

## **Stormwater and Recycling - Municipal Updates**

**The Annual Community Meeting** for Waukesha County Stormwater and Recycling partners was held at Retzer Nature Center on **Thursday January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026, from 1pm-3pm**. If you were unable to attend, you can view the meeting slides in the attachment.

**Homeowner Association Education Meeting** - An online resource page for HOA's is being created that will show the reporting requirements for each municipality and how and when to report. If you did not submit your information at the meeting, please send what you want listed for your municipality to [water@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:water@waukeshacounty.gov). This year's virtual meeting will be September 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Even if your topic is not homeowner association education, you can still promote the virtual meeting. The flyer is attached.

**MS4 Reporting Information** – Reporting information for completing the education portions of your MS4 report due March 31 is complete and available at [www.waukeshacounty.gov/municipal](http://www.waukeshacounty.gov/municipal) in the Land Resources tab. Once you have completed your annual report, you should present the report to your board to become public record.

### **Registration is now open for Waukesha County 2026 Stormwater Workshop**

The 2026 Stormwater Workshop with Waukesha County Land Resources and Wisconsin Land+Water will be held virtually and offers stormwater professionals a chance to hear experts from around the state share their experiences. Only individuals registered will be eligible for PDH credits.

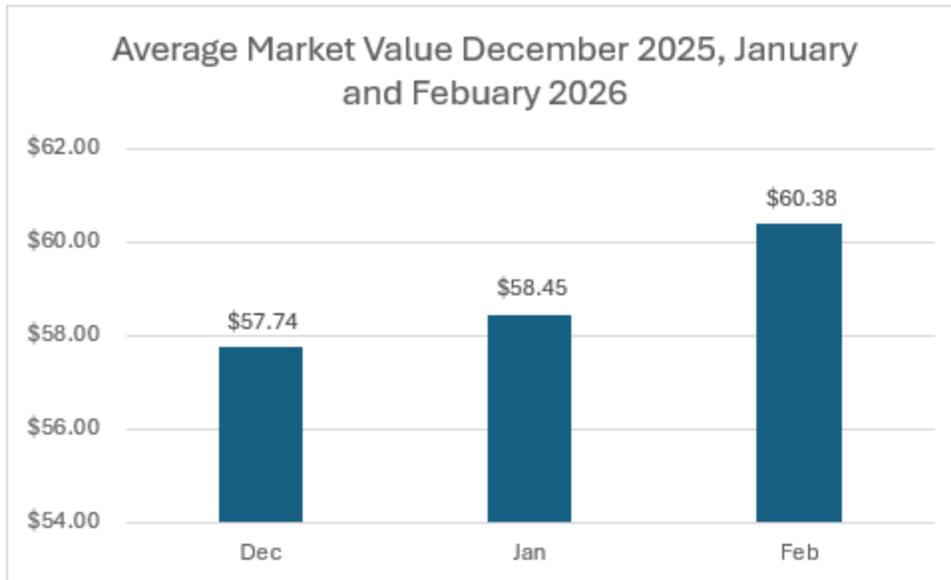
 **March 24 and March 25, 2026 Online webinar**

[Registration can be found here](#)

**Spring Primaries** – A great opportunity to display stormwater and recycling posters is at Spring Primaries on February 17<sup>th</sup>. If you need posters, please let us know by emailing [recycling@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:recycling@waukeshacounty.gov) or [water@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:water@waukeshacounty.gov)!

**2025 Household Hazardous Waste Program Invoices** – Waukesha County sent out your municipality's Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) invoice on January 30, 2026. Please contact [recycling@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:recycling@waukeshacounty.gov) with any questions.

**Recycling Performance** – Effective May 1<sup>st</sup> 2025, all Waukesha County RU material is processed at the Waste Management recycling facility in Germantown. Below, please find the monthly average market value per ton for recyclables.



**Recycling Tip** – We are excited to share that paper cups are now accepted in the Waukesha County recycling program! Hot and cold paper cups are acceptable, no foam cups or lids, straws, and stoppers. Make sure to empty all liquids prior to recycling. Thank you for doing your part to recycle right!

