Rural Douglas County Residents,

As Recycling Coordinator of rural Douglas County I want to thank you, the residents, for your consistent participation in our recycling program. Your thoughtful, consistent participation is especially important now that current recycling markets are requiring only pure, clean material.

We need your help! Anytime one of our residential recycling containers, located at our ten rural recycling sites has a contamination, not only does the containers complete contents have the potential to be landfilled, but our program will also be charged a $14/yard landfill fee, on top of our regularly charged recycling route fee. Our program and all residential recycling programs have been affected by this new extremely strict requirement. Please take a look at the pictures below.

The pictures below show just how little amount of contamination can spoil the whole load. The pictures below were containers recently deemed contaminated. You will notice that even ONE PIECE OF STYROFOAM, ONE PLASTIC BAG OF RECYCLING, or a few UNACCEPTABLE PLASTICS (such as the swimming pool and hula-hoop in the last picture) will cause the entire load to be landfilled.

It’s time to get back to the basics! “Recycling right is more important now than ever”, states Diana Siebels, Waste Management Representative. “Placing only glass and plastic containers paper and cardboard, and aluminum and steel cans in your recycling bin will help our community maintain a clean recycling stream, making it more cost effective and economically sustainable. Please, rinse out food containers, and no plastic bags. Don’t bag your recyclables! Keeping to these simple rules will help our recycling facilities keep maintenance costs down and workers safe” she said. Turn to page 3 for more details.
FAQ's

What items and materials are not recyclable?
Non-recyclable materials should be placed in your standard trash receptacles. The items below cannot be recycled via our recycling program.

- Plastic grocery bags (these can often be returned to a local grocery store)
- Ceramic dishes, cups and glassware
- Juice boxes/juice pouches
- Foam cups or packing materials
- Windows, mirrors, sheet glass
- Other plastic bags, such as mulch, wood pellets, and plastic wrap, etc.
- Plastic toys, pools, etc.
- Garden pots and trays no matter the number.

Is Styrofoam recyclable?
No, it is not. It is a garbage item, even though there may be a recycling symbol on it. Shipping companies often take back packing peanuts in the store.

Why are the rules for recycling so much stricter now?
Due to global changes in the recycling industry and commodity markets, collecting quality recyclable materials is more important than ever. We need your help to reduce recycling contamination.

What items can I recycle?
Generally, the items below can be placed in your curbside recycling containers or in the drop-boxes. These items should be clean and loose — remove any additional packaging and do not bag them.

- Plastic food & beverage bottles, jugs, and tubs #1, #2, and #5 (except foam cups or packing materials)
- Aluminum products (cans, baking tins and foil)
- Tin and steel food cans
- Paper bags, any type of clean paper
- Cardboard
- Glass food containers

Aren't all plastics recyclable?
Not everything that is plastic is recyclable. Recycle only food & beverage bottles, jugs and tubs.

Can I recycle dirty items, or those with food still inside?
No, items must be clean and dry to be accepted for recycling, no food remaining whatsoever.

Should caps be removed or left on?
Caps should be left on the containers to be recycled.

What items do NOT go into the trash?
The following hazardous household waste items should NOT be treated as everyday garbage and should NOT be disposed of curbside or in drop-boxes. Contact the Recycling Specialist for disposal options.

- Batteries (Alkaline okay to place in trash)
- Electronics
- Fluorescent light bulbs
- Used motor oil and filters
- Prescription medications

Visit the Douglas County website where you will find information on recycling as well as a wealth of other waste disposal options:
https://www.douglascountywi.org/369/Recycling

Interested in being added to our email list?
Email your interest to: jbarton@nwrpc.com

You will receive updates on recycling, hazardous waste, and other interesting information.
It’s time to get back to the basics.

Not everything that is plastic is recyclable! The fact is that some recycling actions make a bigger impact than others. Recycle only clean plastic food & beverage bottles, jugs and tubs numbered 1, 2, or 5.

Just Say NO!
To Plastic Bags!

Most Common Contaminants
Keep these common contaminants OUT of your recycling bin.

Remember these three basic rules the next time you recycle.

- Recycle clean bottles, cans, paper and cardboard.
- Keep food and liquid out of your recycling.
- No loose plastic bags and no bagged recyclables.
# 2020 NW Cleansweep Household Hazardous Waste Area Collection Schedule

Contact Jen with Any Questions: jbarton@nwrpc.com or 715-635-2197

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed., August 5</td>
<td>2:00 pm - 7:00 pm</td>
<td>Douglas County - Bennett Town Hall/Recycling Parking Lot, 9215E County Road L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue., August 11</td>
<td>2:00 pm - 7:00 pm</td>
<td>Bayfield County - Iron River, Bayfield County Fairgrounds, 7080 North Main Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue., August 18</td>
<td>2:00 pm - 7:00 pm</td>
<td>Burnett County - Siren Burnett County Highway Shop, 8150 State Road 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue., August 25</td>
<td>2:00 pm - 7:00 pm</td>
<td>Washburn County - Spooner NW Cleansweep HHW Storage Site, 1400 Cottonwood Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed., September 30</td>
<td>2:00 pm - 7:00 pm</td>
<td>Sawyer County - Hayward, Sawyer County Fairgrounds, 14655 County Highway B</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The Cleansweep collections are available for all residents to attend no matter if you reside in the host county or not. As long as you are a resident of one of the following counties: Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor, or Washburn, you can use any collection site.

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**Douglas County Recycling**

1400 S. River Street
Spooner, WI 54801

Recycling Specialist, Jennifer Barton

jbarton@nwrpc.com
(715) 635-2197 ext. 244

www.douglascountywi.org/369/Recycling