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Fall 2017

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Manitowoc County Recycling Center



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AGRICULTURAL FILM PLASTICS are commonplace on many farms and include Low Density Poly Ethylene (LDPE) plastics like silage bags, bunker covers, bale wrap, irrigation tape, and hoophouse covers. Revolution Plastics LLC has expanded services into Manitowoc County for on farm collection of specific types of agricultural film plastics. Depending on location, type and amount of plastics being generated, Revolution Plastics may spot a dumpster on the farm for no fee. For details and contact information on this program visit Revolution Plastics website at www.revolutionplastics.com.

We are excited for this opportunity in the region since agricultural LDPE plastics have been challenging to recycle in the past. Often small trial programs faced issues with logistics, contamination, or a lack of stable end markets. Disposing of these plastics can be expensive and time consuming for farmers to haul to a landfill. Some agricultural plastics are illegally burned, a practice that releases toxic and possibly carcinogenic substances into the air, water, and soil. With a sound collection system forming, more LDPE plastics can be processed into products like plastic lumber and garbage bags.



LAMP RECYCLING is one of the services provided by the Manitowoc County Recycling Center's ongoing electronics collection program. Some lamps, including fluorescent tubes, compact fluorescent bulbs and high intensity discharge bulbs, contain small amounts of mercury that can be harmful to human health and the environment when they are disposed of in the trash. Even incandescent bulbs contain lead, which is also a toxic metal. All the materials in these bulbs can be recycled. Over the last five years the Recycling Center has collected approximately 82,000 bulbs from residents and businesses. Once received, the bulbs are carefully packaged for shipping to a specialized recycling facility where hazardous materials are safely removed. All the materials in these bulbs can be recycled without generating any waste. Even the hazardous materials, like mercury, can be recovered and reused.

Item	Fee
4 ft. Fluorescent Light Bulbs	\$ 0.40 each
8 ft. Fluorescent Light Bulbs	\$ 0.50 each
Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs	\$ 0.40 each
High Intensity Discharge (HID) Light Bulbs	\$ 1.35 each
LED Bulbs	\$2.60 each
Incandescent, Flood and Spot Light Bulbs	\$ 0.30 each
Ballasts (non-PCB)	\$0.55 per lb
Ballasts (PCB)	\$0.93 per lb
Capacitors (non-PCB)	\$0.95 per lb
Capacitors (PCB)	\$4.40 per lb
*There will be an additional fee for broken light bulbs.	

Bring your burnt out bulbs and ballasts to the main office at the Manitowoc County Recycling Center. When transporting large amounts of fluorescent tubes secure them in boxes or by taping them together in manageable bundles. Make sure to use an easy release tape like painter's tape. Do not use duct tape.

Mission Statement
To provide materials recycling and recovery services to the citizens of Manitowoc County and to keep the public informed about recycling issues.



Manitowoc County Recycling Center & Compost Sites
 3000 Basswood Road, Manitowoc WI
 920-683-4333
www.co.manitowoc.wi.us/recyclingcenter



DRUG DISPOSAL —CRIME PREVENTION DAY The next drug collection event will be held at the Crime Prevention Day at the Manitowoc County Expo Merchants Building on October 21 from 10am to 3pm. Residents may drop off their unwanted medications for FREE. Please see below for program guidelines.

The Manitowoc County Drug Collection has been a popular and successful program. Since the beginning of the program in 2006, there has been 13,477 pounds of unwanted medications (not including packaging) collected and 3 permanent drop boxes installed including the newest one at the Manitowoc Sheriff's Office.

Prescription and over-the-counter medications are often stored in the home long after they have expired, creating stockpiles of easily accessible drugs that can contribute to drug abuse, overdose, and accidental poisonings. To reduce the potential for abuse, medications should be removed from the home and disposed of properly at a drug drop box or collection event. The past practices of flushing meds down the toilet or throwing them in the trash is not a safe solution, as they can allow medication to enter waterways and contaminate our drinking water supply. Waste water treatment plants, which handle water that is flushed down toilets and drains and treat landfill leachate, are not designed to filter out drugs. Medicine discarded in garbage bins may also become a target for desperate drug abusers who search for unused medication in household waste.

