



Door County Recycling Program

Recycling Specifics by Material Type

<u>Aluminum Cans</u>	<u>Fluorescent Lamps and Compact Fluorescent Lights</u>	<u>Plastic - Packing Peanuts and Bags</u>
<u>Appliances</u>	<u>Furniture</u>	<u>Plastic - Styrofoam</u>
<u>Asbestos</u>	<u>Gas (CO₂) Cylinders</u>	<u>Plastic - Tyvek Envelopes</u>
<u>Batteries - Lead Acid</u>	<u>Gasoline (old fuel)</u>	<u>Plastic - Other Materials</u>
<u>Batteries - Dry Cell</u>	<u>Glass</u>	<u>Propane Tanks</u>
<u>Bicycles</u>	<u>Holiday Materials</u>	<u>Scrap Metal</u>
<u>Cardboard</u>	<u>Magazines, Newspaper, Catalogs and Phonebooks</u>	<u>Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Detectors</u>
<u>Cell Phones</u>	<u>Medical Waste-Sharps & Old Medication</u>	<u>Steel, Tin and Aerosol Cans</u>
<u>Clothing</u>	<u>Mixed Paper</u>	<u>Thermostats & Thermometers</u>
<u>Computers, Televisions & Other Electronic Scrap</u>	<u>Paint and Paint Cans</u>	<u>Video Tapes</u>
<u>Construction & Demolition Debris</u>	<u>Pallets</u>	<u>Vinyl Siding</u>
<u>Diapers</u>	<u>Plastic - Bottles</u>	

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Aluminum Cans

Cans must be rinsed clean. Crushing them will save storage space in your home and make processing them easier. Cans may be recycled at public and private drop-offs, through curbside collection, and through several buy back centers.

BUSINESS	PHONE	TYPE OF ALUMINUM
Going Garbage	920-854-2114	Aluminum cans
Metals America, Green Bay	920-321-1889	Will pay you for aluminum cans, copper, brass, metal & iron

Aluminum for Charity

On a per pound basis, aluminum cans are the most valuable recyclable. Many organizations collect cans to raise funds for their projects.

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Appliances

Wisconsin has banned the following major appliances from landfills because they contain hazardous compounds such as mercury, PCB's and CFC's, or because there are ready markets for recycling them:

Air Conditioners	Clothes Washers & Dryers
Dishwashers	Dehumidifiers & Humidifiers
Freezers	Furnace Boilers
Microwave Ovens	Stoves & Ovens
Refrigerators	Water Heaters

If your appliance is in working order, or if you think it might be easily repaired for use by someone else, check with the companies listed in the yellow pages under "appliance repair" to see if they would want it for resale. You might also check with Habitat for Humanity, non-profit organizations and churches to see if they would accept it as a donation.

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Throughout the year, you may bring appliances to:

BUSINESS	PHONE	TYPE OF APPLIANCE
Appliance Doctor	920-824-5383	Customer exchange
Door County Waste & Recycling	920-743-9472	All metal products
Going Garbage & Recycling	920-854-2114	All appliances
Sturgeon Bay Iron & Scrap Metal	920-743-2232	All metal products & free-on

Need Help Moving Appliances?

City of Sturgeon Bay – Large Item Collection

<http://www.sturgeonbaywi.org/>

Large item pick-ups take place the SECOND FRIDAY of every month from April to October. This service allows residents to dispose of garbage that is too big to dispose of with their weekly garbage collection, is metal in nature or requires special disposal (microwaves, computers, televisions and items that contain Freon).



Residents must contact the department at least 48 hours prior to the collection date to schedule a pick up. This service has a \$15 fee (subject to change) per scheduled collection, except for items that are not allowed in the landfill and require special disposal which includes, but is not limited to: microwaves, computers, televisions and items that contain Freon. For these items, there is a \$32 fee to cover the cost of proper disposal

(there may be other options for proper disposal of these items that we can offer).
(Call 743-2912 for current dates and rates.)

