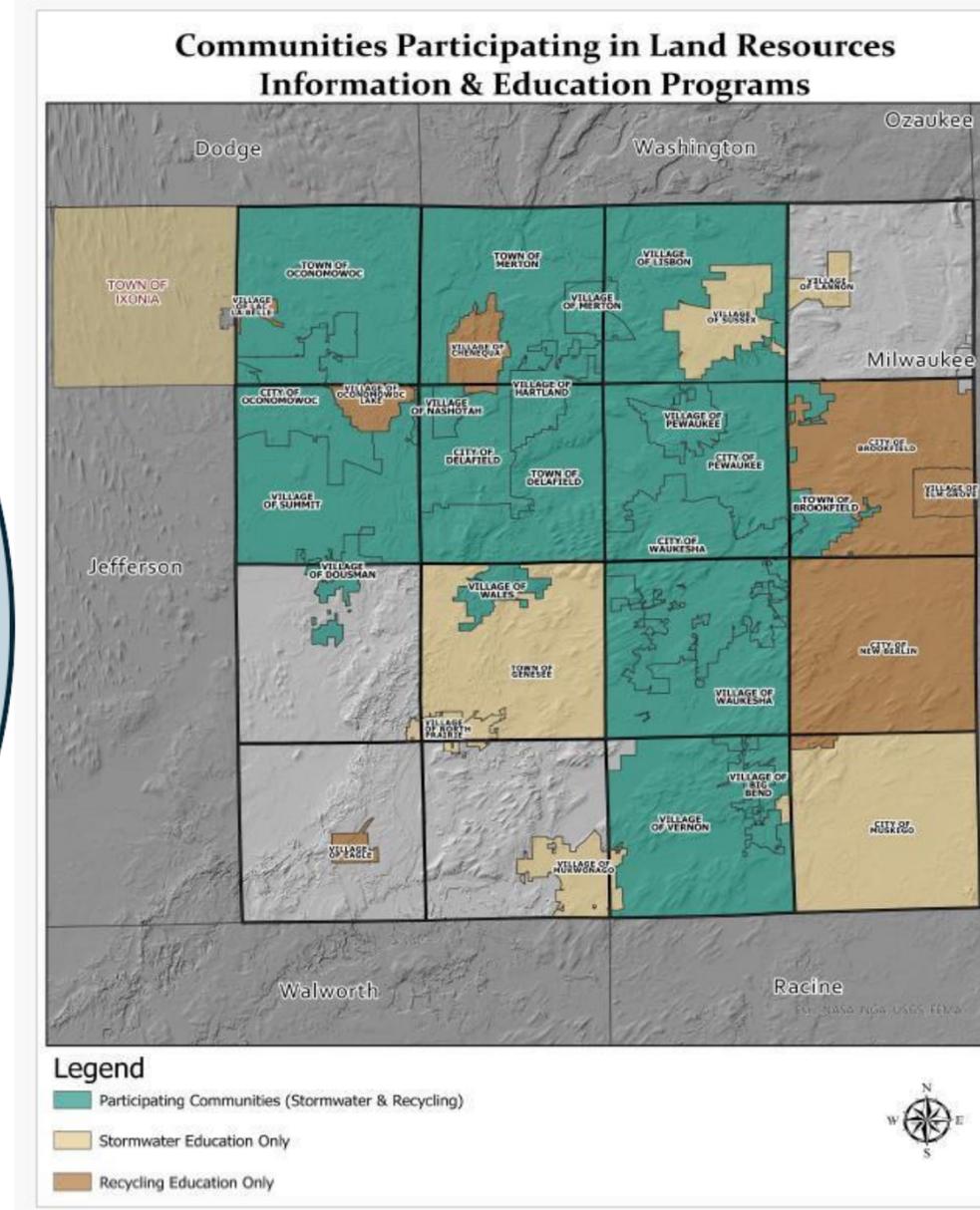
