



Megen Hines, our county recycling specialist, loves to hear from you! Contact Megen if you have questions regarding solid waste, recycling, composting or if you would like her to come speak to your group. Megen loves to talk trash (garbage that is!), recycling, composting, natural cleaners and waste reduction. She will come speak to school, business,

community, 4-H and church groups free of charge.

Her contact information is below.

715-531-1907

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Online: www.sccwi.us/recycling

www.facebook.com/sccwirecycling



www.pinterest.com/stcroixcounty



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St. Croix County Recycling Newsletter

Your Wasteline

Limited Number of Compost Bins Available for Purchase

The St. Croix County Recycling program has a few compost bins left from our spring compost bin sale. The bins hold 17 cubic feet or 125 gallons of material. The compost bins are \$60 and can be picked up at the St. Croix County Ag Center in Baldwin. Please call 715-531-1907 for more information and to order your bin. The bins are available on a first come, first serve basis.



Electronics Recycling

Electronics include, but are not limited to televisions, computers, printers, DVD players, cell phones and tablets. Please do not throw electronics in the trash as many of them contain toxic materials such as lead, cadmium and mercury. State law bans electronics from being sent to the landfill. Several local retailers accept electronics for recycling year round for a nominal fee. Please call ahead for details regarding recycling fees and hours. Recycle your electronics at the following local retailers:



Advanced Disposal Transfer Station, Roberts (715-425-1700)

Best Buy, Oakdale, MN (651-739-1899)

E-Cycling St. Croix Valley, Hudson (715-381-5900)

Town of Richmond Recycling Center, New Richmond (715-690-4661)

St. Croix Electric Co-op, Hammond (715-796-7000)

Upcoming St. Croix County Recycling Events

SAT
SEPT
17

APPLIANCE COLLECTION-THREE SITES:

Baldwin (St. Croix County Agriculture & Education Center, 1960 8th Ave, Baldwin) 8 AM – 1 PM

Town of Richmond (Town Hall/Recycling Center, 1428 100th St, New Richmond) 9 AM – 2 PM

Town of Troy (Recycling Center, 277 Townsvalley Rd, River Falls) 8 AM – 1 PM

\$10 for most appliances

Commercial units, gas air conditioners and gas refrigerators call 715-531-1907 for quote.

SAT
SEPT
17

TIRE COLLECTION, TWO SITES:

Town of Troy (Recycling Center, 277 Townsvalley Rd, River Falls) 8 AM – 1 PM

Town of Hammond (Recycling Center, 1816 Cty Rd E, Hammond) 8 AM – 1 PM

Prices: Car \$3 w/o rim or \$5 with rim; Truck \$4 w/o rim or \$8 with rim; Tractor \$15; Heavy equipment tire \$20; and bicycle tire 50 cents.

Both collections are cash only events.

Recycling Opportunity for Agricultural Plastic Film and Bags

A new opportunity to recycle agricultural plastic film and bags is coming to our area. Revolution Plastics is looking to expand their agricultural plastics recycling into western Wisconsin after a successful pilot program in Green County, located in southern Wisconsin. Revolution Plastics is an agricultural plastic manufacturer and recycler based out of Arkansas with 20 years of experience in the industry.

Items that Revolution Plastics will accept for recycling:

- Ag/grain bags
- Irrigation tape, tubing and cover
- Fumigation, greenhouse and hoop house films
- Bale wrap
- Most bunker covers
- Oxygen barrier film

Items that Revolution Plastics will not accept for recycling:

- Bunker covers with nylon scrim
- Twine
- Net wrap
- Other mixed plastics

To be eligible for this FREE program, farms need to be within an 80 mile radius of Eau Claire (this includes all of St. Croix County) and generate between 3,000-4,000 pounds of agricultural plastics per year. Eligible farms will have an eight yard dumpster placed on their property free of charge. If your farm does not produce/dispose of over 3,000 pounds of agricultural plastics per year, you are encouraged to partner with a neighboring farm and share a dumpster. Revolution Plastics will collect the plastic film and bags to be recycled into industrial trash can liners.

Farmers interested in signing up for this service need to visit www.revolutionplastics.com and scroll down to the "Join the Revolution" section. You can also sign up for the service by calling (844) 490-7873. The company will begin their recycling program in the area once they have 250 eligible farms sign up. There are currently around 80 farms signed up as of the beginning of August 2016.

St. Croix County Recycling Newsletter

Your Wasteline

COMMON RECYCLING QUESTIONS

How clean does my recycling need to be?

Recyclables don't need to be as clean as your dishes but should be rinsed to remove as much material as possible. Partially fill a recyclable bottle with water, put the cap back on, give it a good shake and dump out the water works well to clean recyclables. Other tips include using a spatula or dish rag to remove materials from recyclables.



Where can I recycle plastic film?

