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Spring 2025

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



IN THIS ISSUE

- COMPOST SITES SEASONAL HOURS 1
- COMPOST PRODUCTS 2
- CONTRACTOR COMPOST PERMIT 2
- COMPOST VS TOPSOIL 3
- FREE ARBORIST WOODCHIPS 3
- TIRE COLLECTION 3
- HAZARDOUS WASTE CLEAN SWEEP 4
- DRUG DISPOSAL PROGRAM 5
- RECYCLING DEPOT GUIDELINES 6
- ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER REQUEST 6
- SCRAP METAL DUMPSTER 6

COMPOST SITES—SEASONAL HOURS

Beginning April 1st the Basswood Road and Woodland Drive Compost Sites will have new hours. The Basswood Site yard material drop off area will be open Monday-Friday, 7am to 6pm and Saturday from 8am until 6pm. The Basswood Site is located at 3000 Basswood Road in Manitowoc. The Woodland Site, located at 4191 Woodland Drive in Two Rivers, will be open Monday-Friday, 10am to 6pm and Saturday from 8am until 6pm.

BASSWOOD SITE

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

WOODLAND SITE

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

Both the Basswood Road and Woodland Drive Compost Sites are available for drop off of acceptable residential yard materials during the posted hours. Remove plastic bags and other unacceptable debris from the materials you drop off. Brush drop offs should be placed on the brush pile. Keeping your yard material drop offs clean and free of unacceptable items will help us create better compost products. 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 waste, brush, branches (not more than 6 inches in diameter or longer than 5 feet), clean woodchips, clean saw dust from tree removal, and natural holiday trees.

Unacceptable Items: **ASHES**, stumps, animal waste, sod with soil, topsoil, dirt, rocks, gravel, lumber, garbage, large branches greater than 6 inches in diameter or longer than 5 feet, also any non-residential yard materials without a permit and paying a tip-fee.

Loads may be subject to inspection by Recycling Center staff. Illegal dumping is subject to fine of \$200.50 per Manitowoc Code Section 6.17 and may include additional charges. 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.



Thank you to everyone who uses the compost sites as they are intended, we appreciate your efforts!

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

Recycling.manitowoccountymi.gov



COMPOST PRODUCTS

Compost and mulch 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 unless the site becomes impassable during and after heavy rains. Our minimum purchase is 1/4 cubic yard and the minimum we can load is 1/2 cubic yard. Call 920-683-4333 for more info.

Deliveries of 6 cubic yards/load can also be set up within Manitowoc County starting in mid-April. Note that there can be a significant wait time for deliveries.

In addition to the pictured products we also sell non-screened compost for \$5/cubic yard. We also allow residents to shovel there own contractor/arborist wood chips for free (we will load this material for \$5/cubic yard).



Screened Compost
\$20/cubic yard



Wood Mulch
\$15/cubic yard



Shredded Leaf Mulch
\$12/cubic yard

RECYCLING CENTER OFFICE
3000 Basswood Rd, Manitowoc
Mon-Fri 7am-4pm and Sat 8am-Noon



Delivery Fee
\$50 <10mi, \$85 >10mi. Not including material.

CONTRACTOR COMPOST PERMIT REQUIRED

The Manitowoc County Compost Sites require all contractors and businesses using the compost site to obtain a permit before using the site. The permits are free and are intended to ensure that the sites are not being abused by some of the most frequent users. Permittees are required to identify their fleet, verify that they understand our guidelines, and will ensure their staff and subcontractors are adequately trained.

Since implementing the permit system we have noticed a significant improvement. We appreciate those contractors who respect the compost sites and we are working to identify the ones who are unaware of the requirement or think it does not apply to them for some reason.



For more information on obtaining a compost contractor permit visit the compost section on our [website](#) or stop in the Recycling Center Main Office.