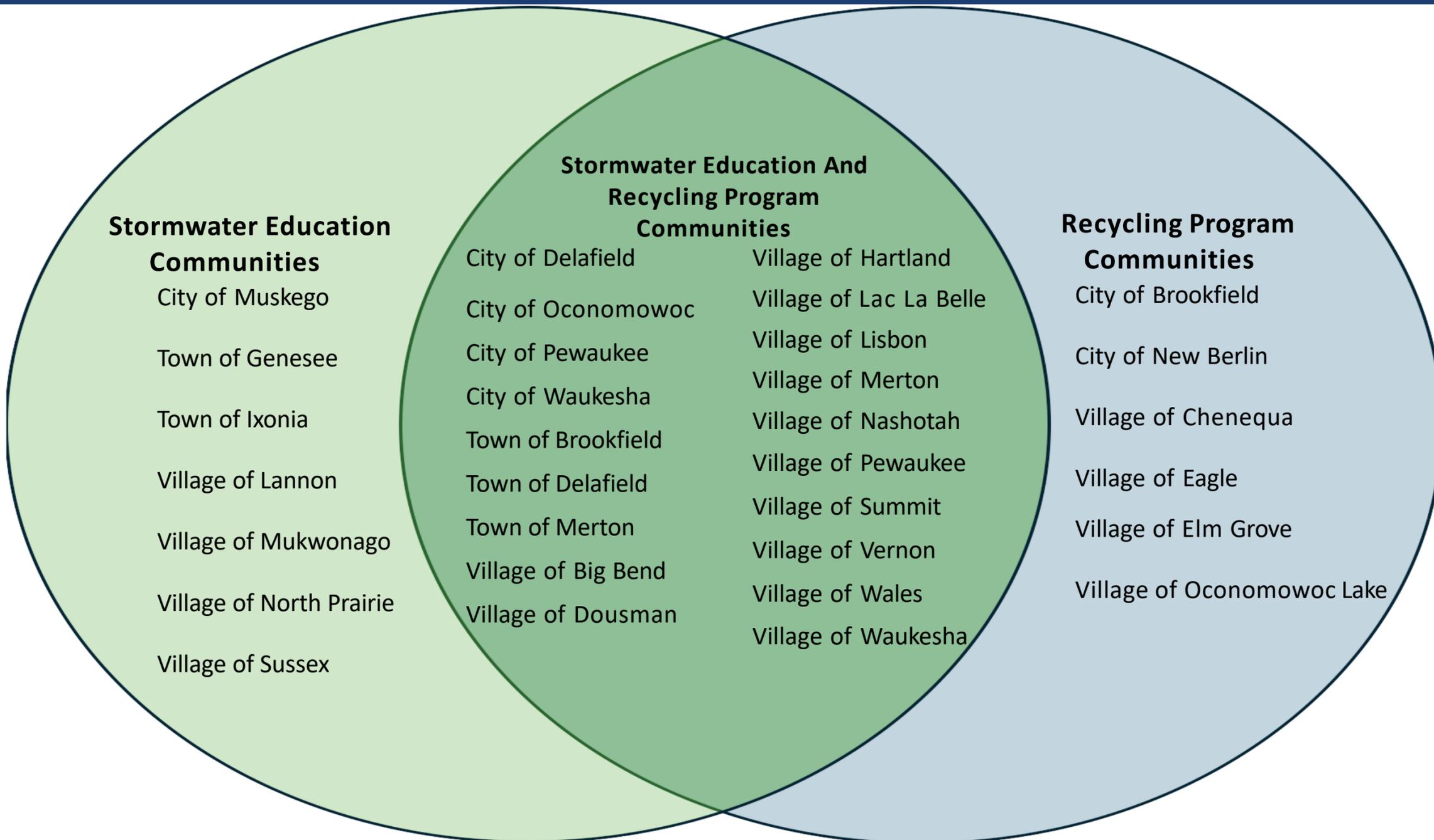


