

MRF TURF Fall 2011

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COMPOST SITES SEASONAL HOURS CHANGE

Beginning November 1, 2011, the Basswood Road and Woodland Drive Compost Sites will have new operating hours.

The **Basswood Road Compost Site** will be open Monday-Friday, 7:00 am to 4:00 pm and Saturday from 8:00 am until noon. These hours will be effective until April 1, 2011.

The **Woodland Drive Compost Site** will be open Monday-Saturday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. These hours will be effective through November 15. Starting on November 16 the Woodland Compost Site will be closed until April 1, 2011.

Both Compost Sites are closed on Sundays and holidays.

The **Recycling Center Main Office** will be closed on Saturdays, starting November 16 and will reopen on Saturdays beginning April 1, 2011.

Compost and woodchips are still available. Adding compost to garden beds after cleaning out the old growth is a great way to improve the soil for next year. Applying a mulch before the ground freezes can help insulate the soil and protect perennials, plants, and bulbs. Compost and woodchips can be purchased at the main office of the Recycling Center and deliveries are still available. If you have any questions, please call the Manitowoc County Recycling Center at 920-683-4333 or visit www.manitowocrecycles.org.



**SCREENED
COMPOST IS
BACK!**

SCREENED COMPOST PRICES

- 5 gallons: \$1.50
- 1 bushel: \$2.50
- 1 cubic yard: \$11.75
- 6 cubic yards including Delivery Charge: \$99.00

WOODCHIP PRICES

- 5 gallons: \$0.50
- 1 bushel: \$0.75
- 1 cubic yard: \$6.50
- 6 cubic yards including Delivery Charge: \$67.50



COMPOST BIN SALE Gardeners and homeowners, turn your household food scraps into rich compost for your garden or plants. Not only does home composting provide excellent compost, but you can also save on your garbage disposal costs. Large, 13-cubic foot compost bins with locking lids are available at the Recycling Center for only \$50.00 (tax included).

Stop by the Recycling Center at anytime during normal business hours and take a look at our floor model.

For more information
call Recycling Center
920-683-4333

Or visit

manitowocrecycles.org

MRF Mission Statement: To provide materials recycling and recovery services to the citizens of Manitowoc County and to keep the public informed about recycling issues.

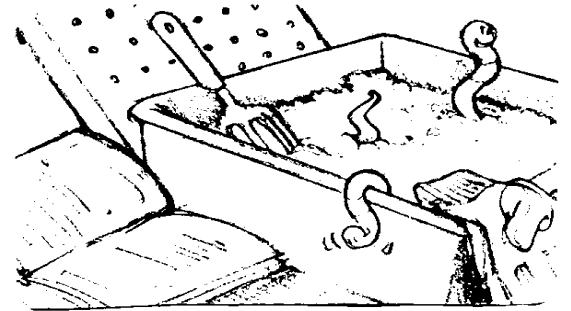
VERMICOMPOSTING

Worms, they are everywhere! They do a lot of things, but their biggest job is the decomposition of organic material into something plants can use. People can harness the power of worms in their own homes and reduce the trash they put into the landfill. It's called vermicomposting, the use of worms and other small, microscopic organisms to breakdown food waste from the kitchen into worm castings, a valuable type of compost.

When composting with worms the perfect worm to use is the red wiggler. Their favorite place to be is a compost pile. They can survive a range of temperatures from 55-77 degrees, so they are perfect for composting indoors. They also can live in confined spaces with a lot of worms, places where your typical earthworm would not do so well. These worms also reproduce very quickly, so you can share the extra worms with a friend, start another bin, or use them for fishing bait. But most importantly, they are very hungry. One pound of worms can eat a half a pound of food waste a day.

So what do worms like to eat? They like vegetable scraps and fruit scraps, coffee grounds and filters, teabags, shredded paper, some grass clippings, and dead leaves. They don't like meat, fat, oil, or anything that is animal based.

It is very easy to start vermicomposting at home. All you need is a plastic or an untreated wooden bin with holes for ventilation, lots of shredded newspaper, a handful of dirt, water, about a pound of worms, and some food scraps. Fill the bin three quarters full with moist newspaper. Add a handful of dirt and mix in for the perfect amount of grit. Make sure your moist newspaper is extra fluffed for good air movement. Bury a small amount of food scraps into the newspaper bedding and place your worms on top. Your worms will make their way into the bedding and to the food scraps. Give them about a week to settle in until you give them more scraps. Don't feed them too much right away otherwise your bin will smell bad. You will be able to feed them more often once they settle in and begin to reproduce. Remember to add fresh moist bedding every once in a while to make sure your worms are comfortable. When you start to notice lots of worm castings, separate your worms from the castings and place the worms into a new bin with fresh bedding, or give them to a friend to start their own bin.



So why use vermicompost? Your plants will love it! It's an all natural fertilizer. It contains more nutrients than regular compost due to how the worms process the waste. The castings house small microorganisms that convert nutrients in existing soils into simpler forms, which are easier for plants to use. These little bugs also protect plants from nasty pathogens. Throw some in the pots of house plants, till it into you garden, or mix vermicompost in with regular soil and you have a fantastic seed starter. Vermicomposting can reduce the amount of trash you throw into the landfill. About 17% of trash is food waste. By letting worms compost the waste, it can reduce your trash by 25%. It is also easy to do, especially for people who do not have access to a big compost pile in their backyard, and a great way to teach kids and adults alike about the importance of composting and the role of worms and decomposition in nature.