**NOW  
ACCEPTING...  
PAPER CUPS**

**What's accepted:**

- Hot and cold paper cups
  - e.g. coffee cups with sleeves

**What's not accepted:**

- Foam cups
- Lids, straws, and stoppers

**How to prepare your cups for recycling:**

- Empty all liquids
- Remove straws, stoppers, and food
- Give your cup a quick rinse



Looking for content to share on your Facebook page? Check out Waukesha County Recycles on Facebook for recycling tips, event reminders and see what our department has been up to!

**Education Highlights for January - March**

- Hosted Scout Nights in January with spring Scout Nights in March

- Wild Winter Night at Retzer on February 13 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm
- [Native Plant program](#) at Mukwonago Public Library February 16 at 6:00 pm
- Citizen Stream Monitors appreciation lunch at Retzer March 21 at 11:30
- Composting program at [Delafield Public Library](#) on March 5 at 1pm and [Hartland Public Library](#) March 31 at 6:00 pm

**Looking ahead to summer and fall-** If there is an event in your community that is well attended and family orientated, please let us know! We would love to be there!

# Are you part owner of a stormwater pond?



Learn what that could mean for you at this  
online education event.

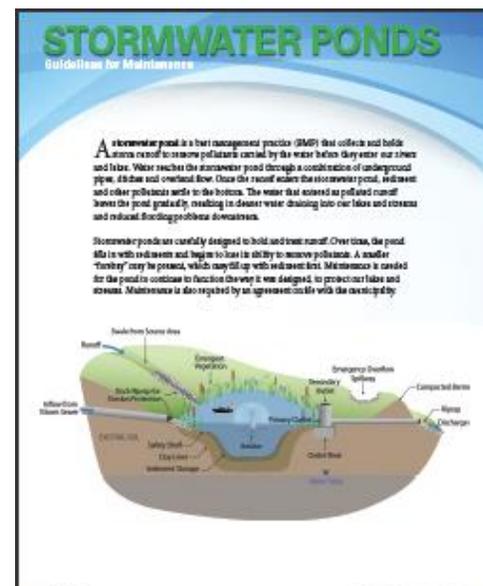
## Homeowner Association Education Meeting

September 24, 2026 at 6:30 pm

Virtual meeting – send request for meeting  
link to [water@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:water@waukeshacounty.gov)

Learn about:

