



DOUGLAS COUNTY WISCONSIN



RECYCLING 2025

For the Residents of Rural Douglas County, WI

What is and What is Not Recyclable

IS RECYCLABLE

- Newspaper
- Office Paper
- Paper Bags
- File Folders
- Junk Mail
- Paperboard
- Magazines
- Paper Books
- Notebook Paper

IS NOT RECYCLABLE

- Paper Plates
- Gift Wrap
- Tissue Paper
- Paper Towels
- Egg Cartons
- Shredded Paper
- Pizza Boxes



IS RECYCLABLE

- Glass Bottles
- Colored Glass Bottles
- Glass Tubs
- Glass Jar

IS NOT RECYCLABLE

- Decorative Glass
- Mirrors
- Ceramics
- Light Bulbs
- Drinking Glasses
- Window Glass



IS RECYCLABLE

- Plastic Bottles, Jugs, and Tubs labeled #1, #2, or #5

IS NOT RECYCLABLE

- Chip & Cereal Bags
- Containers without a recycle #
- Items labeled #3, #4, #6, or #7
- Plastic Bags or film
- Plastic Wrap
- Bubble Wrap
- Mulch Bags



IS RECYCLABLE

- Metal Cans
- Aluminum Cans
- Steel Cans
- Tin Cans

IS NOT RECYCLABLE

- Scrap Metal
- Hangers
- Electrical Cords
- Electronics



PLEASE RINSE ALL CONTAINERS CLEAN AND BREAK DOWN ALL BOXES BEFORE RECYCLING

Visit the Douglas County website for
information on recycling as well as other
waste disposal options:

[https://www.douglascountywi.gov/
369/recycling](https://www.douglascountywi.gov/369/recycling)



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What is Recycling Contamination? What does this cause?

Recycling contamination happens when non-recyclable materials are placed in a recycling bin. “Aspirational recycling” is when people put items in the recycling bin hoping they’re recyclable, even if they’re not sure—often leading to contamination. Leaving food residue on recyclables is also a major cause for contamination. These reasons can cause entire batches of recyclables to be rejected and sent to landfills, undermining recycling efforts. It also damages recycling machinery, creates unsafe working conditions for sorters, and reduces the market value of recyclable materials. To reduce contamination, it is important to communicate with your recycling provider, keep materials separated as needed, and ensure everything is clean and residue free.

Top 3 Contaminations To Avoid:

- **Plastic Bags:** They clog sorting machines. Douglas County Recycling accepts only #1, #2, and #5 plastic jugs, bottles, and tubs.
- **Food Waste:** Dirty containers and food-soaked packaging often ruin otherwise recyclable items.
- **Debris:** Plastic sheets, containers, wood debris, garbage items, etc.



In 2024 we had a total of 12 contaminated loads. By being more mindful about what goes into your recycling bin, you can help us cut down on contaminations altogether.

What is E-Waste? What does it cause?

E-waste, or electronic waste, refers to discarded electronic devices, whether they’re broken, outdated, or simply replaced by newer models. As technology continues to evolve, many gadgets—like phones, laptops, and DVD players—are thrown away even when they still work. This growing wave of e-waste is often driven by the constant desire for the latest upgrades, making older but functional electronics seem obsolete. The problem is that e-waste doesn’t just take up space in landfills—it contains toxic materials like lead, mercury, and cadmium that can seep into soil and water, harming both people and wildlife. Recycling electronics not only prevents this kind of pollution but also reduces the need for environmentally damaging metal mining. Most e-waste contains valuable materials like plastic, glass, and metal that can be reused. The key to tackling this issue is raising awareness and increasing participation in e-waste recycling programs. For locations in Douglas County to properly dispose of your electronics scan the QR Code for more information.

Here are some common household e-waste items

- **Mobile Devices** like cellphones, smart phones, and smartwatches
- **Computers and Accessories** like desktops, laptops, monitors, hard drives, and circuit boards
- **TV & Entertainment Systems** like TVs, DVD/Blu-Ray players, video game consoles, stereos
- **Home Appliances** like microwaves, electric cookers, heaters, and fans
- **Office Electronics** like printers, copiers, fax machines, phones, and gaming systems
- **Medical Devices** like heart monitors, diabetic testing tools, dialysis machines, and defibrillators



NORTHWEST CLEANSWEEP PROGRAM



Northwest Cleansweep is proudly celebrating 30 years of providing essential hazardous waste collection and environmental education services across ten counties in northwest Wisconsin. Since its launch in 1995, the program has hosted over 500 collection events and safely removed more than 2 million pounds of hazardous materials from the region. It offers

mobile and permanent collection services to households, farms, schools, businesses, and municipalities, including a “milk run” collection program and appointment-based drop-offs at the Spooner facility. Notably, over 65% of collected materials are recycled or reused, and the program has earned recognition, including the Wisconsin Governor’s Award for Excellence in Hazardous Waste Reduction. Northwest Cleansweep has led efforts to reduce Lake Superior Critical Pollutants, collecting over 3,500 pounds of mercury and partnering with schools and underserved communities to remove hazardous substances. As it marks three decades of service, Northwest Cleansweep remains committed to protecting public health and the environment through safe waste management and community education.