MERCURY THERMOMETER EXCHANGE

As part of the Crime Prevention Day Drug Collection you can bring your mercury fever thermometers and receive a complimentary digital thermometer. All mercury and mercury containing devices will be accepted; however, only household thermometers are eligible for the exchange program. The limit is one digital thermometer per household while supplies last. Be sure to transport mercury in a sealed, cushioned container and keep them separate from any medications you are dropping off.



If you miss this collection don't worry, the Manitowoc County Recycling Center will exchange your mercury fever thermometer anytime during office hours.

DRUG DISPOSAL GUIDELINES

Directions:

Remove pills from original container and put them in a sealed "ziplock" style bag that is quart size or smaller before placing in the drug drop box. Liquid, powder, and cream medications should remain in the original bottles with the caps tightened. Remove pills from original container and put them in a sealed "ziplock" style bag that is quart size or smaller before placing in the drug drop box. Empty pill containers may be placed in your home recycling or trash.

Guidelines:

- Accepted drugs include prescriptions, over the counter, pet medications, supplements, and controlled substances.
- Place pills in a "ziplock" style bag that is quart size or less. Liquids, cremes, and powders can stay in the original container with caps tightened.
- Pill bottles and boxes are NOT accepted. Cross out your personal information and dispose of them or recycle them at home.
- Needles, sharps, mercury devices, chemical waste, electronic glucose monitors, non-medical inhalers, and personal care products like shampoo and cosmetics will NOT be accepted.
- Do NOT bring medications to drug disposal events before or after the listed times.
- Households only. Businesses should call 683-4333 for disposal information.
- Practice safe storage by keeping your medications in a secured location.
- Practice reduction by consulting with your physician about your medication needs.
- Never share your prescriptions with another person.

Permanent Dropbox Locations:

Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office: 1025 South 9th Street, Manitowoc, 8am—4:30pm Monday—Friday

Manitowoc City Police Dept: 910 Jay Street, Manitowoc, 7:30am—4:30pm Monday—Friday

Two Rivers Police Dept: 1717 East Park Street, Two Rivers, 8am—4:30pm Monday—Friday

If you have questions, visit www.co.manitowoc.wi.us/recyclingcenter or call the Manitowoc County Recycling Center at 683-4333.



COMPOST SITE UPDATE. Beginning November 16 the Basswood Road and Woodland Drive Compost Sites will have new operating hours. The Basswood Road Compost Site will be open Monday-Friday, 7:00 am to 4:00 pm and Saturday from 8:00 am until noon. Beginning November 16, the Woodland Drive Compost Site will be closed until April 2018. Beginning November 1, the Recycling Center Main Office will be closed on Saturdays and will reopen on Saturdays beginning April 2018.

Accepted Items: Grass, leaves, flowers, plants, pumpkins, fruits, vegetables, garden waste, yard waste, brush, branches (not more than 6 inches in diameter or longer than 5 feet), clean woodchips, clean saw dust, and natural holiday trees.

Unacceptable Items: Stumps, ashes, animal waste, sod with soil, topsoil or dirt, rocks, gravel, lumber, garbage, large branches greater than 6 inches in diameter or longer than 5 feet.

Loads may be subject to inspection by Recycling Center staff. Illegal dumping is subject to fine per Manitowoc Code section 6.17. Placing unaccepted items in an otherwise designated recycling container or pile is considered illegal dumping and is subject to fine. If you have questions about a particular material, call 683-4333 and ask.

BASSWOOD COMPOST SITE

3000 Basswood Rd, Manitowoc
 Mon-Fri 7am-6pm
 Sat 8am-6pm

WOODLAND COMPOST SITE

4191 Woodland Dr, Two Rivers
 Mon-Fri 10am-6pm
 Sat 8am-6pm

COMPOST PRODUCTS

Wood mulch and compost are available at the Recycling Center Main Office during the posted office hours. Purchases must be made before loading. Note that the office hours are different than the drop off site hours. Loading is generally available Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 3:30pm. Deliveries can also be set up within Manitowoc County.