Welcome!

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. 2025 Review of RSW and Stormwater Programs
3. 2026 Look Ahead
 - Recycling Composition Analysis
 - Salt Awareness and Stormwater Awareness Weeks
 - Stormwater Workshop
 - HOA Resources
4. DNR Resources
5. Customer Service Study

Why are you here?



MS4 Community Partners

**Public Education and
Outreach**

**Public Involvement and
Participation**

**Illicit Discharge
Detection and
Elimination**

**Construction Site
Pollutant Control**

**Post Construction
Stormwater
Management**

**Pollution Prevention
Practices for the
Municipality**

**Developed Urbanized
Area Standard**

Storm Sewer Systems

Responsible Unit (RU): Effective Recycling Program

Recycling Ordinance
Enforcement

Operate an Education
and Outreach Program

Provide Program for
Processing and
Marketing of
Recyclables

Implement a
Compliance
Assurance Plan

DNR Reporting

DNR Coordination for
Program Updates

Household
Hazardous Waste
Program

2025 Successes

Educating Children and Adults

Stormwater

69 Stormwater presentations to 2945 attendees. Topics of programs include:

- Watersheds and runoff pollution
- Soils and infiltration
- Rain gardens and rain barrels
- Yard care practices
- Groundwater and conservation

Programs include at school programs, school trips to Retzer, Scout programs, library programs and senior programs.

Recycling

49 Recycling presentations to 2589 attendees. Topics of programs include:

- Recycling
- Composting
- Green cleaning
- Reduce, reuse, recycle and rot

Offerings include at school programs, school field trips to Retzer, Scouts, library and adult programs.

Engaging Citizens

Stormwater: Adopt a Drain

Total Adopters:

283 

Debris removed 

4,131 
Total lbs.

Total Recorded Drain Cleaning Visits:

