

Between 2000 and 2007, an estimated 500 million computers became obsolete in the U.S.

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## Household Hazardous Waste

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) is any toxic product in your home labeled caution, warning, danger, flammable, poison, combustible, and/or corrosive. They cannot be thrown in the garbage or poured down household drains or storm drains. Instead take them to the Dakota County Eco-Site, a one-stop HHW disposal location.

If you are taking a trip to the Eco-site, search your home for HHW. Basements, garages, and cabinets under sinks, tend to be places that HHW accumulates. If it is a product that you haven't used in the last year, especially if you have children in your home, then get those items out of your home.

Below is a list of some HHW products accepted at the Eco-Site:

- |                                      |                        |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Aerosols                             | Latex/oil paint        |
| Antifreeze                           | Lawn & garden products |
| Batteries (auto/button/rechargeable) | Mercury thermometers   |
| Driveway sealer                      | Pesticides             |
| Fire extinguishers                   | Propane tanks          |
| Fluorescent lights                   | Tires (for a fee)      |
| Gas cylinders                        | Used oil/filters       |
| Gasoline                             | Weed killer            |
| Household cleaners                   |                        |

## Electronics Recycling

In 2006, the Minnesota legislature banned TV's and computer monitors from being thrown in the landfill. These household devices, which contain 2-8 pounds of lead, can be recycled through one of the following local electronics recyclers:



**Electronic waste often contains hazardous materials like lead and mercury which accounts for 70 percent of the toxic waste found in landfills.**

**Appliance Depot**  
651-454-5995  
8980 Hwy 149, IGH

**Certified Appliance Recycling**  
952-894-1448  
14305 Ewing Avenue, Burnsville

**Gopher Resource Corporation**  
651-905-4520  
Eco-Site, 3365 Hwy 149 S, Eagan

**Materials Processing Corporation (MPC)**  
651-681-8099  
2805 W Service Rd, Eagan

**WM Recycle America eCycling Services**  
(Burnsville Landfill) 952-890-1100  
2650 W Cliff Rd, Burnsville

## An environmental guide for the cities of Apple Valley, Burnsville and Eagan

For more information on recycling, composting, and waste disposal

for residents please

visit our website:

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



**ENVIRONMENTAL**



**GUIDE**

## Dakota County Eco-Site

### Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Area

Materials accepted from households only.  
No business hazardous waste accepted.  
Driver's license required.

### Electronics Collection

Wednesdays, 9 A.M. – 8 P.M. – NO CHARGE  
Accepts electronics such as TV's, Computers, VCR's, DVD Players, Microwaves, etc. Households only. Call for business electronics collection information.

### Product Reuse Area

Usable household chemical products and paint are free for the taking.

### Compost Bin Sales

13 cubic ft. (36" L x 32" W x 32" T), backyard compost bins are available for a fee.

### Lead Sinker Exchange

Bring in your lead sinkers and exchange them for a free non-toxic sinker.

### Aluminum Buy Back

The Eco-Site Recycling Area buys aluminum cans from the public and businesses. Call for can redemption prices.

### Mercury Thermometer Exchange

Bring in your old mercury thermometers and exchange them for a free non-toxic digital thermometer.



**Dakota County ECO-Site** · 3365 S. Hwy 149, Eagan · 651-905-4520  
Behind Gopher Resource, entrance off Hwy 149

DROP-OFF HOURS	Recycling Area	Hazardous Waste Area
Wednesdays	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.	3 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Thursdays	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Fridays	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Closed
Saturdays	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	9 a.m. - 2 p.m.



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This guide is funded in part by Dakota Valley Recycling, Dakota County Board of Commissioners and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

In 2006, Dakota County collected over 1.5 million pounds of household hazardous waste.

Contact Dakota Valley Recycling in Eagan at 651-675-5011 and in Burnsville or Apple Valley at 952-895-4559

# Living Green in Every Room

# Yard Waste and Compost

Americans use 85,000,000 tons of paper a year; about 680 pounds per person.

Soil mixed with compost retains water better than regular soil and can lower your water bill.

## Beyond the Kitchen

A 2000 study showed that 21 percent of Minnesota's household garbage is recyclable paper. Every hour Twin Cities' metro area residents throw away over 21 tons of paper that could be recycled which equals 42,000 pounds of valuable paper!

How is so much paper ending up in the garbage? One problem is that most people associate recycling with the kitchen where they can recycle newspapers and food boxes from the cupboard. While it is convenient to have the recycling bin in the kitchen next to the garbage, this certainly is not the only room of the house where recycling is generated.

Why should we care? Recycling paper doesn't just save trees! Production of recycled paper uses 80 percent less water, 65 percent less energy and produces 95 percent less air pollution than paper production using raw materials.

Consider the following rooms in your house and make a plan as a household to recover as much paper as you can. You can still use the recycling container in the kitchen, just be aware that these items are easily recycled.



### The bathroom

Boxes from toothpaste, medications, bar soap and contact lens solution, as well as empty toilet paper rolls and facial tissue boxes are all recyclable.



### The home office

Office paper, junk mail, envelopes (including the plastic window), old receipts, newspapers and the inserts, catalogues and magazines are just some examples of paper that often gets thrown away. Shredded paper should be placed into a paper bag.



### Miscellaneous

Shoe and gift boxes, empty paper towel rolls, school paper, notebooks, and empty crayon, marker and pencil boxes are all recyclable.



