

2013 Waste Reduction Practices and Resources

Practices

A non-exhaustive list of practices that will reduce the amount of waste you create.

Recycling

- Be sure you are properly recycling these items picked up by your hauler:
 - Paper/Cardboard/Metal/Glass/Plastics
- The following items may require more effort than the basics we've all become accustomed to (i.e. the items listed above), but they, too, can be recycled! Many businesses have started a collection of these items for their employees. See the [City of Madison Streets and Recycling How To site](http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/recycling/howTo.cfm) for how to get started (<http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/recycling/howTo.cfm>).
 - Ink
 - Athletic Shoes
 - Electronics – computers, cell phones, TVs, etc.
 - Fluorescent Lamps and Bulbs
 - Hazardous Waste
 - Building Materials
 - Household Batteries
 - Vehicle Batteries
 - VHS Tapes
 - DVDs
 - Household Sharps
 - Medication
 - Tennis Balls
 - Carpet
 - Styrofoam
 - Wine Cork
 - Keys
 - Other?

Compost

- Food Waste – Large scale hauling, small scale compost pile, or even indoor vermicomposting, are ways to ensure your food scraps don't get sent to the landfill
- Yard Waste – Not only can yard waste have another life as compost, but any organization with a grounds crew can reduce water and chemical waste by practicing green landscaping techniques, as well

Use re-usables!

- Easy example: Use silverware and washable plates instead of disposables
- More challenging: Bring your own to-go-ware with you to restaurants

Start at the Source: Reduce Waste and Pollution

- Eliminate junk mail
- Commit to 'green' cleaning (for an example see the City's green cleaning policy <http://www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/apm/4-6.pdf>)
- Purchase to minimize packaging (i.e. consider the packaging)
- Purchase to maximize post consumer recycled content

- Purchase to eliminate waste through *Cradle-to-Cradle*, or closed-loop, products

Resources to assist in Waste Reduction

If your organization does not use your municipality's waste removal services, your contracted waste hauler can be a great resource. Ask for help with a waste audit to identify inefficiencies and see if you are throwing out materials that could be recycled or generate a source of income if you separated them out.

- **Waste Management** <http://www.wm.com/small-business.jsp>
- **Veolia** <http://veoliaes-sw.com/Our%20Services/For%20My%20Business>
- **Pellitteri** <http://www.pellitteri.com/services.jsp?sectionid=4>
- Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Waste and Materials Management - <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Waste/> Wi-DNR's website provides lots of information for individuals and businesses, as well as free downloadable signs for recycling bins.
- How to recycle items not accepted in your home or business recycling bins - <http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/recycling/howTo.cfm>
- "Lose A Pound A Week" (of waste) Program from the City of Madison – <http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/programs/wasteWatchers.cfm>
- How to compost at home - <http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/composting.cfm> and <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Recycling/compost.html#tabx2>
- City of Madison *2013 Recylopedia* - <http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/documents/recyclopedia.pdf>
- Download and review EnAct's "Waste Less" Chapter - http://www.enactwi.org/uploads/pdfs/2_Waste_less.pdf
- Dane County Public Works Solid Waste and Recycling- <http://www.countyofdane.com/pwht/recycling.aspx>
- EPA Waste Wise Program - <http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/conserv/smm/wastewise/index.htm>

People who can help

- George Dreckmann - Recycling Coordinator for The City of Madison
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- Sherrie Gruder – UW-SHWEC Green Building Specialist
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- David Leibl – UW-SHWEC Hazardous Waste Reduction Specialist
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- Joe Van Rossen – UW-SHWEC Recycling and Composting Specialist
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Make sure you know your own **municipal recycling guidelines**

- Cottage Grove - <http://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov/section.asp?linkid=2039&locid=143>
- Fitchburg - <http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/departments/cityHall/publicWorks/solidWaste/index.php>
- Madison - <http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/>
- Middleton -
<http://www.ci.middleton.wi.us/City/Departments/works/Garbage%20%20Recycling/GarbageRecycling.htm>
- Monona - http://www.mymonona.com/pages/city_government/city_departments/details/67
- Sun Prairie - http://www.cityofsunprairie.com/docs/category.php?department_id=14&category_id=3673
- Verona - http://www.ci.verona.wi.us/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC=%7BDA2B4C49-A212-498D-BB7E-8DC3874B0A57%7D
- Waunakee - http://www.vil.waunakee.wi.us/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC={61CD5DA8-6DFC-4E9F-A33C-28C787354F15%7d