7,091 

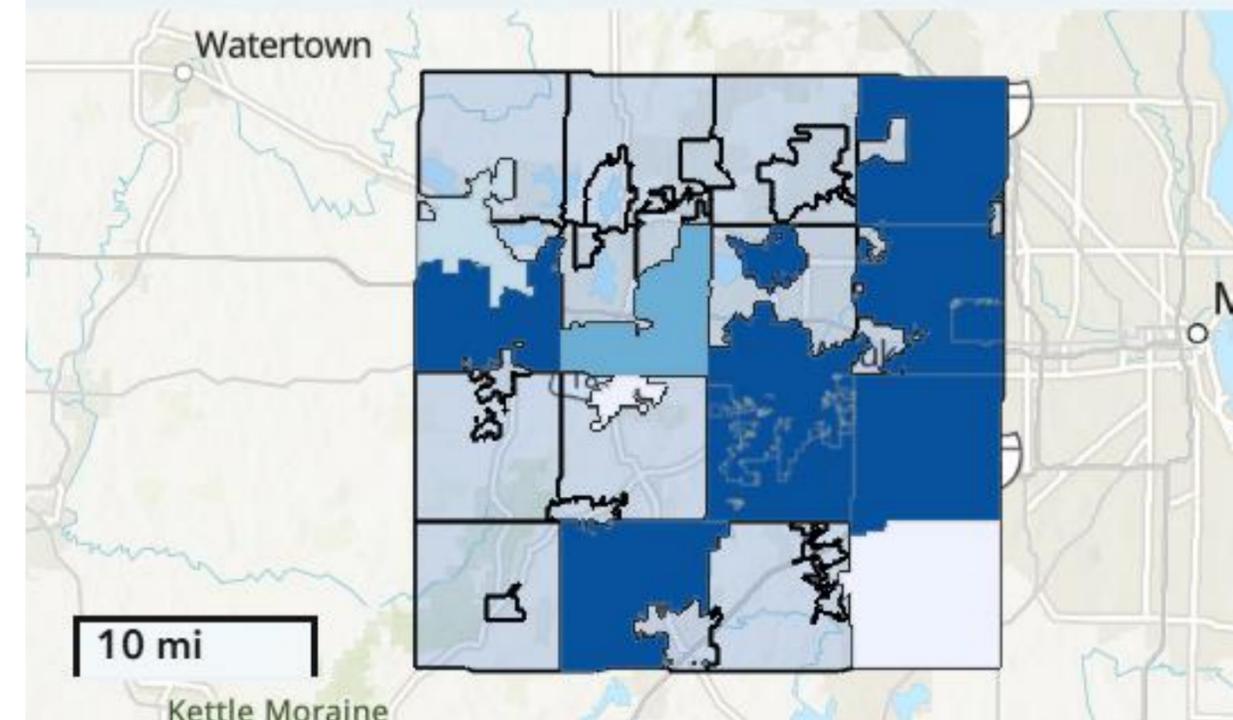
Recycling: Compost Collective

13 Municipalities in Waukesha County

48 individual entries

May 9th compost bin sale

Total Material Diverted from Landfills



Citizen Stream Monitoring

30 sites Monitored

Engaged with 45 Volunteers

Completed phosphorus testing at 3 sites

Annual Appreciation Event



Public Communications

- County Newsletters
- Municipal Newsletters
- Social Media
- TV Appearances with WTMJ4 and CBS58
- “Recycler of the Day” Phone Calls and Emails



Master Naturalist Training

**Program Prepares Citizens for
volunteering in citizen
science, education and
stewardship.**

**Recruits into Adopt a Drain,
Citizen Stream Monitoring
and Outreach.**



Master Recycler Training

Program explores recycling in Wisconsin and provides education about “recycling right” in your community.



Outreach for Stormwater and Recycling

Staffed Events: 13

- Retzer Earth Day
- Apple Harvest Fest
- Clean Water Festival
- Kids Fest
- Multiple National Night Out Events
- Estimated reach of 3,314

Unstaffed Events: 30

- Posters and Displays at polling locations, libraries and municipal halls



Mailed Outreach – Tax Insert

Mailed to
89,102 homes

Have a Plan, Not a Guess

Waukesha County Recycles
waukeshacounty.gov/recycling

Stick to the guide to recycle responsibly.

Cans	Cartons	Glass	Paper	Plastic
Food and Beverage Cans	Food and Beverage Cartons	Bottles and Jars	Cereal Boxes, Mail, Magazines, Newspaper, Flattened Cardboard, and Paper Tubes	Kitchen, Laundry, Bath: Bottles and Containers ♻️ #1, #2, #4, #5

Keep recyclables loose, empty, and dry!

Keep Storm Drains Clean!

waukeshacounty.gov/cleanwater

Grass clippings, pet waste, leaves, fertilizers, litter, and other pollutants wash directly into the nearest waterbody!

- City of Brookfield
- City of Delafield
- City of Oconomowoc
- City of Pewaukee
- City of Waukesha
- Town of Brookfield

- Village of Lisbon
- Village of Merton
- Village of Nashotah
- Village of Pewaukee
- Village of Summit
- Village of Vernon

- Town of Merton
- Village of Big Bend
- Village of Dousman
- Village of Elm Grove
- Village of Lac la Belle
- Village of Wales