MORE INFO ON CLEANSWEEP VISIT: <https://nwrpc.com/873/Northwest-Cleansweep-Program>

DOUGLAS COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) EVENT

Douglas County’s Cleansweep event will be held on Thursday August 14th at the Gordon Transfer Station 14358 S St. Croix Road from 12:00PM to 4:00PM. Douglas County residents may attend any of the HHW collection events. Visit <https://nwrpc.com/DocumentCenter/View/3631/2025-HHW-Schedule?bidId=> to see the full cleansweep schedule, or call Abigail Gilberg at Northwest Regional Planning Commission for more info!

Cleansweep Will Accept

- Oil Based Paints, Aerosol Spray Paints and Lubricants
- Solvents
- Pesticides
- Fertilizer
- Household and Hazardous Cleaners
- Corrosives
- Flammables
- Mercury
- Old Gasoline
- Antifreeze
- Mercury containing Thermostats, Switches, and Thermometers
- Lead Based Paint

Cleansweep Will Not Accept

- Radioactive Materials (Including Smoke/CO2 Alarms)
- Ammunition
- Compressed Gas Cylinders- Any Size
- Recyclables
- Appliances
- Asbestos
- Biological or Infectious Waste
- Sharps or EpiPens
- Spray Foam Cylinders
- Incandescent Light Bulbs
- PEAS Containing Items
- Latex Paint
- Empty Paint/Aerosol Cans
- Oil Filters, Motor Oil
- Explosives, Flares, or Firework
- Freon 11 & 12

Douglas County Recycling

1400 S River Street

Spooner, WI 54801

Recycling Specialist

agilberg@nwrpc.com

(715)-635-2197

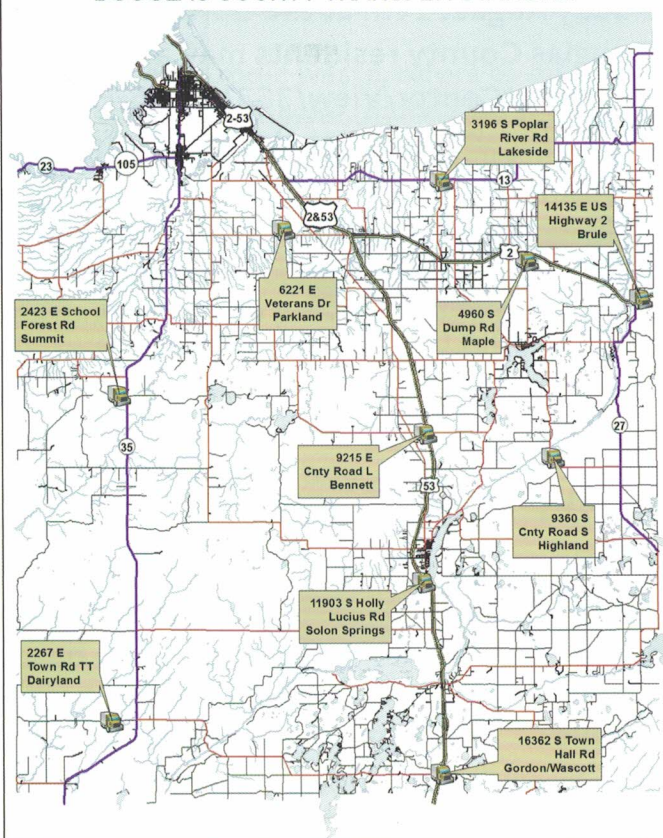
[https://www.douglascoun
tywi.gov/369/Recycling](https://www.douglascoun
tywi.gov/369/Recycling)

*****ECRWSEDDM****

Douglas County
Postal Customer



DOUGLAS COUNTY TRANSFER STATIONS



Douglas County Recycling Summary

In 2024 Douglas County offered ten recycling drop off sites to the residents of rural Douglas County. The towns of Amnicon, Cloverland, Hawthorne, Lake Nebagamon, Oakland, Oliver, Poplar, and the Village of Superior all provided curbside pickup for their residents. Residents in rural Douglas County recycled over 1,109 tons of recyclable materials in 2024. This tonnage only includes the common household recyclables.

For information on drop-off locations and hours in Douglas County please scan the QR Code.



SCAN ME!

***Businesses are not allowed to use the recycling containers as DNR funding does not allow it.**
To be added to our virtual mailing list for quarterly newsletters, email agilberg@nwrpc.com with the subject line "Douglas County Recycling News"