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Asbestos

Background Information: Asbestos is a fibrous material that is found in hundreds of products because it is fire resistant and insulates well. Known and used by the ancient Greeks and Romans, its popularity peaked in the United States from 1940-1975 when it was used in numerous home products such as roofing shingles, blown-in insulation, insulation on heating ducts and boiler pipes, siding and floor tiles.

However, because asbestos fibers are known to cause cancer, asbestos use in the country has steeply declined. Many businesses and governments have removed asbestos from their buildings to reduce liability, and many realtors advise home owners to do likewise.

Testing for Asbestos: If you suspect that you have asbestos in your home, the only way you can know for sure is to have the material tested. In Door County, Home Siding and Remodeling Ltd (920-743-7539) can take samples and have testing completed. Another option is to contact the Wisconsin Occupational Health Lab in Madison at 1-800-446-0403. The lab will instruct you on collecting the sample and how to send it to them. A normal sample costs \$36.00 and it takes up to ten (10) days to get the results. Quicker results can be obtained for an additional fee.

Disposing of Asbestos: Due to the health risks of handling and disposing of asbestos, Door County recommends that you contact a licensed removal service for the disposal of material.

Want More Information?

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has extensive information on their website at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Demo/Asbestos.html>

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Batteries - Automotive (Lead Acid)

Throughout the United States, automotive, or lead acid batteries (LABs), account for over 70% of the 945,000 tons of lead produced each year by secondary lead smelters. This is the result of the consumption of nearly 80 million LABs every year for car and light truck use. The average battery contains 18 pounds of the metal. Recycling auto batteries is relatively easy. Any retailer in Wisconsin who sells them is required to accept a used one at no charge at the time of purchase.

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In practice, many will give you a credit towards the purchase of a new one if you are buying a replacement at the same time. If you are not purchasing a battery, they may charge you up to \$3.00. You may also take batteries to a scrap yard and depending on the market price for lead, may receive a small payment.

WHY ARE LEAD ACID BATTERIES SO DANGEROUS?

The name of these batteries suggests the two primary hazards associated with them. They contain sulfuric acid which is highly corrosive and which can burn or blind those who come in contact with it.

Lead is a neuro-toxin that is particularly dangerous because the body mistakes it for calcium. It attaches to enzymes essential for brain activity and because it is an element, it cannot decompose to a simple, more tolerable substance. **Although lead can be removed from the bloodstream, once it is attached to the brain it remains there forever.**

The US Public Health Service ranks lead as the most common environmental poison of young children, affecting one in six under age six. Lead poisoning leads to neurological deficits, lowered intelligence, and behavioral problems, among others.

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Batteries - Household (Dry Cell)

Household battery use in the United States is growing rapidly. Americans purchase nearly 3 billion dry-cell batteries every year to power radios, toys, cellular phones, watches, laptop computers, and portable power tools. Technological improvements, motivated in part by state and federal laws, have reduced the toxic components such as mercury in some standard battery types such as alkaline. There are options for recycling batteries. Button batteries used in hearing aids and watches may often be returned to jewelry stores and hearing aid businesses. The rechargeable battery industry has developed an infrastructure through retail stores where consumers can return nickel cadmium batteries for recycling at no charge. Currently, the following area stores participate in this program:

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BUSINESS	PHONE (all 920 area code)	TYPE OF BATTERY
Bay Electronics	743-0190	Batteries, nickel, NiCad, small sealed LED, and elliptical ion.
Carquest	743-5584	All types of batteries
Cellcom	746-0560	Cell phones, batteries, and charger. The money goes to local charities
C & W	743-3385	Batteries intact
Door County Co-op	743-6555	Radio Shack – cell phone batteries and other small batteries.
Door County 4-H -- Extension Office	746-2265	Toner cartridges and cell phones (fundraiser for Door County 4-H)
Eyes For You	743-0101	Hearing aids plus batteries. They have a Lions Club Box for drop-offs.
Jim Olson	743-4461	Batteries that don't leak.
Midas Auto Service/Young Automotive	743-9228	Car batteries
NAPA	743-6542	All types of batteries
New Century Service	743-0021	Cell phones and remotes
Sturgeon Bay Utilities	746-2820	Scheduled recycling service

Alkaline batteries can be recycled through Clean Sweep, or may be thrown away with regular trash.