- Village of Waukesha
- Village of Oconomowoc Lake

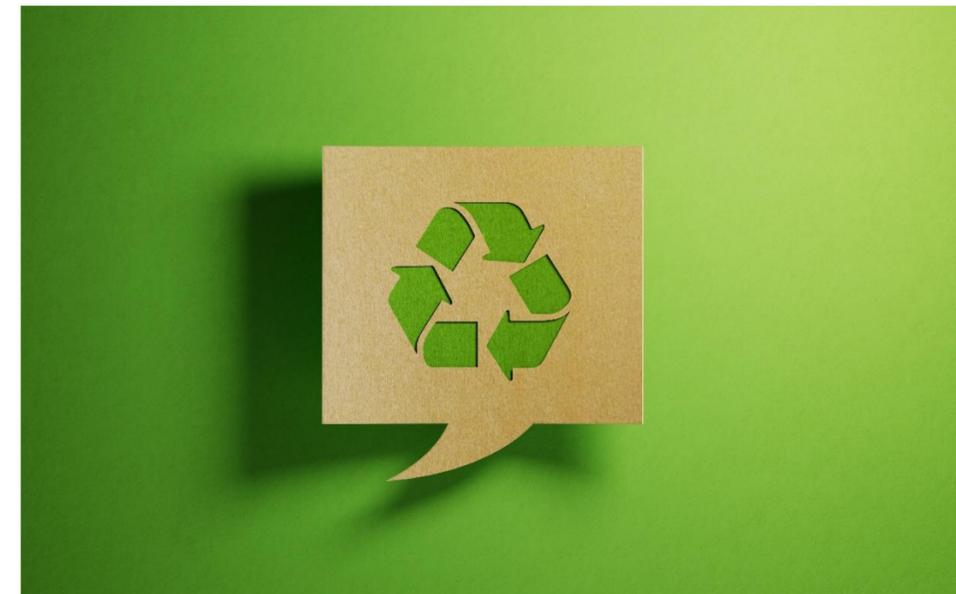
Recycling Enforcement and Business Engagement

- WDNR Green Tier Connections- 'Buy Better, Waste Less'
- Forging business connections
- 2 waste Assessments at Businesses in Waukesha County
- 2 Business engagement opportunities
- 1 compliance case



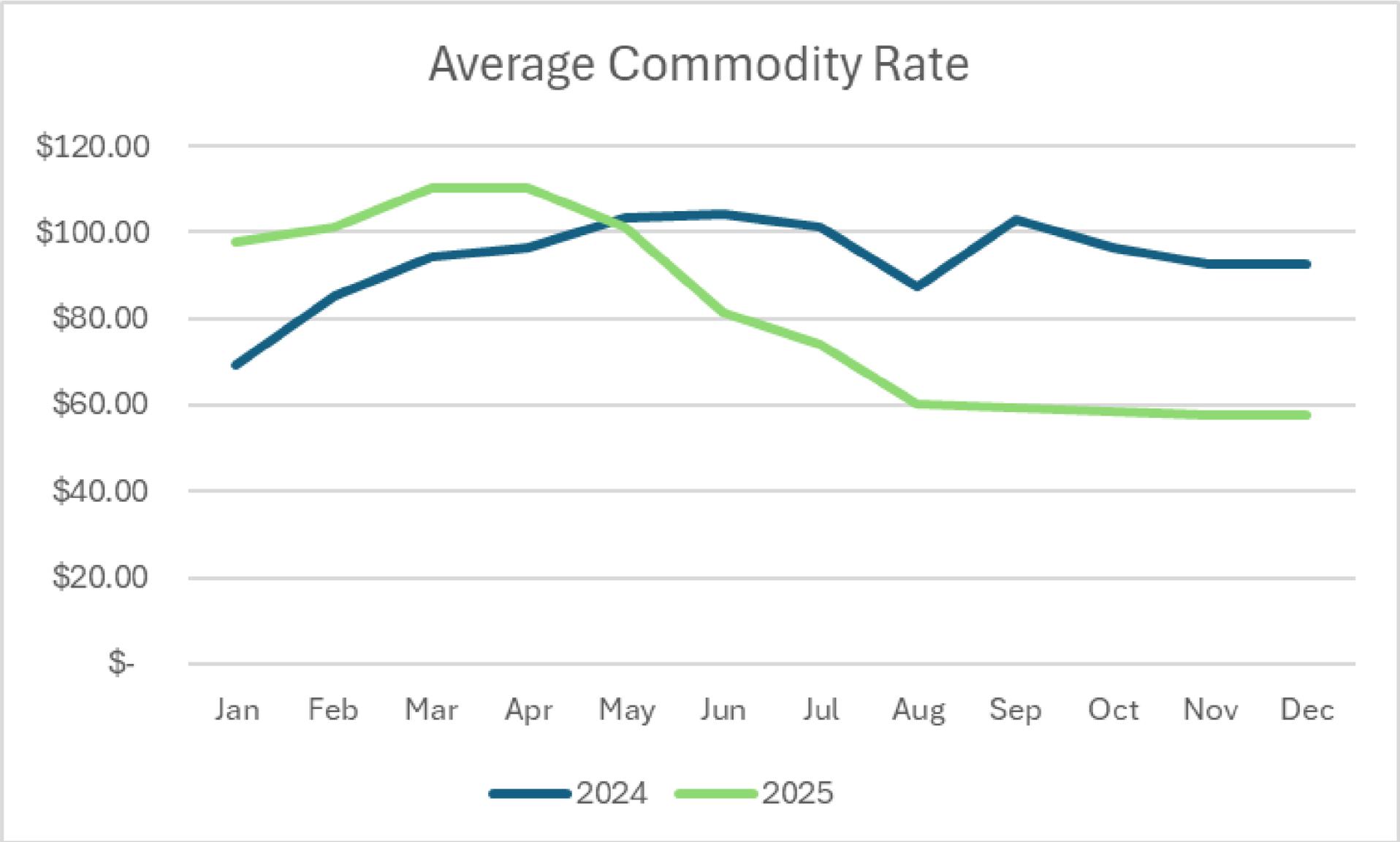
Fall 2025 Recycling Data Collection - MUNICIPALYCLE

