

# Going Green

Guide to Household Hazardous Waste,  
Yard Waste and Recycling Resources



## Latest News

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**Sign up** to receive monthly email updates on environmental services and collection events in your community.

Subscribe at: [www.co.washington.mn.us/envirocenter](http://www.co.washington.mn.us/envirocenter)

### **Document Shredding Event**

Friday, September 9 | 9 am – 2 pm

#### **Location**

Washington County Environmental Center (*page 4*)  
4039 Cottage Grove Drive, Woodbury

Bring your confidential documents in for free, on-site paper shredding by *Shred Right*. CDs, floppy disks, videos, and other media will be accepted for off-site destruction only.



**Don't miss your 2011 Collection Events** for hazardous materials and electronics

#### **Forest Lake**

Saturday, September 10

8 am – 2 pm

*Forest Lake Transit Center*  
19955 Forest Road North

#### **Hugo**

Saturday, September 24

8 am – Noon

*Hugo Public Works Building*  
6900 137th St N

Collection of household hazardous waste and electronics is held in conjunction with the City of Hugo Cleanup Day. Additional cleanup day items will be accepted from Hugo residents only.

#### **Detailed event information:**

[www.co.washington.mn.us/envirocenter](http://www.co.washington.mn.us/envirocenter)

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### **Online Resources**

#### **Residential Disposal Guide**

[www.co.washington.mn.us/publichealth](http://www.co.washington.mn.us/publichealth)

An A to Z disposal guide for Washington County residents.



[RethinkRecycling.com](http://RethinkRecycling.com)

Your go-to guide for waste and recycling in the Twin Cities.



# Going Green

Every day we make choices about how to dispose of the things we no longer need. Many common household items are hazardous and can threaten our health and the environment if thrown in the trash or poured down the drain. Other items can be reused or recycled. This guide will help you make the best decision for your health and the environment.

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Washington  
County

# Environmental Center



Free Drop Off  
for Household  
Hazardous Waste,  
Electronics and  
Recyclables



## Environmental Center

### Location and Hours

4039 Cottage Grove Dr.  
Woodbury, MN 55129

Just four miles south of I-94

**Tuesdays:**  
**Noon – 7 p.m.**

**Thursdays:**  
**9 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

**Saturdays:**  
**9 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

Closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve,  
Christmas Day, New Year's & other major  
holidays



Open to residents of Washington, Anoka,  
Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin,  
and Ramsey counties. Proof of county  
residency, such as a driver's license, is  
required.



**Appliances are NOT accepted at the Environmental Center.**  
**See Online Resources on the inside cover for disposal information.**

Materials listed are accepted from residents for free. *Items listed are examples*

### Household Items:

- Mercury thermometers and thermostats
- Some household cleaners
- Aerosol cans
- Fluorescent bulbs



### Yard & Garden:

- Insect/roach/ant killer
- Fertilizers/pesticides/weed killer

### Home Improvement & Construction:

- Latex paint
- Oil-based paint
- Paint remover/stripper/thinner
- Stain/varnish

### Automotive & Recreation:

- Antifreeze
- Used motor oil and filters
- Propane tanks
- Rechargeable batteries



- Computers
- Computer monitors
- Peripherals (keyboards, mice, speakers, etc.)
- Printers
- TVs
- DVD & VCR Players
- Fax Machines
- Cell phones

Please sort recyclables into 2 categories and bring in a paper bag or reusable container.



Small loads of recyclables are accepted from businesses.

### Paper + Cardboard

- Mail, office and school papers
- Magazines and catalogs
- Newspapers and inserts
- Paper bags
- Phone books
- Corrugated cardboard
- Shredded paper in closed paper bag
- Boxboard (cereal and, cracker boxes, boxes from toothpaste, and other toiletries)

### Bottles + Cans

- Metal cans
- Glass bottles and jars
- Plastic bottles with a neck marked  or 



### Additional Items

- Plastic bags
- Sheet plastic
- Holiday lights
- Extension cords

# Household Hazardous Waste

## Free Product Room

Don't need it? Someone might! Some of the items you drop-off at the Environmental Center might be stocked in the *Free Product Room* for other residents to pick up, free of charge.

The *Free Product Room* is located inside the *Environmental Center*. Residents may browse the shelves and take home previously-owned products such as paint and household cleaners. *Must be 18 years old to participate.*



## Safe Storage and Transport

### Do this:

- Transport items in a paper bag, cardboard box, or plastic tote.
- Arrange bottles and cans in a single layer, upright and sealed. Paint cans may be double-stacked.
- All containers must be sealed with a tight lid or cap.
- Label materials that are not in their original containers.
- Bundle fluorescent tubes with rubber bands. Please don't tape.
- Oil, antifreeze, and gas containers may be returned for reuse-put in a clearly marked container less than 5 gallons.



### Don't do this:

- **Do not put your items in a plastic bag.**
- **Do not mix or combine chemicals!**
- **No empties.** Empty containers may be placed in the trash.



# Protect Your Family and the Environment

## Reduce Harmful Chemicals in Your Home

- Look for products that list all their ingredients on the label. Generally, the fewer ingredients, the better.
- Use a multi-purpose cleaner instead of several specialty cleaners.
- Use single-ingredient products (baking soda, white vinegar, lemon juice, salt) that serve several functions.
- Choose products that are made from plant-based materials like citrus, seed, vegetable, or pine oils.
- Choose chlorine-free products.
- Choose the least toxic product to do the job. A product with the signal word *Caution* on its label is less hazardous than a product with the signal word *Warning*, *Danger*, or *Poison*.