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Bicycles

In much of the undeveloped parts of the world, bicycles remain the major means of daily transportation for millions of people. Sturgeon Bay does not currently have any programs in place, however, there is a program in Eau Claire that accepts donations of used bikes for shipment overseas.

Through the Partners of the Americas program, Wisconsin has established a sister-state relationship with Nicaragua. The local representatives of the Partners program, Bill and Alva Davidson (920-832-4110), accept bicycles for shipment to Nicaragua. Because there is no significant outside funding for this effort, donated bikes must be either in good working condition or only need a very minimum amount of repair.

If you have a bike to dispose of that can't be easily repaired or which you don't wish to donate, they can be recycled free of charge at scrap yards and transfer station listed in the sections throughout this program.

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Cardboard

Residents are encouraged to recycle corrugated cardboard (OCC). Corrugated refers to a packaging product with two outside walls and an inner part consisting of paper which is furrowed or ridged. Heavier shipping boxes are usually made from OCC. Soda boxes, cereal boxes and similar materials *are not* cardboard. These products are made from boxboard or paperboard and consist of a mixture of paper, glue, and in some instances, wet-strength additives such as formaldehyde. To be recycled, cardboard must be clean. Packaging tape and staples are easily removed in the paper pulping process and therefore are acceptable. However, OCC which is contaminated with grease, oil, paint or food, or which is coated with wax, cannot be accepted and should be thrown away. In addition, packaging materials sometimes found in OCC boxes such as styrofoam and plastic bags must also be removed.

BUSINESS	PHONE	TYPE OF CARDBOARD
Wal-Mart	920-746-0402	Cardboard

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Cell Phones

Cell phones are a solid waste management challenge that is significantly growing in scope. There are two primary reasons for this.

First, they contain a large number of hazardous substances. These include heavy metals such as cadmium, hexavalent chromium, lead (it is estimated that between 100,000-150,000 tons of lead solder are used annually worldwide in the production of electronics), copper, and antimony. The plastic housing of most cell phones contains flame retardants that are classified as chlorinated, halogenated or brominated. These retardants, if incinerated in the presence of copper, which is widely used in cell phones, form dioxins and furans, both highly toxic.

Second, cell phones also contain precious metals such as gold and silver. The amount of gold in as few as 200 cell phones is enough to make a small ring. Putting cell phones into the recycling system means that important resources are conserved.

Third, the number of mobile phone subscriptions worldwide has reached 4.6 billion and is expected to increase to five billion this year. Millions are replaced each year.

Like computers, cell phone technology changes rapidly and phones quickly become obsolete. Marketing schemes encourage users to replace still functioning phones with newer models. It is estimated that in 2005, this country discarded 65,000 tons of cells phones and accessories.

Fortunately, there are some national programs that accept cellular phones for either refurbishing and reuse, or recycling. In many instances, since all cell phones are required by federal law to be capable of dialing 9-1-1 for emergencies, they are often donated to agencies such as domestic abuse shelters. Others are sent to Third World countries for use.

BUSINESS	PHONE	TYPE OF CELL PHONE
Cellcom	920-746-0560	Cell phones, batteries, and charger. The money goes to local charities
Door County 4-H -- Extension Office	746-2265	Toner cartridges and cell phones (fundraiser for Door County 4-H)
New Century Service	920-743-0021	Cell phones and remotes

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Many national store chains now accept cell phones as a matter of company policy. These include:

Alltel, AT&T, Best Buy, FedEx Kinkos, Office Depot, Office Max, Radio Shack, Sam's Club, Sprint Wireless, Target, T-Mobile, US Cellular, Verizon, and Wal-Mart.