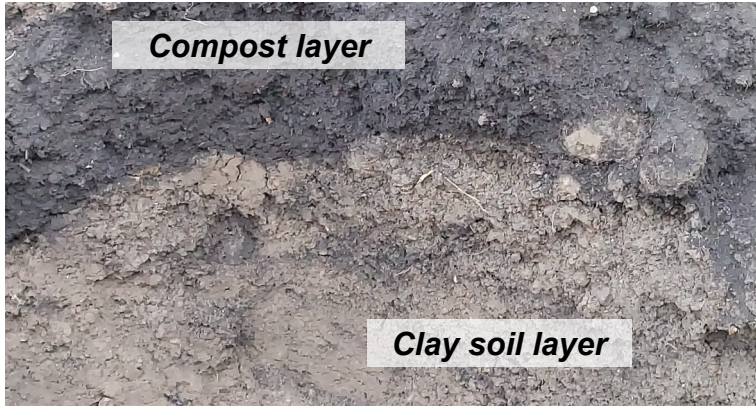
Frequent issues with contractors have included dumping:

- stumps
- soil and gravel
- landscape block and concrete
- shredded plastics in lawn trimmings
- job site garbage mixed in loads
- lumber and construction debris
- logs greater than 6" inch diameter
- branches longer than 5 feet
- materials in the wrong pile
- non-residential yard materials without paying tip-fee.

COMPOST VS TOPSOIL

People often ask us about getting some good dirt. We typically give them a spiel about the difference between compost and topsoil, so they know what they are buying. We offer compost that is made from decomposed yard trimmings like leaves and grass clippings. We create a medium grade economical compost that is ideal for mixing in with topsoil to help improve it's characteristics; It can help break up heavy clay soils, or help sandy soils retain water and nutrients. This is a good first step for gardens and landscapes, and we have seen the results from customers and through personal use throughout the years.

This picture shows a vertical cutaway of a layer of compost on top of a heavy clay soil. The two layers were mixed together to start a garden installation project.



FREE ARBORIST WOODCHIPS

Due to the large amount of arborist wood chips from contractors we have started separating them from our yard trimmings. Throughout 2025 visitors may help themselves to this pile for no charge. We will load small truck and trailers for \$5/cubic yard at the Basswood site during normal office/ loading hours.

This material is highly variable and you should expect varying quality depending on the day and section of the pile. For example, one area may be from ground up Pine tree limbs and another from an Ash or Maple tree.



TIRE COLLECTION

The Manitowoc County Recycling Center tire collection service has started and will run from April through October.

Fees and Guidelines

- \$6.75—per car tire or smaller (5 tires or less).
- \$8.75—per standard truck tire (5 tires or less).
- \$430 per ton (21.5 cents per pound) for:
 - Quantities of 6 or more tires
 - Semi tires
 - Tires on rims
- \$530 per ton (26.5 cents per pound) 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.
- Collection employees reserve the right to judge, based on tire size, and quantity, if a customer is charged on a per tire basis or by tire weight.
- Tire loads should not be contaminated with gravel, mud, brush, plastic, wood or any other non-tire materials. Loads with excessive contamination may be refused or charged a higher rate at the discretion of the Recycling Center.
- 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.manitowocountywi.gov.



Location & Hours:

3000 Basswood Rd
Manitowoc

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

Tires Accepted:

- Car
- Truck
- Semi
- Tractor
- Motorcycle
- ATV
- Bicycle

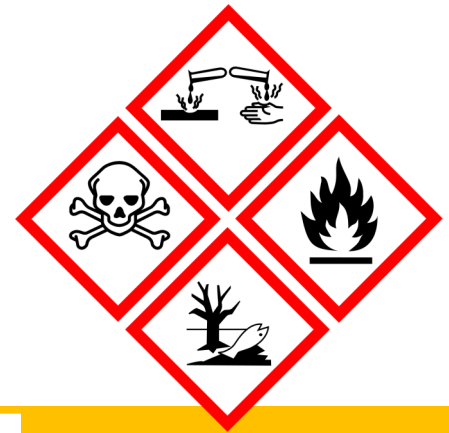
***Rubber products that are not tires are not accepted.**

Our Tire Collection service started in 1998 and has collected approximately 4.64 million pounds of waste tires. Waste tires can be reused in a number of beneficial ways. They can be shredded into rubber chips and used as artificial turf or as a groundcover in playgrounds. Tire rubber can be incorporated into asphalt roads, running tracks, and used in other rubber products. Depending on what other materials are in the tires, they may also be used as tire derived fuel at permitted facilities.

Hazardous Waste Clean Sweep

Many common items like automotive products, household cleaners, pesticides, and home improvement products are hazardous when used, stored, or disposed of improperly. Look for items that contain the following on their labels: **Danger, Warning, Caution, Poison, Combustible, Flammable, Corrosive, and Toxic.**

Thanks to our participants and volunteers, since our collection started in 1985, we have collected 1,220,828 pounds of unwanted chemicals.



