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2012 DRUG COLLECTION PROGRAM

Do you have old medications that you need to dispose of? If so, help prevent drug abuse, overdose and keep our water supply clean by participating in a Manitowoc County Drug Disposal Program. There will be 8 collection events held throughout the year in different areas of Manitowoc County.

Acceptable Items

- ◆ prescription medications
- ◆ over the counter drugs
- ◆ pet medications
- ◆ controlled substances
- ◆ illegal drugs.

Guidelines

- ◆ Needles and sharps will not be accepted
- ◆ Do not mix medications in the same container, keep them in the original container
- ◆ You may block out your name but keep the drug name visible
- ◆ Residents may participate for free

Dates-Times-Locations

- ◆ **Jan 5** - 1pm-5pm, Manitowoc County Sheriff's Dept, 1025 9th Street, Manitowoc
- ◆ **Mar 1** - Cleveland Fire Department, 1274 West Washington Street, Cleveland
- ◆ **Apr 21** - 10am-2pm, Earth Day - Silver Lake College, 2406 Alverno Road, Manitowoc
- ◆ **May 3** - 1pm-5pm, Valders Village Hall, 207 South Liberty Street, Valders
- ◆ **Jul 12** - 1pm-5pm, Mishicot Municipal Building, 511 East Main Street, Mishicot
- ◆ **Sept 6** - 1pm-5pm, Kiel Community Center, 510 Third Street, Kiel
- ◆ **Oct 20** - 10am-3pm, Crime Prevention Day - Expo, 4921 Expo Drive, Manitowoc
- ◆ **Nov 1** - 1pm-5pm, Two Rivers Community Center, 1520 17th Street, Two Rivers

For more information about this or other programs visit www.manitowocrecycles.org or call 920-683-4333.

"Flushing unwanted medications down the toilet, or in the trash, has added to the problem of medications in our water supplies." - Northeast Recycling Council, Inc.

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

2011 DRUG COLLECTION PROGRAM RESULTS

Thanks to the many participants, 2011 was another impressive year for the drug collection program. Throughout the year a total of 8 collection events were held that served 668 households. After the medications were collected and packaging was removed, a total of 1,332.4 pounds was turned in. This included 103.6 pounds of commonly abused controlled substances like Oxycontin, Vicodin and Adderall, that is roughly 39,000 pills.

The Drug Collection Program started in 2006 and has since collected 4,767.8 pounds of medications including over an estimated 104,000 doses of controlled substances.

Unused medications present public health and safety concerns within the community. Medications may lay around the house for weeks or even years. This is often when medications are stolen from relatives and acquaintances. These stolen medications wind up on the illegal drug market where they are abused and have resulted in unintended poisonings as well as a number of overdoses in our community. Pharmaceutical chemicals can also show up in the water supply. This is largely due to the common practice of flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash.

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.

MRF TURF Winter 2012

For more information
call Recycling Center
920-683-4333

Or visit

manitowocrecycles.org

WASTE TIRE COLLECTION RESULTS

Manitowoc County residents and businesses can be proud of their commitment to recycling and the betterment of our environment! Thanks to the many participants, the Manitowoc County Recycling Center's 2011 Tire Collection brought in 247,500 pounds of waste tires. The majority of this was car tires, though there were many other types, such as; bicycle, ATV, lawnmower, tractor, semi, and race car tires.



Waste tires can be reused in a number of beneficial ways. They can be shredded into rubber chips and used as artificial turf or as a groundcover in playgrounds. Tire rubber can be incorporated into asphalt roads, athletic tracks and used in other rubber products. Depending on what other materials are in the tire they may also be used as a fuel source. When burned in specially designed incinerators the release of noxious smoke can be controlled. Nylon and steel that is commonly found in tires is also recycled.

Watch for the next tire collection to be held for two weeks in mid-September next year!

REUSE AT RUMMAGE A RAMA

Reduce, Reuse and Recycle... and Rummage A Rama! 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 January 14 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.

If you have items to sell visit the Expo website at www.manitowoccountyexpo.com or contact the Expo Office at 920-683-4378.



HAZARDOUS WASTE CLEAN SWEEP

The 2012 Hazardous Waste Clean Sweep for Households, Farms and Businesses will be held on **May 18 and 19**. Details for this popular program will be available in the next issue of this newsletter. You can also learn more by visiting www.manitowocrecycles.org or calling the Manitowoc County Recycling Center at 920-683-4333.