If you are interested in other options for donating cell phones, go to:

1. www.earthworksaction.org/collectivegood.cfm Refurbishes phones for use in developing countries.
2. www.charitablerecycling.com Give phones to senior citizens, battered women, patients awaiting organ transplants.

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Clothing

Historically, used clothing has been used in many ways. Examples including making quilts, as feedstock for paper, for making feed bags, and as dusting rags. To some extent, these uses still exist today. However, most clothing re-use today comes either through donations or through consignment and thrift sales.

Clothing Donations -- Men's, women's and children's clothing articles that are in good condition may be donated to the following agencies:

BUSINESS	PHONE	TYPE OF CLOTHING
Feed & Clothe My People	920-743-9053	All types of clothing and other material goods.
Sunshine House	920-743-7943	Drop off for Goodwill pick up for clothing, leather goods such as purses, belts, & shoes.

Since these agencies do not accept donations every day, it is suggested that you contact them before bringing materials. Another possibility is to check with local churches to see if they know of any families in need.

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Computers, Televisions & Other Electronic Scrap

Computers and other electronic devices now comprise the fastest growing waste stream in the country. A recent study in Florida, for example, found that 20% of all households are ready to, or have within the past year, disposed of a computer.

Computers contain several potential contaminants such as lead, cadmium, mercury, chromium and nickel. They are classified as hazardous waste products by the EPA and DNR, thereby making it illegal for businesses to landfill or incinerate these machines. Televisions contain significant amounts of lead; flat screen televisions have high levels of mercury.

Note: Laptop computers also contain mercury.

Local businesses that will accept these items are listed below:

BUSINESS	PHONE	TYPE OF COMPUTERS, TELEVISION & OTHER ELECTRONIC SCRAP
Hale Communication	920-746-6626	Old functional telephones and small business equipment, computer components, communications parts, trade in phones for upgrade.
M & M Computers	920-746-1200	Towers \$25.00 charge, Monitors \$10.00 charge; can fix and upgrade used components.

Fortunately, there are a growing number of opportunities to recycle these machines. Various organizations in the county have sponsored one-day computer, television and electronic scrap collection. Uncertain at the time of printing when this will happen again.

STURGEON BAY UTILITIES also schedules recycling service for light bulbs, ballasts, batteries, and computer components throughout the year:

BUSINESS	PHONE	COMPUTERS, TELEVISIONS & OTHER ELECTRONIC SCRAP
Sturgeon Bay Utilities	920-746-2820	Scheduled events annually

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Other possibilities include the following:

1. The Wisconsin Department of Corrections maintains a computer-recycling program as a work project for inmates. Nonprofit organizations may purchase computers, printers and other equipment. For information, call 608-246-7920.
2. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources maintains a Recycling Markets Directory (RMD) on the web. The link to computers starts with: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Recycling/>
3. *IBM* is sponsoring a national computer recycling program in cooperation with Enrivo-Cycle. If you send IBM \$29.99 (call for current pricing), they will send you a 26" x26" x 26" box with a prepaid UPS shipping label. You put whatever computer components you can fit into the box and send it off. For more information, you can call 1-800-711-6010, Ext. 231, or go to the following website: <http://www.ibm.com/ibm/environment/>
4. *Gateway Computers* is also promoting computer recycling in cooperation with Goodwill Industries. If you donate a working computer to Goodwill, they will give you a certificate that you can use to receive a discount on the purchase of a Gateway computer. For more information, go to the Gateway website at <http://us.gateway.com/gw/en/US/content/recycling>
5. *Dell Computers* has announced a program that allows consumers to trade, auction or donate their used computers. The link is: <http://content.dell.com/us/en/corp/dell-environment-recycling.aspx>

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What Goes Into A Computer?		
<i>Major Components by Percent Weight</i>		
Component	% By Weight	Value
Sheet Iron	37.41	\$0.67
CRT (leaded glass)	21.11	\$0.33
Mixed Plastic	14.22	\$0.18
Power Supply	8.39	\$0.16
Boards	5.43	\$0.26
Aluminum	4.87	\$0.23
Precious Metal	4.28	4.37
Copper	2.16	\$0.11
Misc. Other	2.13	\$0.12
Total	100	\$6.43
Source: Solid & Hazardous Waste Education Center, UW-Extension		

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Construction and Demolition Debris

This refers to materials resulting from construction, repair and deconstruction of buildings and roads. Specific materials include concrete, wood, siding, brick, shingles, windows, plaster, and masonry.

