



June 19, 2026

### **Outagamie County Landfill/Recycling Operations 2027 Projected Rates**

As the Outagamie County Recycling and Solid Waste Department begins to address the 2027 operations budget we will continue to strive to provide efficient and reliable means for disposal of solid waste, and recycling services.

Outagamie County serves as the Responsible Unit (RU) of Government designation by the WDNR thus each municipality holds a Municipal Scope of Services Agreement with Outagamie County Recycling and Solid Waste Department.

The RU rate, which includes the curbside recycling collection fee is applied equally to all 32 municipalities within Outagamie County. Under this rate, all waste collected within the 32 municipalities is required to be delivered to the Outagamie County Landfill per the Municipal Scope of Services Agreement. It's important to note that all municipalities when entering into new waste collection contracts with private haulers must insure that it is clearly identified that waste collected must be delivered to Outagamie County Landfill (as outlined in the Scope of Services).

The projected (RU) Responsible Unit Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling Rate for 2027 will increase by \$6.00 per ton. The total (RU) Responsible Unit Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling Rate for 2027 will be \$73.00 per ton pending budget approval.

Several responsibilities were given to the RU to manage our counties recycling program, which include:

1. Create and execute a local ordinance supporting the State landfill bans.
2. Provide and annually update a public education and information program about how to recycle materials, reduce waste and reuse materials.
3. Create a method for collecting, processing and marketing of recyclables from all single-family duplex, tri-plex and four-unit residences.
4. Implement a compliance assurance plan to improve compliance with the local ordinance.
5. Monitor recycling services with commercial businesses and industrial facilities ensuring that recycling is provided; and working with the DNR to issue warnings and citations.
6. Submit an annual program report to DNR that contains specified information and describes how the local program meets state requirements.
7. Annually apply to DNR Recycling Responsible Unit Grant, track spending and tonnages of recyclable and landfill banned items, and administer funds.

A major component managed on behalf of the municipalities is the curbside collection program, currently contracted to Green For Life Environmental Inc (GFL). This competitively bid contract has provided the best value for the residents of Outagamie County. This service is intended to be funded by two sources:

1. RU grant, applied for, managed and acquired by OCRSWD.
2. RU Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling Fee applied to MSW tonnage from each municipality.

Since 1992, OCRSWD has subsidized approximately \$18 million for this municipal obligation to cover the collection contract costs. At current rates, it is projected to run a deficit of \$1.0 million in 2026. Annually, the Recycling Responsible Unit Grant received is \$570,000 and that state program has been capped with no additional funds available. 100% of this grant goes towards the collection contract providing a half million dollar benefit to the municipalities only possible through the RU status of the County. The recycling fee portion of the municipal rate had over time, fallen behind sustainable levels. Continuing with the planned increases originally outlined in 2024, **the recycling portion of the RU rate will increase by \$5** to get back to a more sustainable cost structure and adhere to the scope of services agreement.

Outagamie County Recycling and Solid Waste Department and GFL executed a 7 year extension option in the current hauling contract at a 12.5% price decrease. With this upfront decrease in collection contract costs and the RU rate planned increases of \$5/year through 2029, the subsidized amount through the extension term is currently projected to be \$706,000.

During this period, the county is anticipating subsidizing this through Renewable Natural Gas royalties and recyclable commodity revenues if available. Although RNG and the recycling commodities fluctuate from year to year, we feel the current market will remain stable and support this effort through 2029. If market conditions change, reserves, to some extent, may need to be utilized. However, we discern that the best option for OCRSWD and Outagamie County municipalities is to transition gradually towards the realized costs of the curbside collection service all residents utilize.

The Responsible Unit (RU) Municipal Solid Waste and Recycle Rate for 2027 will be \$73.00 per ton, pending budget approval.

All Non-Municipal & Commercial Solid Waste delivered to the Outagamie County Landfill for 2027 will be charged at a rate of \$59.00 per ton, pending budget approval.

The proposed 2027 rate table is below for your reference.

Sincerely,



Gregory Parins  
Director, Outagamie County Recycling & Solid Waste

[www.RecycleMoreOutagamie.org](http://www.RecycleMoreOutagamie.org)

| Responsible Unit (RU) Municipal Solid Waste & Recycling Tip Fee/Ton (32 Outagamie County Municipalities) |                 |                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                                                                                                          | 2026            | 2027 (proposed) |
| OC Solid Waste Tip Fee                                                                                   | \$ 29.00        | \$ 30.00        |
| OC Recycling Collection                                                                                  | \$ 25.00        | \$ 30.00        |
| OC Recycling Processing                                                                                  | \$0.00          | \$0.00          |
| WI DNR Fees                                                                                              | \$ 13.00        | \$ 13.00        |
| Total \$/Ton                                                                                             | <b>\$ 67.00</b> | <b>\$ 73.00</b> |

| Non-Municipal & Commercial Solid Waste Tip Fee/Ton (Standard Gate Fee) |                 |                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                                                                        | 2026            | 2027 (proposed) |
| OC Solid Waste Tip Fee                                                 | \$45.00         | \$46.00         |
| Commercial Recycling Processing                                        | Market Rate     | Market Rate     |
| WI DNR Fees                                                            | \$ 13.00        | \$ 13.00        |
| Total \$/Ton                                                           | <b>\$ 58.00</b> | <b>\$ 59.00</b> |

# RU Municipal Curbside Collection Contract Funding

