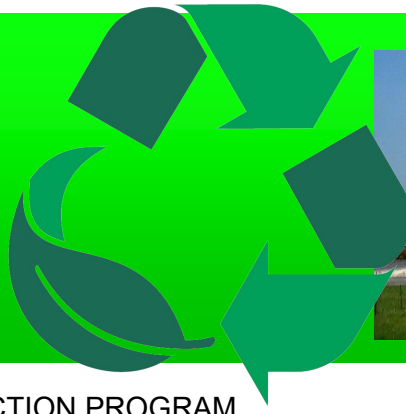


MRF TURF

Fall 2022

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Manitowoc County Recycling Center & Compost Sites



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Mission Statement

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

MERCURY REDUCTION PROGRAM

Very small amounts of mercury can do significant damage. One gram of mercury is enough to contaminate all the fish in a lake with a surface area of 20 acres. A typical mercury thermometer contains approximately 0.7 grams of mercury (700 milligrams), but larger thermometers can contain as much as three grams. Both short term and long term exposure to mercury or mercury vapors can cause serious health problems for humans and wildlife. Mercury affects the nervous system and can impair the way we hear, talk, see, walk, feel and think. Humans are exposed to mercury through contaminated air, water, food, or directly through the skin.

Drop off items listed below at a designated mercury drop-off site. Each household will qualify for one free digital thermometer in exchange for any mercury fever thermometer(s) brought to the Manitowoc County Recycling Center, while supplies last.

Guidelines:

- Household devices/material only.
- Items must be 7" by 12" or less. Oversized household items can be taken to the annual Household Hazardous Waste Clean Sweep event.
- When transporting mercury the item must be cushioned in a **sealed, non-metal container**.
- Do not open, disassemble or damage mercury containing devices. (That includes removing the mercury-filled ampule from old thermostats.)
- Businesses can contact the Recycling Center about options for mercury disposal.

Manitowoc County Recycling Center

3000 Basswood Road, Manitowoc

M – F: 7 am – 4 pm.

For Questions call 920-683-4333 or visit:

Recycling.manitowoccountymi.gov

Accepted Items:

- Thermometers
- Thermostats
- Mercury switches
- Manometers
- Barometers
- Blood pressure monitors
- Dental amalgams
- Bulk mercury



Manitowoc County Recycling Center & Compost Sites

3000 Basswood Road, Manitowoc WI

920-683-4333

Recycling.manitowoccountymi.gov



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 2023.**

Beginning November 1, the Recycling Center Main Office will be closed on Saturdays and will reopen on Saturdays beginning April 2023.

Both the Basswood Road and Woodland Drive Compost Sites are available

for drop off of acceptable yard materials during the posted hours. When using the compost sites drive slow and watch for traffic. It is advisable to avoid using the compost sites during or after heavy rains since they can easily become rutted and slippery. Do not use the compost sites outside of the posted hours.

Accepted Items: Grass, leaves, flowers, plants, pumpkins, fruits, vegetables, garden waste, yard clippings, 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: ASHES, plant pots, seedling trays, bags, plant tags, or anything plastic, stumps, 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. The sites are monitored by video surveillance. If you have questions about a particular material, call 683-4333 and ask.

Starting November 16...

BASSWOOD COMPOST SITE

3000 Basswood Rd, Manitowoc
Mon-Fri 7am-4pm
Sat 8am-Noon

WOODLAND COMPOST SITE

4191 Woodland Dr, Two Rivers
CLOSED November 16 through March 31

**VIDEO
RECORDING**



IN PROGRESS

COMPOST PRODUCTS

Mulch and compost products 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. Call 920-683-4333 for more info.

RECYCLING CENTER OFFICE

3000 Basswood Rd, Manitowoc
Mon-Fri 7am-4pm
Sat 8am-Noon
(Office is closed on Saturdays from Nov 1—March 31)

**SCREENED COMPOST PRICES**

- 1 bushel: \$3.00
- 1 cubic yard: \$15.00

UNSCREENED COMPOST PRICES

- 1 bushel: \$1.00
- 1 cubic yard: \$3.00

WOOD MULCH

- 1 bushel: \$1.00
- 1 cubic yard: \$10.00

SHREDDED LEAF MULCH

- 1 bushel: \$1.00
- 1 cubic yard: \$10.00

DELIVERY

- Zone 1 (within 10mi) \$40.00
- Zone 2 (over 10mi) \$65.00

**HOME COMPOSTING**

Gardeners and homeowners, turn your household food scraps into rich compost for your garden or plants. Mix kitchen scraps and grass clipping with leaves and turn the pile occasionally until it breaks down. Not only does home composting provide excellent compost, but you can reduce the amount of materials going into your garbage. Large, 13-cubic foot compost bins with locking lids are available at the Recycling Center for only \$60.00 (tax included).

Stop by the Recycling Center at any time during normal business hours and take a look at our floor model. Educational resources for home composting are available as well.



Fall leaves can make a great addition to your home compost pile. Especially if they are shredded with a mower.