BUSINESS	PHONE	TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION DEBRIS
Door County Waste & Recycling Center	920-743-9472	A fee is charged

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Diapers

This may come as a surprise but disposable diapers were only invented in 1958. However, even though sales are now over 16.4 billion a year, they only take up 1.5% of landfill space annually. Despite their popularity, it is estimated that between 10-20% of parents continue to use cloth diapers at least part of the time. Information on the pros and cons of cloth versus disposable diapers can be found via the Internet.

At this time, no area companies are known to offer cloth diaper washing services.

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Fluorescent Lamps and Compact Fluorescent Lamps 4' and 8' Straight Lamps

Fluorescent lamps, including those that are touted as being "green", contain mercury and should be recycled. Mercury is highly toxic. Businesses are prohibited from landfilling them.

Lamps that come from homes and businesses are accepted year-round for recycling by:

Brown County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility is located at 2561 South Broadway in the Village of Ashwaubenon. The facility is open on Thursdays from noon – 6 pm and Saturdays from 8 am to 2 pm. Businesses are accepted by appointment only. For more information contact the Brown County Recycling Hotline at (920) 448-4400, Option 3.

DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 41 take the Oneida Street Exit. Go North on Oneida Street to Hansen Road. Turn right onto Hansen Road. Go 1+ miles to a four way stop at Broadway. Turn left onto Broadway and go 0.5 miles. Turn right on to Globe Avenue. The HHW facility is on your right.

Fluorescent lamps are also accepted as part of the residential and VSQG clean sweep programs. (Limit 10 bulbs per resident)

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Compact Fluorescent Lamps

In recent years, there has been considerable growth in the residential use of compact fluorescent lamps. CFL's also contain mercury and therefore should also be recycled. Most utilities in Wisconsin are participating in a program called Focus on Energy, which is working with retailers throughout the state to provide free recycling of CFL's.

The following stores in Door County currently participate in this program:

BUSINESS	PHONE	TYPE OF COMPACT FLUORESCENT LAMPS
Door County Ace Hardware	920-743-4417	CFL's
Door County Cooperative	920-743-6555	CFL's

You can locate retailers accepting CFL's for recycling at no cost, as well as those selling them, by going to the following website:

<https://focusonenergy.com/>

The search engine on this website allows you to search by zipcode. Note -- recycling locations are indicated with the recycling emblem on the right side of the listing.

Mercury Health Alert!

Mercury is an extremely toxic substance that attacks the central nervous system. The Mad Hatter in *Alice In Wonderland* was based on workers in England's felt hat industry who were sickened by exposure to mercury used to cure felt from beaver pelts. The neurological symptoms resulting from mercury poisoning were misinterpreted to be insanity.

Mercury is poisonous by touch, by ingestion, and by breathing its fumes. Because it is a liquid at room temperature, it readily evaporates and escapes into the atmosphere. Later, mercury is deposited into rivers, lakes and streams by precipitation. The amount of mercury in just one standard thermometer is enough, under the right conditions, to trigger a fish consumption advisory in a ten-acre lake.

Bottom line: It is dangerous to break fluorescent lamps.

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Furniture

If you have non-bedding furniture which is in good condition, or can be easily repaired, consider donating it to Habitat for Humanity, Goodwill Industries, Salvation Army, or contact area churches.

Furniture may be sold by consignment. Check your yellow pages for local shops such as Bargains Unlimited, 290 Smith Dr, Sister Bay, WI (920)854-9669.