- Maintenance required
- Associated costs
- Liability
- Life span



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

January 29, 2026

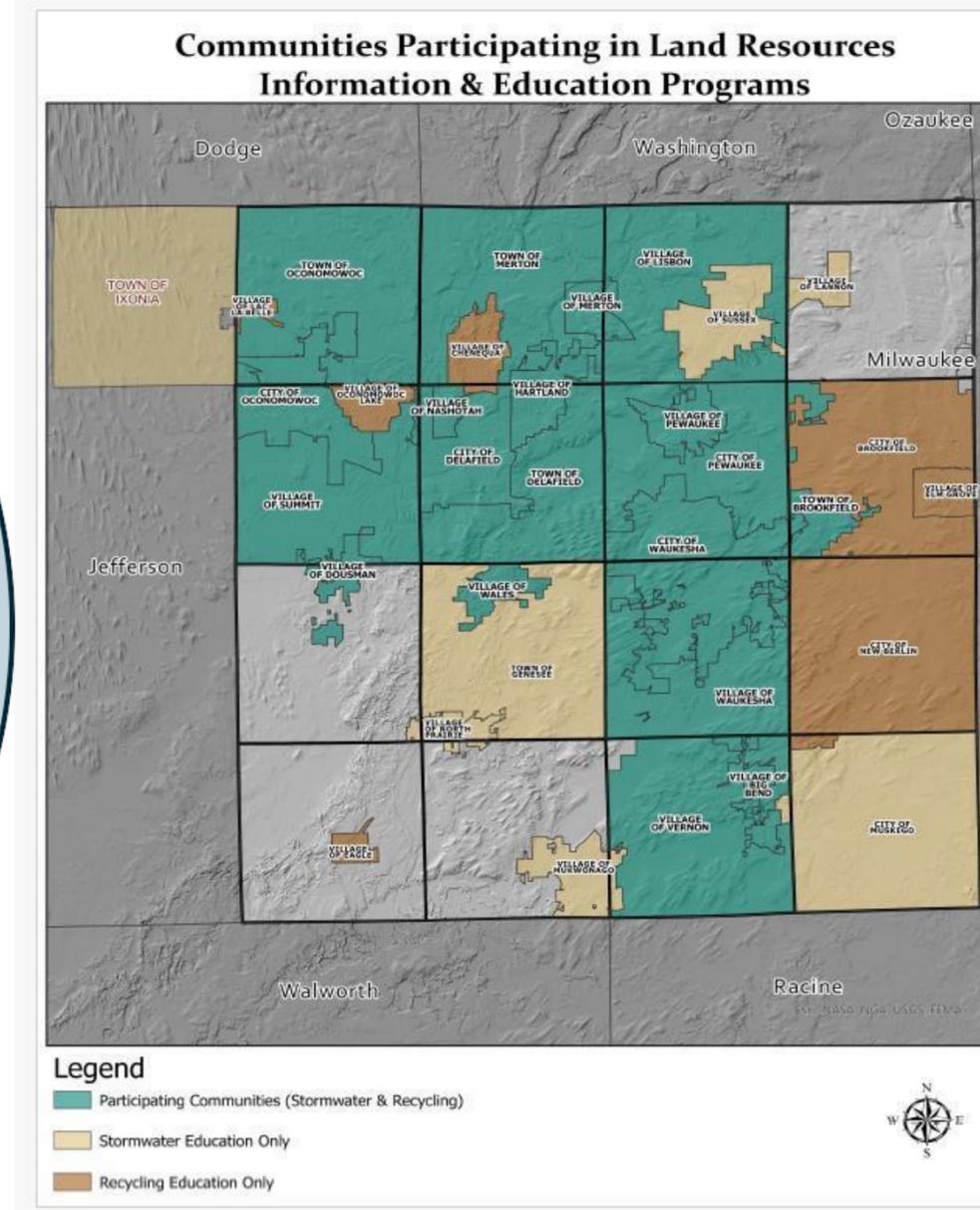
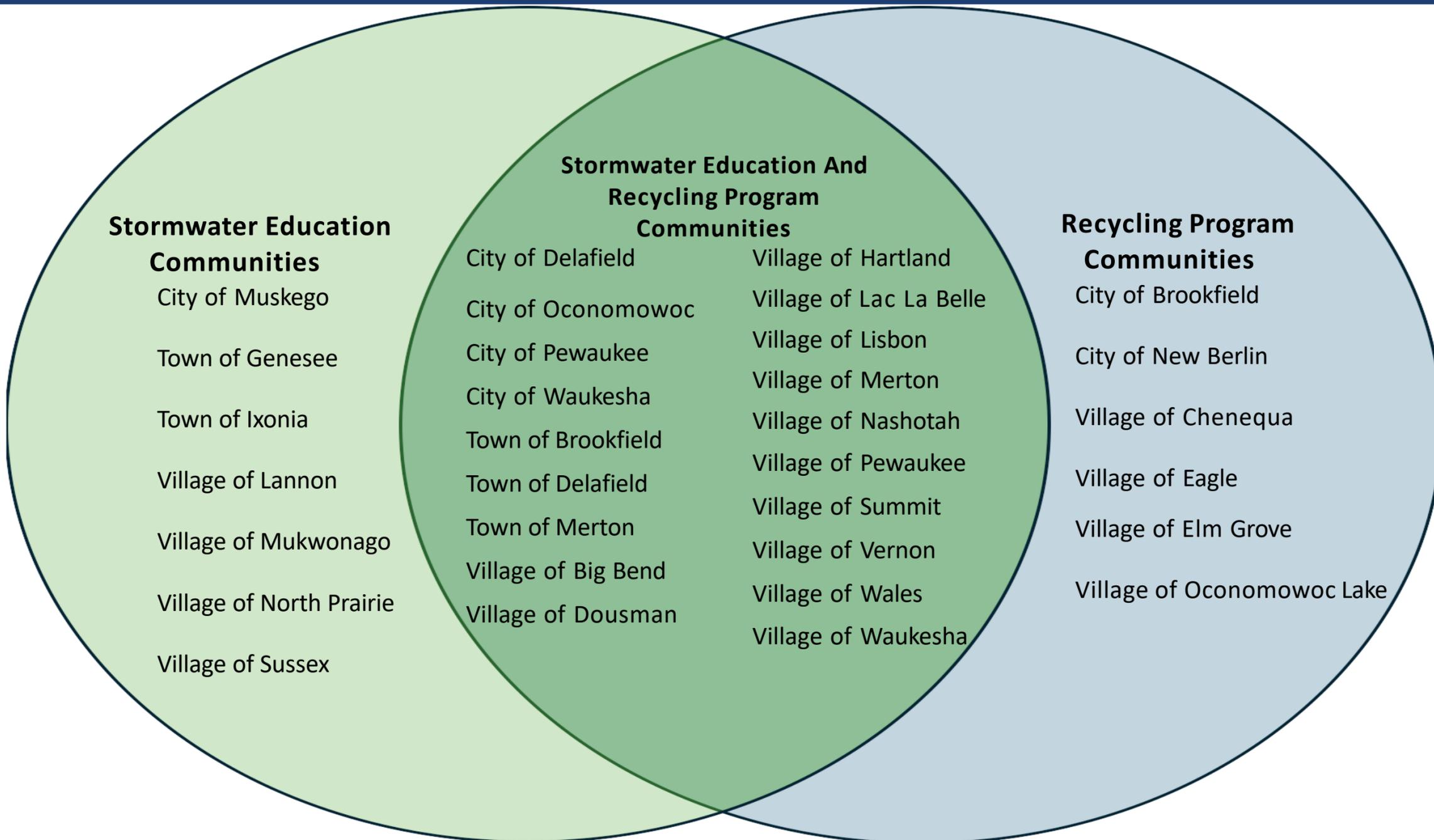