## Yard Waste

In Minnesota, yard waste (grass, leaves, small brush, and plant materials) has been banned from garbage since 1992. Since yard waste can be composted and used to improve the health of your soil and plants it does not need to take up space in a landfill. The following options are available to compost yard waste.

1. Leave grass clippings on the lawn. Clippings return nutrients to your lawn, acting as one fertilizer application.
2. Yard waste picked-up by your garbage hauler (usually for a fee) must be in compostable bags or reusable containers. Bags may be purchased at most retail, hardware, discount, and nursery stores. Call your hauler for more information.
3. Yard waste that is self hauled to drop-off sites must be in compostable bags or reusable containers.
4. Backyard composting. Find resources on Dakota Valley Recycling's website, [www.dakotavalleyrecycling.org/compost.htm](http://www.dakotavalleyrecycling.org/compost.htm). Compost bins are available for purchase at the Dakota County Eco-Site.

## Compost Sites

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Open April 1 to November 30 | <b>Resource Recovery Technologies-Burnsville</b><br>1030 West Cliff Road<br>(One mile west of 35W)<br>Burnsville, MN<br>952-736-1915 |
| Open April 1 to November 30 | <b>Gerten's</b><br>805 Yankee Doodle Rd, at Erlene Road<br>Eagan, MN<br>651-209-3511   |
| Open all year               | <b>Resource Recovery Technologies-Empire</b><br>16454 Blaine Ave<br>Empire Township, MN<br>651-423-4401                              |

## Recycle at Home

The curbside residential recycling program collects the following materials. Call your garbage hauler for set-out rules or additional material collections.

### Glass Bottles and Jars

Food and beverage bottles and jars only: Bottles and jars should be rinsed clean; remove caps, lids, and rings. NO drinking glasses, ceramics, window glass, glass cookware or glass mirrors.

### Plastic Bottles with a Neck

Pop, milk, ketchup, cooking oil, laundry soap bottles, etc. Clean and throw away caps, pumps and rings. NO plastic tubs, ice cream pails or plastic bags.

### Mixed Mail

Envelopes/bills/letters, glossy advertising mail. Place mail in a paper bag. NO foil-lined envelopes or cards.

### Newspapers and Inserts

### Magazines and Catalogs

### Corrugated Cardboard

Break down into 3' x 3' bundles and tie.

Keep separate from other materials.

NO pizza boxes.

### Cans - Food and Beverage

Cans made from aluminum, tin or bimetal.

### Boxboard

Cereal boxes, cracker boxes, pasta boxes, cake mix boxes, shoe boxes, gift boxes, & electronics boxes, boxes from toothpaste, medications, & other toiletries

NO refrigerator or freezer boxes.

### Phone books

## Twin Cities Free Market

The Twin Cities Free Market is a web-based program set up to help residents exchange reusable and durable household goods at no cost. This service reduces the amount of goods being thrown away. It is located on the web at [www.twincitiesfreemarket.org](http://www.twincitiesfreemarket.org).

The following is a list of categories of goods that can be exchanged:

- Appliances** (air conditioners, microwaves, washers & dryers)
- Children's Items** (bunk beds, cribs, furniture, toys)
- Electronics** (answering machines, cameras, computers, TVs, VCRs)
- Furniture** (chairs, couches, desks, dressers, tables)
- Home Decor** (carpets, lamps, rugs)
- Home Renovation** (cabinets, countertops, lumber, shingles, sinks, tiles)
- Lawn & Garden** (dirt, lawn furniture, mowers, patio bricks, wood chips)
- Marine Equipment** (boats, sailboats, motors, trailers)
- Musical Instruments** (band & orchestra equipment, music stands)
- Pet Equipment** (aquariums, cages, dog houses, food bowls)
- Recreation & Exercise** (bikes, camping, exercise machines, sports equip.)

The Free Market has facilitated more than 13,000 exchanges of durable goods.

## Beyond the Curb



On any given morning, Twin Cities' residents put their recyclable paper out to be picked up by the recycling truck. But where does the paper go and what happens to the paper?

Here's how the paper recycling process works:

1. Recyclable paper is placed in a container to be picked up by the recycling truck. A recycling hauler picks it up and takes it to a Materials Recovery Facility, or MRF.
2. The MRF separates the paper into types, wraps it into large bales and ships it to a paper mill.
3. The paper mill then mixes the paper with hot water and turns it into pulp. The pulp is screened for contaminants, such as staples and plastic, then cleaned, often de-inked and bleached and made into new paper products.

Recycled paper is used in many paper products; more than 80% of all U.S. paper manufacturers use some recovered fiber to make their products. There are many companies right here in Minnesota that rely on recycled paper for the paper and other products they manufacture.

## Recycling has great environmental AND economic benefits.



- In 2003, 5,750,000 trees were saved because of paper recycling in Minnesota.
- It takes 40% less energy to recycle newspaper than it does to make it from raw materials. Making recycled aluminum saves 95%, recycled plastics 70% and recycled glass 40%.
- In 2000, the materials that Minnesotan's recycled saved nearly 22 trillion BTU's of energy—enough energy to power nearly 217,483 homes (more than the number of households in Dakota County) for one year!

• In Minnesota, the recycling industry creates more than 19,000 jobs and creates \$3.48 billion in gross economic activity every year.

Incinerating 10,000 tons of waste creates 1 job; recycling the same 10,000 tons creates 36 jobs.

# Recycling and the Free Market

# The Recycling Process