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Gas (CO₂) Cylinders

CO₂ gas cylinders are used for recreational activities such as paintball games. Because they are pressurized, they must be handled carefully whether they are being refilled or discarded. Even when being refilled, they must periodically undergo special testing to make sure they do not pose an explosion hazard.

BUSINESS	PHONE	TYPE OF GAS (CO ₂) CYLINDERS
Lakes Gas Company	920-743-5704	20# cylinders for a \$5.00 charge
Sturgeon Bay Iron & Scrap Metal	920-743-2232	Propane Tanks

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Gasoline

Old gasoline and other old fuels, including gas/oil mixtures for two-cycle engines, can be safely disposed of through the county Clean Sweep program.

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Glass

Glass has been recycled in the United States since colonial days, with old bottles being made into new containers. While this is still the usual practice, old glass is now also used as an aggregate in road construction and drainage projects, for making sandblast materials, and as a feedstock for fiberglass.

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The county has seen major increases in the recycling of glass products. As a community the effort is tremendous and greatly appreciated. Unfortunately, some folks try to recycle glass that we can't accept.

The following kinds of glass or glasslike products have chemical compositions that make them incompatible for recycling with container glass:

windows, ceramics, cookware, light bulbs, drinking glasses, mirrors, eye glasses

The preparation of glass bottles and jars for recycling is simple: They must be rinsed clean and caps and metal rings removed. It is okay to leave labels on.

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Holiday Materials

Christmas trees and wreaths that are free of ornaments, wire and tinsel can be ground along with other brush into wood chips.

Greeting cards can often be reused. The front flap can be cut and used as a post card or folded into gift boxes for small items such as jewelry. Directions and a template for creating these boxes can be found at:

<http://www.allfreecrafts.com/recycling-crafts/greeting-card-box.shtml>

Most greeting cards can be recycled along with other paper. However, cards which have embossed foil or other additives, and those which are really photographs with messages printed on them, should be thrown away. Most gift wrapping paper should not be recycled. There are two alternatives to using traditional gift wrap paper that are more recyclable.

When a gift is for a young child, wrap it in the Sunday comics from the newspaper. For young children, the paper is colorful and fun. If you have children in the family, get an end-roll of newsprint from the local newspaper. Newspapers either give them away or sell them for very little cost. Using water soluble paints, make your own wrapping paper. There are four benefits. First, it is an excellent family project that can be fun and rewarding for both parents and children. Two, making your own gift wrap is much less expensive. Three, most people who receive such wrapped present appreciate the uniqueness of the gift wrap. Four, the wrapping paper is fully recyclable.

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Magazines, Newspaper, Catalogs and Phonebooks

These items are recycled through both the curbside and drop-off programs. Materials should be kept clean and dry. If you bring them to a drop-off in a plastic bag, be sure to empty the bag out and take it home with you. If you bring them in a grocery bag, they can recycle the bag along with the other paper.

BUSINESS	PHONE	TYPE OF MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPER, CATALOGS, & PHONE BOOKS
Door County Waste & Recycling Center	920-743-9472	Paper and cardboard
Going Garbage	920-854-2114	Accepts paper mix under 200 pounds

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Medical Waste - Sharps & Old Medication

Sharps

Door County Public Health Department (920)746-2234, sponsors the Door County Sharps Collection Program. This program was designed and intended for individuals who use sharps in their homes. Sharps (needles, syringes, and lancets) that are not properly handled or are improperly discarded can pose a serious risk of infection and disease to family members, especially children, sanitation workers, and others who might accidentally be stuck by them. State law requires that sharps used in the home be properly discarded. To properly discard used sharps, the following needs to be done:

PUT USED SHARPS IN APPROVED CONTAINER:

- When lid is full, lock the lid.
- Wipe outside of container with any household cleaner.
- When full, place approved sharps container into a plastic bag prior to delivery.

IMPORTANT:

- Do not discard in household garbage.
- Do not try to recycle your used sharps.