## Make Your Own Cleaner

Many people are switching to homemade cleaners to reduce exposure to hazardous chemicals and save money. Inexpensive ingredients like vinegar, baking soda, and dish soap often clean just as well as store-bought products. You can find more information about non-toxic cleaners at: [Reduce.org](http://Reduce.org)



## All-Purpose Cleaner

- ¼ cup white vinegar
  - 2 tsp. borax
  - 32 oz. hot water
  - ¼ cup liquid dish soap
- Mix borax with hot water until dissolved. Add vinegar and fill spray bottle with water. Add the liquid dish soap last. Shake ingredients to mix.

# Recycling at Your Curb in Washington County

Curbside recycling is offered in all cities and townships in the county. **This is a general guide, some recycling collectors accept additional types of material.**



## Plastic

### YES

- Plastic bottles and jugs
- Water, soda and juice bottles
- Milk and juice jugs
- Ketchup and salad dressing bottles
- Dishwashing bottles & detergent jugs
- Shampoo, soap and lotion bottles

### NO

- Microwaveable food trays
- Produce, deli and take out containers
- Plastic wrap and bags\*\*
- Containers that held hazardous automotive and yard products, such as motor oil and pesticides
- Styrofoam

\*Check with your waste hauler to see if they collect additional materials.

\*\* Plastic shopping bags are recyclable at many local discount and grocery stores

Plastic bottles  
with a neck  
marked  
1 or 2\*



## Glass

### YES

- Glass food/beverage bottles and jars

### NO

- Drinking glasses, mugs, dishes, cookware, pottery and vases
- Window and mirror glass
- Containers that held hazardous products (nail polish, hobby paints)

## Recycling makes a difference.

It takes 95% less energy to make aluminum cans from recycled material than it does to produce them from scratch. Every can, every bottle, every piece of paper counts. *Recycle more.*

For detailed information on materials currently accepted in your area, how the materials should be sorted, and when they will be picked up, call your recycling collector.



## Metal

### YES

- Metal food and beverage cans

### NO

- Paint cans
- Aerosol cans
- Containers that held hazardous products, such as paint thinner and automotive fluids



## Paper

### YES

- Mail, office and school papers
- Magazines and catalogs
- Newspapers and inserts
- Phone books
- Shredded paper in closed paper bags
- Cardboard boxes
- Cereal boxes, cracker boxes, pasta boxes, cake mix boxes
- Boxes from toothpaste, medications and other toiletries

### NO

- Pizza boxes, or boxes soiled with food
- Boxes from frozen foods
- Paper towels, napkins, cups and plates
- Gift wrap



# Yard Waste Dropoff & Compost Sites



The following sites are not owned or operated by Washington County. **Fees may apply.** All sites accept grass and leaves; some sites accept additional types of material. *Contact sites directly for materials accepted, site hours, and fees.*

## City owned sites

### Forest Lake

**Location:** 20001 Forest Blvd N  
**Open to:** Residents of Forest Lake  
**Phone:** 651-464-7038

### Hugo

**Location:** 170th Street N  
**Open to:** Residents of Hugo  
**Phone:** 651-762-6300

### Marine on the St. Croix

**Location:** North on Highway 95  
**Open to:** Residents of Marine  
**Phone:** 651-433-3636

### Newport

**Location:** 1100 Bailey Road (Near Sterling Ave)  
**Open to:** Residents of Newport  
**Phone:** 651-459-5677

### St. Paul Park

**Location:** 13th Ave and 1st Street  
**Open to:** Residents of St. Paul Park  
**Phone:** 651-459-9785

## Privately owned sites

### River City Services

**Location:** 201 2nd Ave S, Bayport  
**Open to:** All residents  
**Phone:** 651-430-2809

### Rumpca Companies Inc.

**Location:** 9600 Glendenning Road, Cottage Grove  
**Open to:** All residents  
**Phone:** 651-459-1556

### Buberl Recycling and Composting

**Location:** 5750 Memorial Avenue North, Stillwater  
**Open to:** All residents  
**Phone:** 651-439-8399

### Composting Concepts

**Location:** 4600 Cottage Grove Drive, Woodbury  
**Open to:** All residents  
**Phone:** 651-436-1213



## Curbside yard waste collection

Plastic bags are banned from curbside yard waste collection. Residents must now use compostable bags, available in paper or plastic, or use a yard waste cart. Find out more at **RethinkRecycling.com**.

This rule **does not apply** to residents who debag yard waste at a drop-off facility.

# Free Educational Tools

Learning kits are available to borrow. Find out more about these kits at [www.co.washington.mn.us/publichealth](http://www.co.washington.mn.us/publichealth) (click on Educational Resources)

## Trash Trunk

Teach about garbage and waste reduction



## Recycled Products Kits

Examples of items made from recyclables



## Composting Education Kits

Teach about composting and decomposition



## Resource Recovery Tour

Take a trip to the Resource Recovery facility in Newport and learn how trash is converted into fuel to produce electricity. Schools are eligible for reimbursement of transportation costs. Call 651-266-1194 to learn more and schedule a tour.



## Recycle At Your Next Event

Washington County loans out recycling containers for small, single day event such as graduation parties, weddings, family reunions, and block parties. For more information, go to [www.co.washington.mn.us/publichealth](http://www.co.washington.mn.us/publichealth) and click on recycling container loan program.

## Going Green

Published by the Ramsey/Washington County  
Resource Recovery Project



## Environmental Center



Bring in your unneeded paint, cleaners, automotive, or lawn products for environmentally safe recycling and disposal. Some of what you drop off may be stocked in our **Free Product Room**.

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