# Welcome!

## 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** 

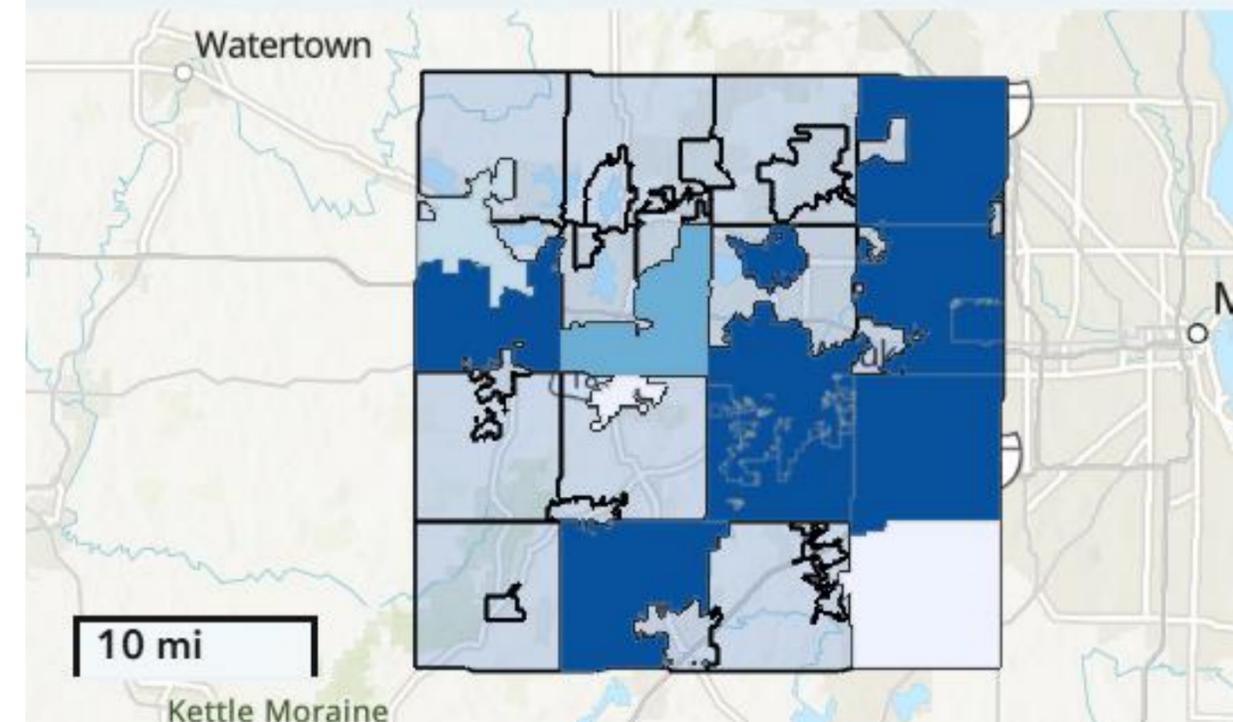
## Recycling: Compost Collective

13 Municipalities in Waukesha County

48 individual entries

May 9<sup>th</sup> 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!**

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

waukeshacounty.gov/cleanwater

- 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

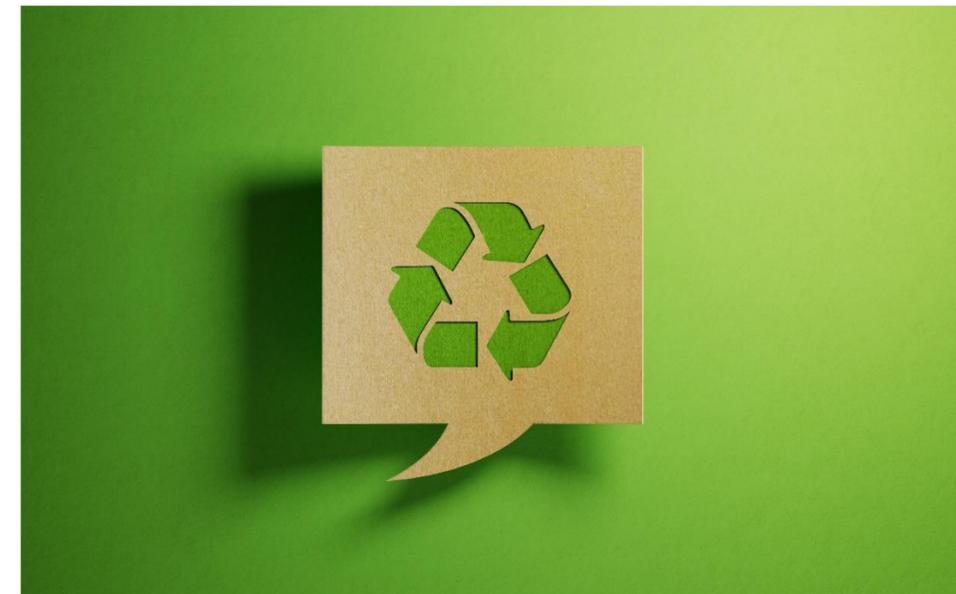
# Recycling Enforcement and Business Engagement