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- Do not separate needle from syringe.
- Place all used sharps, intact, in the approved container.
- Keep your sharps out of the reach of children.

Since disposal in household garbage is no longer acceptable, many community organizations and businesses are now offering to take your properly packaged used sharps. They will ensure that your sharps are properly disposed.

DOOR COUNTY'S SHARPS COLLECTION PROGRAM IS:

- Safer.
- Convenient with numerous locations throughout Door County. Easy, no forms to fill out (you can remain anonymous).
- Available to Door County residents without paying any fees.

CHOOSE THE COLLECTION SITE THAT IS MOST CONVENIENT TO YOU:

Name	Phone (920)	Address
STURGEON BAY SITES		
Aurora Medical Group of Door County	746-7200	1910 Alabama Place
Community Clinic of Door County, Inc.	746-8989	1623 Rhode Island Street
Door County Public Health Department	746-2234	421 Nebraska Street
Golden Living Center	743-0217	200 North 7 th Avenue
North Shore Medical Center	746-0510	323 South 18 th Avenue
SISTER BAY SITES		
Good Samaritan Scandia Village	854-2317	10560 Applewood Rd.
Nor-Door Clinic	854-2347	2521 South Bay Shore Drive
Pamida Pharmacy	854-9182	2541 South Bay Shore Drive
OTHER SITES		
Baylake Bank	825-7022	1364 Co. DK, Brussels
Washington Island Clinic	847-2424	Washington Island

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If this is your first visit to the site you have selected, call ahead to inquire about the hours of operation and to ask how to package your first delivery of sharps. At the time of your first visit, you will receive an approved container specifically designed to store your sharps in. This container is free and you will receive a new one each time you bring back a full one.

THESE CONTAINERS ARE FOR SHARPS ONLY

For example, you should not place the following items in them: used bandages or dressing, Q-tips, Kleenex tissue, gauze pads, medicine containers, or alcohol swabs.

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Old Medication

As a general rule, the FDA approves burning as the number one method to dispose of drugs. The second method is to use kitty litter or coffee grounds.

It is better to throw the medicine away in your trash than to flush it down the toilet. Particularly when it comes to antibiotic drugs, there is a concern that if your home uses a septic system, the drugs will interfere with the bacteria responsible for digesting your waste. Similarly, antibiotic drugs that go through municipal waste water treatment plants may survive the system, and when released into the surface waters, may contribute to the problem of bacterial resistance.

MEDICAL COLLECTION EVENT

The Door County Sheriff's Department, at the Door County Justice Center, 1201 South Duluth Ave, Sturgeon Bay, collects drugs Monday-Friday – 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Visit their website at: <http://doorcountysheriff.org> – then click on the Prescription Drug Drop Off link to see what is accepted and what is not.)

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Mixed Paper

BUSINESS	PHONE	TYPE OF MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPER, CATALOGS, & PHONEBOOKS
Door County Waste & Recycling Center	920-743-9472	Paper and cardboard
Going Garbage	920-854-2114	Accepts paper mix under 200 pounds

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Paint and Paint Cans

Properly handled and stored, latex paint is usable up to 10 years and oil paint up to 15 years. To maximize the life of paint, be sure the lid is on securely and store it upside down. Even paint that has been frozen can be used if it doesn't show lumps when applied.

Wisconsin law makes it illegal to dispose of liquid or semi-liquid paint in a landfill, but it is generally safe to throw away paint that is thoroughly hardened. The exception to this is paint that contained mercury or penta compounds, or marine, automotive or hobby paints that contain cadmium or chrome. These paints should be handled as hazardous wastes.

You can help avoid having a disposal problem by buying only the amount of paint you need. Although paint is less expensive when you purchase it by the gallon as opposed to an individual quart can, you lose your savings if you have to throw away leftover paint.

If you have paint that you no longer need but which is still in good condition, here are some suggestions on finding others who can use it:

1. Ask friends, family members and neighbors if they can use it;
2. Put notices on bulletin boards;
3. During warm weather months, put it at the end of your driveway with a "Free Paint" sign.