Household HazWaste: Reduction as your first choice

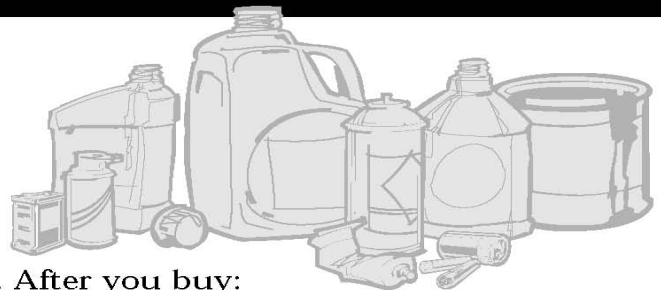
Reduce the amount of potentially hazardous products in your home and eliminate what you throw away by following these easy steps:

1. Before you buy:

- Read the labels and be aware of what they mean.
- Look for these words on labels; they tell you what products may need special handling or disposal:

Caution	Flammable
Warning	Combustible
Danger	Explosive
Poison	Volatile
Toxic	Corrosive

- Select a product best suited for the job.
- Buy only what you can use entirely.



2. After you buy:

- Read precautions and follow directions for safe use.
- Use recommended amounts; more is not necessarily better.
- Store properly and keep in original container.
- Use the child-resistant closures and keep them on tightly.
- Share what you can't use with friends or neighbors.
- Recycle/dispose of empty container properly.

If you have old household products that you may consider hazardous or still have some product left over after following the preceding directions, use the information on the back side of this sheet for disposal advice.

TOP TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL RECYCLING PROGRAM IN THE WORKPLACE

- 1. No Lonely Cans.** Recycling bins should ALWAYS be placed next to a trash can, never alone. Lonely trash cans mean recyclables will end up in the trash, too.
- 2. Labels Make Cans Happy.** ALL bins should be clearly labeled with decals/signage. This includes trash cans which should be labeled "trash only - no recyclables." Pictures of items can also help. Make it easy for people by telling them exactly what to do.
- 3. Don't Make Tossing So Easy.** Too many trash cans partnered with recycling bins in too many locations create extra work for staff and extra costs to haul it all away. Select key areas that can be "trash hubs" where people can both recycle and throw things in the trash.
- 4. Pick the Right Bin.** Recycling bins should look different from the trash can. For example, use different colored bins for recyclables and trash cans.
- 5. Ban the Bag.** If a bin is ONLY collecting clean paper, such as in a dual stream collection system, reconsider the need for a plastic liner. This can save time and money during collection. It will also encourage people to only place clean paper in the bin.
- 6. 10% Rule.** A little trash contamination in the recycling bin is okay. Generally speaking, contamination that is 10% or less is not a problem.
- 7. Education is Key.** Establishing and maintaining participation in a recycling program is a constant challenge for any community. Everyone in the community will need encouragement, reinforcement and recognition for their hard work. Ongoing education and outreach can help build longstanding, positive relationships, attitudes and habits that will heighten the effectiveness of your recycling program.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources



RECYCLE YOUR HOLIDAY TREE

Manitowoc County residents and businesses may drop off their natural holiday trees at the Basswood Compost Site. Remove all ornaments, tinsel, lights, stands and storage bags from trees before dropping off. If your tree is more than 6 feet long, please cut it in half. The Basswood compost site is located at 3000 Basswood Rd., near the intersection of CTY P and R. Please call 683-4333 or visit www.manitowocrecycles.org for information.

According to the National Christmas Tree Association around 29 million natural trees are sold over the holidays. Many of these trees are recycled once their holiday usefulness is over. Used natural trees can be chipped and turned into wood mulch. Mulch is used for groundcover and erosion control in landscaping projects and trails. Another popular use is for constructing wildlife habitat. If properly placed in a backyard these holiday conifers provide shelter and protection for songbirds during the winter. Placed in loose piles at the edge of a woodland these trees help many wildlife including birds, small mammals and even the animals that depend on them for food. Many sportsmen will construct these brush piles to attract small game or to create hunting blinds. Carefully placed piles on the ice in lakes can be used to create fish habitat once the ice melts and the trees sink to the bottom. Be sure to check for restrictions before building fish or wildlife structures.

Holiday trees may be taken for free from the Manitowoc County Basswood Compost Site during normal business hours. Whole trees will be set aside in a separate pile for those interested in using them.



MERCURY REDUCTION: THERMOSTATS

Many old non digital thermostats contain mercury. Tossing these old thermostats, or any other mercury containing device, into the garbage will contribute to mercury contamination. The Manitowoc County Recycling Center accepts mercury containing thermostats year round as part of an ongoing mercury reduction program. Drop off your thermostat at the Recycling Center Main Office located at 3000 Basswood Road Monday through Friday between 7am and 4pm. Please leave the thermostat intact. When transporting them, cushion the item and place it in a sealed container.

Improvements in heating system controls have rendered mercury thermostats inadequate. Newer programmable thermostats can save money on heating and cooling costs. When upgrading your heating system be sure to properly dispose of the old mercury thermostat.

These mercury switch thermostats have been in use since the 1950s and are commonly found in older homes. Each thermostat can contain up to 3 grams of mercury in a sealed glass bulb called an ampoule. If this bulb is broken the mercury will spill out. Mercury and other heavy metals can be a threat to human and environmental health when improperly managed. Common sources of mercury, like thermostats, thermometers, light bulbs and electronics have no place in our landfills and should be properly recycled.



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!