RECYCLING CENTER OFFICE

3000 Basswood Rd, Manitowoc
 Mon-Fri 7am-4pm
 Sat 8am-Noon (closed seasonally)

SCREENED COMPOST PRICES

- 1 Bushel: \$2.50
- 1 cubic yard: \$13.00
- 6 cubic yards including delivery: \$108.50

UNSCREENED COMPOST PRICES

- 1 Bushel: \$0.50
- 1 cubic yard: \$1.50
- 6 cubic yards including delivery: \$39.50

WOOD MULCH PRICES

- 1 Bushel: \$0.75
- 1 cubic yard: \$8.00
- 6 cubic yards including delivery: \$78.50

AMERICA RECYCLES DAY

Recycling is one of the easiest things that we can all do to improve our communities, conserve natural resources and create green jobs.

America Recycles Day is a nationally recognized day designed to build awareness of recycling and its benefits and to encourage people to buy recycled products. By recycling, you can help reduce emissions of greenhouse gas and water pollution, save energy, supply valuable manufacturing materials, create jobs, and reduce the need for new landfills. People can easily participate by making an effort to learn about the recycling programs in their community. Visit the Manitowoc County Recycling Center website at www.co.manitowoc.wi.us/recyclingcenter to learn more about local recycling and disposal options. Or try www.recyclemorewisconsin.org for information about recycling issues and guidelines throughout Wisconsin. If you want to do more, then make an effort to buy green products that contain recycled content or purchase products that can be easily recycled in your community. You could even take a recycling pledge on the America Recycles Day website at <http://americarecyclesday.org> to show your support for recycling.



Manitowoc County has demonstrated a very proactive approach towards recycling. In 1991 approximately 54,000 Tons of solid waste was landfilled from Manitowoc County. That number has been reduced to 26,000 Tons in 2016 because of the recycling and waste reduction efforts. In 2016 there was 6.2 million pounds of paper and cardboard and 617,000 pounds of plastic bottles recycled at the local recycling center. Despite these impressive numbers, there is still room to improve. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that Americans recycled 63% of their paper and cardboard in 2010. The National Association for PET Container Resources estimated that just 29% of the PET bottles were recycled in 2011.

The Manitowoc County Recycling Center would like to thank Manitowoc County residents and businesses for participating in recycling and special collection programs like Hazardous Waste Clean Sweep, Drug Disposal Program, Waste Tire Collection, Electronics Collection and the Composting Sites. By taking the time to learn about and use these programs and others, participants have helped improve our community, environment and economics. Visit the Recycling Center at www.co.manitowoc.wi.us/recyclingcenter or call 920-683-4333 to learn more about these programs and help improve recycling Manitowoc County.

CARTON RECYCLING

The Manitowoc County Recycling Center accepts food and beverage cartons for recycling. These familiar cartons are used to contain a variety of products commonly found on your grocery lists. Some examples are containers for wine, milk, soy milk, juice, cream, soup, broth, and egg substitutes. Cartons are made from paper fibers, plastic, and aluminum so they are highly recyclable. When bringing your cartons to the Manitowoc County Recycling Center they can be placed in with the plastic bottles. Cartons should be emptied and flattened but there is no need to rinse them. Do not place any cartons with significant amount of product left in them in your recycling. If you have curbside pickup in the City of Manitowoc or City of Two Rivers you should place your cartons in with the plastic containers. Otherwise, check with your local hauler or drop off center for availability and guidelines.



Please call the Manitowoc County Recycling Center at 683-4333 or visit www.co.manitowoc.wi.us/recyclingcenter for more information.

REDUCE AND REUSE

The most effective way to reduce waste is to not create it in the first place. Making a new product requires a lot of materials and energy: raw materials must be extracted from the earth, and the product must be fabricated and then transported to wherever it will be sold. As a result, reduction and reuse are the most effective ways you can save natural resources, protect the environment, and save money.

Reducing and Reusing can help prevent pollution caused by reducing the need to harvest new raw materials and reduce greenhouse gases that contribute to global climate change. This can also save energy and resources and help sustain the environment for future generations.