Manitowoc County Highway Shop 3500 HWY 310

Residents

Saturday, **May 17**, 9am - Noon

Farms and Businesses

Friday, **May 16**, 2pm - 4pm

Pre-registration is required by May 9

Call 920-683-4333

Many cleansers, home improvement products, automotive products and pesticides can be dangerous when stored or disposed of improperly. They can contaminate the soil, water, and air when spilt or illegally dumped. Improperly stored items could be involved in accidental poisonings of children and pets. The Clean Sweep Program provides an opportunity to safely dispose of these materials for free and for eligible businesses to save on their disposal costs.

All of the collected items are properly recycled, neutralized or disposed of at special disposal sites or hazardous waste incinerators that render the materials harmless.

The Manitowoc County Clean Sweep is part of a regional partnership with Sheboygan and Fond du Lac County. It is possible partly through grant funding from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, a donation from the Ridgeview Landfill and volunteer labor.

REDUCTION IS YOUR FIRST CHOICE!

Before you buy:

- Read the labels
- Choose safer alternatives
- Buy the smallest amount needed for the job

After you buy:

- Follow directions for safe use
- Store properly in the original container
- Share what you can't use
- Dispose of leftovers properly

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

- Pesticides and poisons
- Oil and lead based paints
- Wood preservatives
- Solvents
- Aerosols
- Cleansers and polishes
- Contaminated oil
- Antifreeze
- Gasoline
- Mercury and mercury containing devices
- Pool chemicals

Disposal or recycling options exist for many unacceptable items. Contact the Manitowoc County Recycling Center at 920-683-4333 or visit

Recycling.manitowoccountywi.gov

GUIDELINES

- Household and farms may dispose of acceptable hazardous waste items at no cost.
- Participants must be residents of Manitowoc County.
- Wastes must be brought in the original containers. Keep materials separate. Do NOT mix chemicals.
- To prepare materials for transport, line a cardboard box with a plastic bag, place them in the box and separate with cardboard.
- Place items in your trunk or the back of your vehicle.
- Gas cans, totes, and other containers will not be returned.
- When arriving at the Clean Sweep site, slow down and follow traffic directions.
- Remain in your vehicle at all times.
- Do not come before or after the listed times.
- Farms and businesses must register by May 9. Call 920-683-4333 for information.

UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS

- **LATEX PAINT***
- Explosives such as ammunition
- Radioactive materials such as smoke detectors
- Compressed gas tanks such as fire extinguishers and propane tanks
- Unknown chemicals
- Tires
- Infectious and biological waste including sharps
- Light bulbs and batteries
- TVs and electronics
- Appliances
- Freon gases
- Pharmaceuticals



*Residents are encouraged to dispose of latex paint in their trash. Just take the lid off and let it dry or add paint hardener or cat litter. Once hard, latex paint can be disposed of in the trash.

DROP YOUR DRUGS IN OUR BOX



DRUG DISPOSAL PROGRAM

Drug Drop Boxes are available year-round at participating law enforcement buildings. Since the Drug Disposal Program started in 2006, 27,102lbs of unwanted medications have been collected for proper disposal. 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.
- Do NOT bring medications to a drug disposal event before or after the listed times.
- 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.

YES



NO



PERMANENT DROP BOX LOCATIONS:

- Manitowoc Co. Sheriff's Office: 1025 South 9th St, Manitowoc, 8am-3:30pm M-F
- Manitowoc City Police Dept: 910 Jay St, 7:30am-4:30pm M-T, 7:30am-11:30am F
- Two Rivers Police Dept: 1717 East Park St, Two Rivers, 8am-4:30pm M-F
- Mishicot Village Police: 511 East Main St, Mishicot, during [Village Hall](#) hours
- Kiel Police Dept: 619 Paine St, Kiel, open 7:30a-3p M-F

DISPOSAL EVENT:

Saturday, April 26th: 9am-Noon, [Froedtert Holy Family Memorial Hospital](#) Main Entrance, 2300 Western Ave., Manitowoc. This is a drive through event. Please drive safely.

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 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.



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

<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 heavily 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. 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.</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 plastic bottles. They should be emptied and flattened.</p> 
<p><u>Cardboard</u> Should be clean and flattened. No cardboard coated with wax, tin, or plastic. Pizza boxes with moderate cheese/grease are acceptable.</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@manitowoccountywi.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.