- Successfully completed Fall data collection in September 2025
- Easy and efficient data submission compared to previous versions
- Data collected used for completion of DNR recycling grant application and reporting



Processing and Marketing with Waste Management

**24,983 tons of
recyclables
collected and
processed in
2025**



Household Hazardous Waste



- Permanent Collection Sites in Menomonee Falls and Waukesha
- 4 Special One-Day Events in Mukwonago, Brookfield, Delafield and Oconomowoc
- 4,187 Billed County Users
 - Actual cost per household: \$65.73
 - Cost per household (after grants and landfill funds): \$25.39
- Waukesha site changes forthcoming
- Potential new Permanent site in Muskego

Recycling Infographics

**CITY OF
BROOKFIELD**





Community Meetings

Met with several community partners, received valuable feedback, and will leverage it for future improvements.



Looking Ahead to 2026

Recycling Composition Study

- 2026 Recycling Composition Study will be completed in Fall
- New testing protocol which will ensure sampling of material from every community
- Will aim to mail Recycling Mailer ahead of test

Help us prepare for the test by assisting with education efforts!

Join us for a Material Recovery Facility Tour on **February 12 at 10am**. Tour spots are limited so please sign up ASAP



2026 Recycling Education

- Upcoming Opportunities:
 - Recycling Mailer
 - Geotargeted digital ads
 - Social Media videos
 - New “toolkit” content on /municipal webpage
- Contamination Targets:
 - Basic Rules: Recycle bottles, cans, paper, cardboard, glass
 - Batteries
- Ordinance Update



NEW Paper Cups Now Accepted in Recycling!



- Includes hot and cold beverage paper cups (coffee cups with sleeves)
- Not Accepted:
 - Foam Cups (Styrofoam)
 - Lids, straws and stoppers
- How to prepare cup for recycling:
 - Empty all liquids
 - Remove lids, straws, stoppers and food
- What are the end markets?
 - Cereal boxes
 - Facial Tissues
 - Corrugated Boxes
 - New Paper Cups

Spring 2026 Muncycle

- Data being collected for *actual* recycling program costs and municipal services offered to residents (i.e., drop off site services)
- Monitor your inbox for emails announcing the timeline

Questions? Reach out to our team:
recycling@waukeshacounty.gov

The image shows a screenshot of the Waukesha County website's recycling reporting page. At the top, the URL waukeshacounty.gov/recycling is visible. The main heading is "MuniCycle Recycling Costs Form". Below this, there are two required fields: "Please select your municipality:" with a dropdown menu currently showing "Please Select", and "Submitter Email:" with an empty text box. A note below the email field states: "This will be used to reach out with any questions about this submission. Once your submission is accepted you will receive an email at this address." A red circle highlights a section of text that reads: "Please use this template spreadsheet to provide data related to your equipment and staff costs. Upload the completed document below." Below this text is a blue hyperlink: [Equipment and Staff Excel Template](#).