ABSOLUTELY NO ASHES

Never dump ASHES off at the compost sites. We do not accept them. Our signs, flyer, and website clearly state that we do not accept them. In 2020 there were 2 fires started by people dumping ashes. One of those fires shut the Basswood site down for 2 days. Since we started citing people, the incidence of ash dumping has declined, but it does still occasionally happen.

If you are caught dumping ashes at either compost site, you will receive a \$200 citation, even if you didn't see the signs or look at the guidelines.



Sure, you may have added ashes to your garden at one time, but we do not want them in our compost site for two important reasons. First, even if ashes seem cool they often still contain embers that can start fires, especially after being crushed by vehicle tires during dry conditions. Second, ashes may contain undesirable chemicals from whatever was burned, and we have no way to know if it was clean wood, treated lumber, or worse.

The best thing to do with your ashes is to use them at your property in your garden, or thoroughly douse them in water and let them sit at least a month before sending them to the landfill. If you have curbside pickup service, or use a municipal drop off site, be sure to check their guidelines too; many places do not accept ashes for fire safety reasons.

**DRUG DISPOSAL PROGRAM**

Participants should remove pills from the original container and put them in a "ziplock" style bag that is quart size or smaller. Pills can be mixed in one bag. Bring the bag to a law enforcement drug drop box. Recycle or dispose of the empty pill bottles and boxes at home. Liquids, creams, and powders stay in their original container with the caps tightened.

Guidelines:

- Accepted drugs include prescriptions, over the counter, pet medications, controlled substances, and supplements.
- 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.
- Households only. Businesses should call 683-4333 for disposal information.
- Practice safe storage by keeping 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 St, Manitowoc, 8am-3:30pm M-F

Manitowoc City Police Dept:

910 Jay St, Manitowoc, 7:30am-4:30pm M-F

Two Rivers Police Dept:

1717 East Park St, Two Rivers, 8am-4:30pm M-F

Kiel Police Dept:

619 Paine St, Kiel, 7:30am-3pm M-F

Mishicot Village Hall:

511 E. Main Street, Mishicot, WI, open during [Village Hall](#) hours.

***Prevent drug
abuse,
overdose, and
help keep our
water supply
clean!***

YES**DROP :**

- Unused and/or expired medications
- Over-the-counter medications
- Prescription medications
- Pet medications
- Controlled substances
- Supplements

NO**DO NOT DROP :**

- Sharps (needles, syringes, lancets etc.)
- Chemical waste/mercury products
- Electronic glucose monitors
- Non-medical inhalers
- Personal care products (shampoo, etc.)
- Pill bottles or boxes

TIRE COLLECTION ENDS OCTOBER 31ST

The Recycling Center offers a seasonal tire collection service. It runs from April through October every year. During this time, residents and businesses can bring their tires in to be recycled for a fee. Participants often ask why it is only a seasonal collection. The pricing for our tire recycling service is based on the cost of having the large accumulation of tires transported and processed at a reputable tire recycling facility. The cost is based on the weight of the tires shipped, any water collected in the tires can be shaken off as they are loaded. However, during cold weather, water freezes inside the tires and does not come out easily; this adds significantly to the weight and the processing cost. Luckily, there are not a lot of people who want to bring tires in during the winter.

Fees and Guidelines

- \$5.85—per car tire or smaller (5 tires or less).
- \$7.75—per standard truck tire (5 tires or less).
- 19 cents per pound (\$380 per ton) for:
 - Quantities of 6 or more tires
 - Semi tires
 - Tires on rims
- 24 cents per pound (\$480 per ton) for off road tires including:
 - Agricultural equipment tires
 - Mining equipment tires
 - Mixed loads containing off road tires
- Stop in the Recycling Center Main Office **before** dropping off tires.
- Loads must be free of any non-tire material.
- Bring your waste tires to the Manitowoc County Recycling Center during normal office hours.
- Collection employees reserve the right to judge, based on tire size, and quantity, whether a customer is charged on a per tire basis or by tire weight.
- Residents and businesses with dump truck load or larger quantities of tires must call the Recycling Center before coming.
- For more information call the Recycling Center at 920-683-4333 or visit Recycling.manitowoccountymi.gov

**Location & Hours:**

3000 Basswood Road
Manitowoc

Monday—Friday
7am—4pm
Saturday
8am—Noon

Tires Accepted:

Car
Truck
Semi
Tractor
Motorcycle
ATV
Bicycle

***Rubber products
that are not tires are
not accepted.**

CAN'T WAIT FOR THE CLEAN SWEEP?

If you have old chemicals and want to get rid of them before our next Hazardous Waste Clean Sweep collection event you can take them to the Brown County Resource Recovery site. As a non-resident of their area, you will need to pay a fee depending on the type and amount of hazardous materials you bring in. They are only open on designated days of the week. For more information about their program, fees, and guidelines, visit them online or call 920-492-4950.