REUSE AT RUMMAGE A RAMA

In the three R's of conservation, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, the second R is an important and easy to apply concept. Reuse occurs whenever we use an item again, for its intended or unintended purpose, rather than just throwing it away. Organizations like Goodwill and the Salvation Army help to redistribute items from those who no longer need them to those who can use those items again. Rummage and estate sales also

accomplish reuse. This helps to lessen the amount of municipal solid waste going into landfills, conserves the materials and energy used to manufacture and transport new items and redistributes items to those who need them.

The Manitowoc County Expo will hold a Rummage-A-Rama/Flea Market on November 12 and December 11. Each event will run from 8:30am - 2:30pm, with only a \$.50 admission fee. Over 120 tables will have a variety of gently used items including children's clothing, hats, mittens, antiques, collectibles, posters, furniture, jewelry, and tools. Amish baked goods, seasonings from Tastefully Simple and other goods will also be available.



THE NEXT DRUG COLLECTION will be held at the Crime Prevention Day at the Manitowoc County Expo Merchants Building on October 22rd from 10am to 3pm. Residents may drop off their unwanted medications for FREE. This includes prescription medications, pet medications, over the counter drugs, and controlled substances. Please keep medications in the original containers, just block out your personal information. Call the Recycling Center at 683-4333 or visit www.manitowocrecycles.org for more information.

The Manitowoc County Drug Collection has been a popular and successful program. Since the beginning of the program in 2011 there have been 25 collections. More than 4,400 pounds of unwanted medications have been collected, including over 94,900 pills, patches and vials of controlled substances.

Following proper handling and disposal of your medications will help keep your home and our communities safe. Some prescriptions, like Adderal, Oxycontin and Vicodin, have been stolen from homes and are commonly abused. Medications can also be involved in accidental poisonings when they are inadvertently taken by children or even pets. Medications can end up in our water supply when thrown in the trash or flushed.

The Drug Disposal Program is an effort of the Manitowoc County Drug Disposal Collaborative which consists of multiple agencies including the Manitowoc County Public Works Department, Manitowoc County Recycling Center, Manitowoc County Health Department, the Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention, Healthiest Manitowoc County, Manitowoc County Metro Drug Unit, Manitowoc City Police Department, Two Rivers City Police Department and Kiel City Police Dept.

"Unused medications are being used inappropriately, stolen, or ending up on the street." - Metro Drug Task Force Commander



CRIME PREVENTION DAY DRUG COLLECTION PROGRAM

October 22, 10am—3pm
Manitowoc County Expo
4921 Expo Drive

Acceptable Items:

- ◆ Prescription medications
- ◆ Over-the-counter drugs
- ◆ Controlled substances
- ◆ Illegal drugs
- ◆ Pet Medications

Guidelines:

- ◆ Needles and sharps will **not** be accepted.
- ◆ Keep items in original containers.
- ◆ Do not mix medications in the same container.
- ◆ You may block out personal information on the drug container, please keep the drug name visible.
- ◆ Businesses may participate but must preregister by calling 920-683-4333.

Call the Recycling Center at 683-4333 or visit www.manitowocrecycles.org for more information.

MERCURY THERMOMETER EXCHANGE PROGRAM

As part of the Crime Prevention Day Drug Collection you can bring in your mercury fever thermometers and receive a complimentary digital thermometer. All mercury and mercury containing devices will be accepted; however, only household thermometers are eligible for the exchange program. There is a limit of one digital thermometer per household while supplies last.

FACEBOOK

The Manitowoc County Recycling Center is now on Facebook! Become a fan and check often for information on special collections and other Recycling Center events going on throughout the year. Also, keep up to date on various recycling issues across Wisconsin and around the nation. Go to www.manitowocrecycles.org and click the Like Box and become a fan today!



Manitowoc County Recycling Center

3000 Basswood Road P.O. Box 351
Manitowoc, WI 54220-0351



Manitowoc County Recycling Center
3000 Basswood Road,
Manitowoc, WI 54220
Phone: 920-683-4333
Fax: 920-683-5030

www.manitowocrecycles.org

Residential Drop Off

You can drop off the following materials for recycling:

Plastic Bottles, Tin and Aluminum Cans, Glass Bottles, Magazines, Newspaper, Cardboard, Paper and Scrap Metal. Please call the Recycling Center if you have questions regarding where to recycle other materials or visit www.manitowocrecycles.org for a complete list.



*The Manitowoc County Recycling Center is managed and operated by
Holiday House of Manitowoc County Inc. Serving people with disabilities
since 1957.*

**BE GREEN
AND SAVE US
SOME GOLD!**

Instead of receiving a mailed copy of the MRFTURF you can receive it by email as a PDF.

Email jonreisenbuechler@co.manitowoc.wi.us with your name, email, and mailing address so we can make the switch.

Thank you for your consideration!