- 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



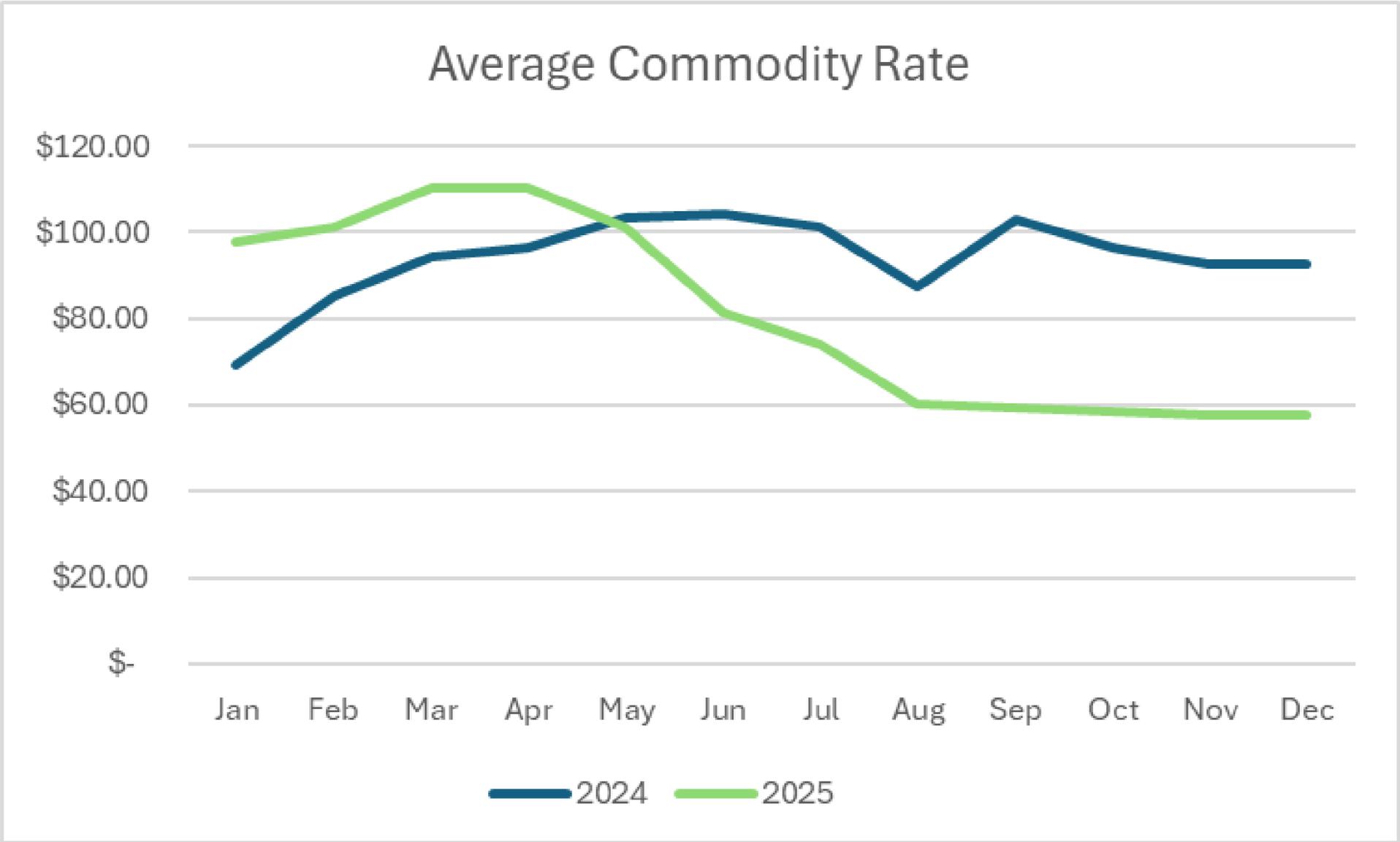
# Fall 2025 Recycling Data Collection - MUNICIPALCYCLE

- 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



# 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**

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Register at [WisconsinLandandWater.org/events](https://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](http://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](mailto:Samantha.Katt@wisconsin.gov) (414 522-0073)
    - [Elexius.Montes@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Elexius.Montes@wisconsin.gov) (414 940-9860)
    - [Brooke.Robinson@wisconsin.gov](mailto: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](mailto:Grace.Barlow@wisconsin.gov) (414 430-2483) or [Peter.Wood@wisconsin.gov](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup>

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

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**Lexi Montes**

[Elxius.Montes@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Elxius.Montes@wisconsin.gov); 414 940-9860



@WIDNR



@WI\_DNR



/WIDNRTV



"WILD WISCONSIN:  
OFF THE RECORD"

# NOW ACCEPTING... PAPER CUPS

## What's accepted:

- Hot and cold paper cups
  - e.g. coffee cups with sleeves

## What's not accepted:

- Foam cups
- Lids, straws, and stoppers

## How to prepare your cups for recycling:

- Empty all liquids
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