Typically, Manitowoc County holds a free, one-day, drive through "Clean Sweep" event in mid-May every year. It is free and one day only because it occurs at a temporary location and is partly funded through a grant from WI Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, and a donation from Waste Management, Inc., and has a minimal impact on County funding.

If you can't wait to get rid of your chemicals, Brown County is a great option and they have a stellar facility. If you can wait and prefer to be frugal, our free, one-day event is a great near-by option. Either program will manage your old chemicals in the safest and most environmentally friendly manner.

**Can't wait to get rid of
all your household
chemicals?**



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 recycle correctly and 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 Recycling.manitowoccountyiwi.gov to learn more about local recycling and disposal options. Or try Recyclemorewisconsin.org for information on how to recycle right in Wisconsin. If you want to do more, then make an effort to minimize contamination in your recycling bin, buy green products that contain recycled content, and purchase products that can be easily recycled in your community. You could even take a recycling pledge on the America Recycles Day website at Americarecyclesday.org to show your support for recycling. Reduction and reuse are also great tools that compliment recycling.



We would like to encourage everyone to review the recycling guidelines for their curbside program or local drop off site. Ours are listed on page 6. Make sure you know the common items that should be recycled. Contamination in recycling is a big issue and it often happens when people assume they know what to recycle, when in fact they are overlooking some important details.

The Manitowoc County Recycling Center would like to thank Manitowoc County residents and businesses for participating in recycling and special collection programs like the 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, our participants have helped improve our community, environment and economics. Visit the Recycling Center at Recycling.manitowoccountyiwi.gov or call 920-683-4333 to learn more about these programs.

For this America Recycle Day, we invite you to participate in a tour of the recycling center. Tours are available on November 15 and 16 starting at 1pm. The tour will take about 1hr depending on participants questions, it will cover the recycling center and associated programs. Please register by calling 920-683-4333 M-F between 7a and 4p. Group size is limited to 12 people each.

VOLUNTEER CALL

The Manitowoc County Recycling Center is looking for volunteers to assist with tasks at the Compost Sites and Recycling Depot. This is a great way to learn more about recycling and composting in your community! All volunteers will be trained by the site manager. If you are interested in helping with recycling and composting efforts in our community this is a great and flexible opportunity. Contact the Recycling Center Main Office at 683-4333 for more details or to sign up.

- All volunteers must fill out the Manitowoc County Volunteer Application and meet with the Operations Manager.
- All volunteers will receive initial training and checkups from the site Operations Manager.
- Volunteer tasks include:
 - Control litter by routinely monitoring the sites and picking up... help keep our compost and environment clean
 - Notify the main office of any illegal dumping.
 - Greet and direct customers at the Recycling Depot, Basswood Compost Site, or Woodland Compost Site.
 - Help answer customer questions.
 - Inspect incoming loads and provide friendly feedback.
 - Record temperatures in compost piles.
 - Tasks can be modified to the comfort level of each volunteer.
- Volunteers earn freebies or discounts for various products and services at our facility as they log hours. Discounts include compost products and electronics recycling services.
 - For every 10-15hrs of service, volunteers may receive a voucher for a yard of wood mulch, screened compost, disposal of a small tv, or items of similar value.
- The Recycling Center will provide a reflective safety vest, trash grabber, a container/bag, and any informational handouts that may be needed.
- Dress for the weather! Work is primarily outdoors.
- Bring your favorite gloves and footwear appropriate for dust or mud.
- Work when you want and for how long you want.
- Volunteer hours can be used to fill service requirements for school or court if needed.



Volunteers Needed

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.
- Due to Covid-19, please practice social distancing and other precautions at the recycling depot.



The recycling and compost areas are monitored for illegal dumping, littering, and other issues. Please follow all posted guidelines.

Paper

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.



Plastic

Check for a neck. **We only accept #1 and #2 bottles and jars.** Bottles and jars should be empty. 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.



Glass Bottles

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.



Cartons

Cartons include shelf stable and refrigerated containers for wine, milk, juice, cream, soy milk, soup, and egg substitutes. Drop off cartons with the plastic bottles. They should be emptied and flattened.



Cardboard

Should be clean and flattened. No soiled cardboard or cardboard coated with wax, tin, or plastic.



Cans

Tin, steel, and aluminum cans. Coated cans, foil, and pie tins are ok. Empty and rinse out food residue.



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@manitowoccountymi.gov 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.

SCRAP METAL DUMPSTER

The Recycling Depot now has a scrap metal dumpster available for your convenience. It is for clean scrap metal only, including steel, iron, copper, sheet/cast aluminum, tin, and mixed metals. Please remove excessive non-metal components.

- NO propane (or other) tanks
- NO electronics or appliances
- NO batteries or lamps
- NO garbage, plastic, wood, or rubber
- NO chemicals, gas, oil, or other hazardous wastes.



The Manitowoc County Recycling Center is operated by Ascend Services Inc. Formerly Holiday House of Manitowoc Inc.



The Manitowoc County Recycling Center is a business unit of the Manitowoc County Department of Public Works.