The bottom portion of the image shows a screenshot of an Excel spreadsheet titled "Waukesha-Municipal-Recycling-Reporting-Equipment-Staff (4).xlsx". The spreadsheet is open to a sheet named "Staff Costs". The header row (row 6) contains the following columns: "Employee Name", "Salary", "Education %", "Collecting %", "Processing %", "Compliance %", and "NonEligible %". The data rows (rows 7-17) show that the "NonEligible %" column is set to 100% for all employees. The spreadsheet also includes instructions: "Enter each employee that spends time on recycling or yard waste associated tasks.", "Under Education, Collection, Processing, and Compliance, please indicate the percentage (%) of time spent on each category.", and "For salary please include benefits such as health/life insurance, unemployment, and workers' compensation".

2026 MS4 Public Education and Outreach Work Plan

- 5 year Work plan is a group plan to be sure that all 8 topic areas are covered in the 5 year permit
- Individualized 3 year plans include smart goals around your topic of choice
- Municipalities to be planned later this year for next 3 years include:
 - Village of Lannon
 - City of Oconomowoc
 - Town of Merton
 - Town of Ixonia
 - Village of Dousman
 - Village of Vernon
 - Village of Hartland
 - City of Muskego
 - Village of Merton

2026 Stormwater Workshop

March 24-25

8:00 – 12:00

Register at WisconsinLandandWater.org/events

Topics not finalized but will include:

Envirolok stabilization

Chloride Study Update

Stormwater Utility Fees and Credits

Success Story – Stoughton

Standards Revisions and Updates

Integrating Ecological Design

Stormwater Events this year

- Clean Water Festival June 20
- Stormwater Awareness Week September 19-27
- HOA virtual education September 24
- Saltwise training November



Resources

Municipal Resources For You

www.waukeshacounty.gov/municipal

Land and Water

- IGA's
- Community Meeting Presentation
- MS4 reporting instructions for education
- BMP's- maintenance agreements, fact sheets and inspection forms
- Annual Construction Site Inspection and Enforcement reports
- Archived Newsletters and Press releases

Recycling & Solid Waste

- Programs and Responsibilities
- Recycling Ordinance
- Event Recycling request form
- Brochure request form
- Press Releases and archived newsletters
- Wisconsin Recycling Market Directory
- Updates and Additions

Thank you!



WAUKESHA COUNTY COMMUNITY MEETING
JANUARY 29, 2026

Samantha Katt, Urban Storm Water Specialist
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

DNR Updates & Reminders

- 2025 MS4 Annual Report due March 31, 2026.
 - No changes to the 2025 MS4 Annual Report form.
 - Recent issues with ePermitting – SHOULD be fixed but if you experience issues, please notify your stormwater contact.
 - Samantha.Katt@wisconsin.gov (414 522-0073)
 - Elexius.Montes@wisconsin.gov (414 940-9860)
 - Brooke.Robinson@wisconsin.gov (MS4 Permit Coordinator)
- Must be submitted electronically via [Storm Water MS4 eReporting](#)
 - Use MyWisconsin ID

DNR Updates & Reminders

- Urban Non-Point Source (UNPS) Construction Grants open early 2026.
- Applications must be sent electronically by April 15.
- Questions?
 - [Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management Grant Program | Wisconsin DNR](#)
 - Please contact Grace.Barlow@wisconsin.gov (414 430-2483) or Peter.Wood@wisconsin.gov (262 822-822)
 - Jesse Bennett is no longer Southeast Region's non-point source coordinator.

DNR Updates & Reminders

General MS4 Permit anticipated to be re-issued soon!

- Anticipated Public Notice start date of February 2nd

Some changes, such as:

- Added definitions and conditions that were previously incorporated by reference and/or for clarity.
- Example: Section 1 will contain a Shared and Individual Responsibility Section. This clarifies that yes, your MS4 can work with others to demonstrate compliance (e.g., Waukesha County Education Program) but your MS4 is ultimately responsible for demonstrating compliance.