Tips on how to Reduce and Reuse:

- ◆ Use products made with recycled materials
- ◆ Buy used items.
- ◆ Use products with less packaging.
- ◆ Buy reusable items over disposable ones.
- ◆ Use energy-efficient light bulbs and rechargeable batteries.
- ◆ Shop with reusable cloth bags.
- ◆ Reuse plastic bags, cups and containers.
- ◆ Maintain and repair items instead of throwing them away.
- ◆ Compost your food and yard waste.
- ◆ Donate unwanted items
- ◆ Borrow, rent, or share infrequently used items

RECYCLING TIPS: PLASTICS

The Recycling Center only accepts #1 and #2 plastic bottles and jars. These plastic containers have a visible "neck" that is more narrow than the container. They include common items like soda and water bottles, milk jugs, laundry detergent bottles. However, the plastics arriving at the recycling center are often contaminated by items that are not recyclable through our program. This includes non-bottle #1 and #2 containers like yogurt cups and clamshells as well as #3 through #7 plastics containers. Plastic bags can also end up in the recycling stream and slow down the sorting process. Plastic bottles that contained oil or pesticides should not be recycled either. They need to be picked out since the residues can contaminate recyclable plastics, even if they have been thoroughly rinsed. Also be sure to remove your caps and empty the contents! Non-acceptable plastic items can be placed in your trash or perhaps reused in different ways.



Please call the recycling center at 683-4333 or visit our website at www.co.manitowoc.wi.us/recyclingcenter for questions about local recycling guidelines.

RECYCLING DEPOT

The Manitowoc Recycling Center maintains a residential drop off area at the Recycling Center Main office located at 3000 Basswood Road. It is open Monday-Friday from 7am to 4pm, and Saturday from 8am to Noon. This site is intended for use by all county residents. There is no trash or garbage drop off at this location. Contact a local hauler or the Ridgeview Landfill for disposal of trash. Different municipal drop off sites may be more accessible to you depending on the city, township or village you are from.

General Drop Site Guidelines

- Place your recyclables in the bunker or receptacle labeled for that material.
- Remove any plastic bags or strings and take them home with you to place in your trash.
- Do not place nonacceptable items in the bunkers or receptacles.
- Do not place materials outside receptacles on the ground.
- Large loads of cardboard, paper or plastic can be placed on appropriate pile on the tipping floor.
- Use caution driving through the drop site and on the tipping floor.

<p><u>Paper</u> Includes newspapers, junk mail, magazines, computer paper, books with metal or plastic binding removed etc.. Paper should be clean and dry. No paper contaminated with food or oil. No paper coated with foil, plastic or heavy glue. No plastic/foil wrapping paper.</p> 	<p><u>Plastic</u> Check for a neck. We only accept #1 and #2 bottles and jars. Remove the caps, rinse and flatten. No tub shaped containers or bottles that contained oil or pesticide (even if rinsed). No plastic wraps, films, bags, trays, pails, packaging peanuts, Styrofoam, or any other non bottle shaped item. Please do not tie milk jugs together or tie in plastic bags.</p> 
<p><u>Glass Bottles</u> Any color glass bottle or jar can be recycled. Put into designated bunker. Remove lids or caps and rinse. No window glass, mirrors, light bulbs, clay, ceramics, drinking glasses or ovenware.</p> 	<p><u>Cartons</u> Cartons include shelf stable and refrigerated containers for wine, milk, juice, cream, soy milk, soup, and egg substitutes. Drop off cartons with the with the plastic bottles. They should be emptied and flattened.</p> 
<p><u>Cardboard</u> Should be clean and flattened. No soiled cardboard or cardboard coated with wax, tin, or plastic.</p> 	<p><u>Cans</u> Tin, steel, and aluminum cans. Coated cans, foil, and pie tins are ok. Empty and rinse out food residue.</p> 

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER REQUEST

Are you interested in receiving current updates recycling programs in Manitowoc County? Join our electronic mailing list to receive our quarterly newsletter. Either call us at 920-683-4333 or email jonreisenbuechler@co.manitowoc.wi.us and request to be added to our email distribution list. The recycling center will not give away or sell your information. You will receive our quarterly newsletter detailing news and information about the recycling center and related events.

The Manitowoc County Recycling Center is managed and operated by Holiday House of Manitowoc County Inc. Serving people with disabilities since 1957.



The Manitowoc County Recycling Center is a business unit of the Manitowoc County Department of Public Works and is operated in partnership with the Manitowoc County Expo Center.