Plastic bags and film should be recycled-but please don't throw them in your curbside recycling bin! Plastic bags and film, such as shopping bags, bubble wrap, bread bags, and the plastic around cases of water or toilet paper should be brought back to a local store that accepts bags for recycling. To find out local drop off sites and more information on plastic film recycling visit www.plasticfilmrecycling.org.



Can I recycle shredded paper?

Yes! Shredded paper is recyclable, however, it requires an extra step to make sure it actually gets recycled once it gets to the recycling center. Place shredded paper in a brown paper grocery bag, fold the top over twice, staple the bag shut and then place in your recycling bin. This helps keep the paper contained so it doesn't become a contaminant in the glass recycling when it gets sorted at a recycling processing facility.

Is St. Croix County sponsoring a fall clean-up day?

St. Croix County does not sponsor a fall clean-up day, however there is a county sponsored appliance and tire collection on Saturday, September 17. See the front page of this newsletter for details on that event. Several municipalities and haulers hold clean-up days in the fall for bulk trash, appliances, tires, yard waste, etc. Please contact your local municipality for more information. Visit our website, www.sccwi.us/recycling and click on the A-Z Recycling and Disposal Guide to find more information on how and where to recycle specific items.



I've got more recycling than what can fit in my bin. Where can I take the extra recyclables?

If you happen to find yourself with an overflowing recycling bin or have excess recyclables due to moving or hosting a party, there are a few options in St. Croix County. Extra recyclables can be brought to the Advanced Disposal Transfer Station (100 Packer Dr, Roberts) Monday-Friday from 8 am – 4 pm or the Town of Richmond Recycling Center (1428 100th St, New Richmond) on Thursday evenings (summer months only) from 5 – 8 pm and Saturdays (year-round) from 9 am – 3 pm. Please remember to flatten boxes and rinse recyclables before bringing them to either of these locations for recycling.



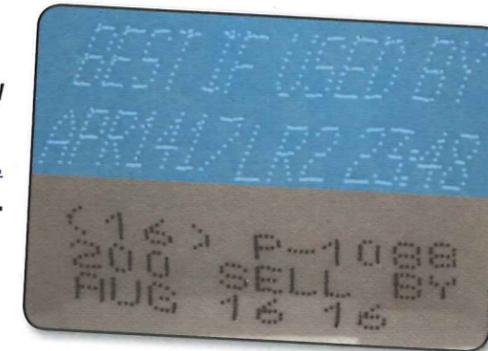
Waste Reduction Tip: How to Reduce Food Waste

40 percent of food in the United States is wasted each year. Each person tosses nearly 300 pounds of food each year. 20 percent of the food we buy never gets eaten. Most of the wasted food ends up in our landfills while some of it is composted. Wasting food wastes resources including money, water, fuel and labor. For example, throwing away one pound of beef wastes the same amount of water as running the shower for 370 minutes. There are several things you can do to help reduce the amount of food you waste at home.

- Only buy what you need. Plan your meals for the week, making sure to include plans for eating leftovers and eating out. Be realistic about how many nights you plan to cook. Look in your pantry and refrigerator and plan meals based on what food needs to be eaten. If you are unable to eat up all of your leftovers, freeze them to enjoy later.
- Be a conscientious shopper at the grocery store. Make a list of the items you need and stick to it. Remember that items on sale are only a good deal if you eat it. Bring a cooler during the summer months to help keep cold foods cold until you get home.

- Understand what the dates on food mean. The expiration dates on food are not related to food safety. The dates are used by the manufacturer to estimate when the item will be at its best quality. Best by or best before dates refer to when the food item will be at peak quality. Sell by dates are more for stocking at the store. These dates allow for the item to be at high quality at home after the sell by date.
- Know when to toss food that is unsafe to eat. Use your best judgement, when something doesn't look right or smells bad, don't eat it. Remember to throw food that is no longer safe to eat in your compost bin.

For more information and resources on how to reduce food waste, visit www.savethefood.com.



Fishing Line Recycling Now Offered at County Parks and Fishing Areas



Fishing line recycling is now offered at county parks and county owned fishing areas thanks to Joe Spitzmueller, a member of Boy Scout Troop 161 Roberts/Hammond. Joe came up with the idea to construct and install fishing line recycling bins at the county parks for his Eagle Scout project. Joe coordinated gathering materials, building the bins and installing the recycling station at our county parks.

Residents can place fishing line in the bin to help keep our waterways tangle free. Fishing line can pose a threat to birds and wildlife if not disposed of properly. Recycled fishing line is used to make fish habitat structures, spools and tackle boxes. Fishing line stations can be found at Homestead Parklands on Perch Lake, Glen Hills County Park, Bass Lake boat landing, Pine Lake Park, Squaw Lake boat landing and the Apple River property near CTH H.

Special thanks goes to Cody Plumbing for donating the PVC, George Vondriska, Sr. for donating his time in making the wooden signs, volunteers who helped Joe install the bins and St. Croix County Parks staff.