Update written programs, due March 31, 2027 (w/2026 reporting year MS4 Annual Report).

- Example: Current permit requires written BMP inspection and maintenance procedure. This permit requires written municipally owned BMP I&M procedure and written municipally operated BMP I&M procedure.

Incorporated code language for SWPPPs including SWPPP inspections (quarterly visual and annual site inspections).

Structure of the TMDL appendices including conditions for water quality trading (WQT) and adaptive management (AM).

DNR Updates & Reminders

- FoxIL TMDL – anticipated to be approved mid-2026.
 - Applicable Individual MS4 Permittees (e.g., Upper Fox Watershed Group) do not have current FoxIL TMDL requirements (next/future permit will).
 - Applicable General MS4 Permittees will not have FoxIL TMDL requirements because GP will be re-issued before FoxIL TMDL is approved (so next/future permit will).
- Doesn't mean you can't start planning for FoxIL TMDL requirements now!

MS4 Best Management
Practices Menu | |
Wisconsin DNR

Why did the WDNR create one?

Wisconsin DNR developed its own MS4 BMP Menu to assist MS4 Permittees comply with its MS4 Permit.

- Example written programs
- Information about pollutants of concern (e.g., fecal bacteria; sources, testing methods, BMPs, etc.)

MS4 BMP MENU DIRECTORY:

- [Storm water Management Programs: The Six Minimum Control Measures \(MCMs\) And MS4 Map](#): Learn about each of the six minimum control measures required by the MS4 Permit (i.e., Public Education and Outreach, Public Involvement and Participation, Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE), Construction Site Pollutant Control, Post-Construction Storm Water Management and Pollution Prevention. Each program provides information, resources and BMPs as a tool to help MS4 Permittees comply with MS4 Permit requirements.
- [Total Maximum Daily Loads \(TMDLs\)](#): This page contains information, resources and BMPs on TMDL pollutants, including Total Suspended Solids, Total Phosphorus and Fecal Bacteria. It also contains information and resources on alternative TMDL compliance options, such as adaptive management and water quality trading.
- [Individual and General MS4 Permits](#): The difference between Individual and General MS4 permit coverage which also includes all of the State of Wisconsin's MS4 permits to view and download.
- [MS4 Audits](#): The U.S. EPA requires DNR staff to routinely conduct MS4 Audits to accomplish primary objectives.
- [Additional MS4 Resources](#): A variety of information and resources on funding, past regional MS4 Highlights, shared responsibility and other frequently asked questions or MS4 topics.

Screenshot from the WDNR's MS4 BMP Menu homepage

MS4 Audit Checklist

MS4 AUDIT RESOURCES

[MS4 Audit Preparation Checklist \[PDF\]](#) : This Checklist is intended to be used as a tool to help prepare for an MS4 Audit by providing a series of questions. However, as MS4 Audits are routinely conducted, this Checklist may also be used by anyone interested in evaluating MS4 Permit Programs.

- ▼ [What does an MS4 Audit look like?](#)
- ▼ [Who should be present?](#)
- ▼ [Frequently requested documents for review](#)
- ▼ [Example MS4 Audit questions](#)

MCM #3: Illicit Discharge Detection And Elimination (IDDE) ([s. NR.216.07 \(3\) Wis. Adm. Code](#))

- Does your community have a written program procedure describing how your community complies with each permit condition identified in the IDDE Program?
 - **Note:** Examples of written program procedures can be found within [the MS4 BMP Menu](#).

Example Question from Checklist

CONNECT WITH US

Samantha Katt

Samantha.Katt@wisconsin.gov; 414 522-0073

Lexi Montes

Elexus.Montes@wisconsin.gov; 414 940-9860



@WIDNR



@WI_DNR



/WIDNRTV



"WILD WISCONSIN:
OFF THE RECORD"