If you cannot find anyone to accept your usable paint, or if your paint is not in good enough condition to donate it, we recommend that you try to dry it at home. In

Door County Recycling Program

particular, you can speed up the drying time of latex paint by adding materials that absorb the water-content. Some home improvement centers sell products for this purpose. You can also use other materials such as clay-based cat litter or cement mix.

As a last resort, oil and metal based paints are accepted through the Clean Sweep program. Latex paint will not be accepted at clean sweep collection events. Latex paint is not a hazardous material. Follow the instructions above, open can, let paint dry out or solidify paint with floor dry, cat litter or sawdust and dispose with your regular trash.

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Pallets

Both the purchase and disposal of pallets can be very expensive for companies that use large quantities. In Wisconsin, over 150,000 tons are landfilled each year. Check out the following website for pallet recycling:

<http://www.palletbuyersguide.com/usa/index-wisconsin.html>

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Plastic - Bottles

State and county law require that plastic food and beverage bottles labeled #1 (PETE) and #2 (HDPE) be recycled. However, plastic recycling can be confusing for many people.

#1 plastic is always used to make soda bottles and is commonly used to package products such as juice, ketchup, salad dressing and peanut butter. The number of food and other products being shipped in PETE is increasing every year.

#2 plastic bottles and jugs are commonly used to package milk and water as well as soaps and detergents.

HDPE #2 plastic, however, is a good example of why recycling plastic can be frustrating. There are two forms of #2 plastic - blow molded *bottles* and injection molded *tubs*. Although both types are made from the same resin, tubs are produced at higher melt temperatures and have a different viscosity (liquid thickness) than bottles.

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The following chart of characteristics will help you know the difference between the two:

Type	Bottle	Tub
Seams	Has a seam down the side	No seam
Neck	Has a neck, bottom is wider	No neck, top is wider
Tops	Usually a screw top	Top snaps on

Examples of products packaged in tubs include margarine, yogurt, and ice cream.

Note: #2 bottles which contain hazardous materials such as motor oil should not be recycled!

Plastic bottles must be rinsed clean before they are recycled and the caps, which are made from different types of plastic, removed. It is okay to leave the labels on. It is very helpful if bottles are flattened before they are recycled - this saves space in recycling boxes and trucks and reduces collection costs.

BUSINESS	PHONE	TYPE OF PLASTIC - BOTTLES
Door County Waste & Recycling Center	743-9472	Plastics #1 & #2

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Plastic - Packing Peanuts and Bags

Packing peanuts, whether they are made from styrofoam or corn starch, are accepted at the following business:

BUSINESS	PHONE	TYPE OF PLASTIC PEANUTS & BAGS
Pack and Ship Plus	920-746-9596	Packing Peanuts

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Plastic shopping bags, if they are free of food, liquid, price stickers, etc., can be recycled at the following store:

BUSINESS	PHONE	TYPE OF PLASTIC PEANUTS & BAGS
Econo Foods	920-743-8896	Plastic bags

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Plastic - Styrofoam

At this time there are no businesses in Door County that accept rigid styrofoam for recycling.

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Plastic - Tyvek Envelopes

Tyvek envelopes, made by the DuPont Corporation, are those large business envelopes that feel and look like paper but which are made from plastic. About 25% of the envelope's composition is made from recycled HDPE, milk and water containers.

DuPont has established a recycling program for this product. If you are interested in more information, call 1-866-33-TYVEK

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Plastic - Other Materials

Throughout Wisconsin, there are some businesses which accept plastics such as shrink-wrap and vinyl siding. For information on these, go to the following website: <http://dnr.wi.gov/>

Propane Tanks

There are two types of propane tanks. 20-pound tanks used with barbeque grills, and 1-pound canisters used for camp stoves and similar equipment.

Information was collected and compiled by the Door County UW-Extension Office in cooperation with the City of Sturgeon Bay, and the Door County Highway Department. Collections may change – so contact the agency involved.

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BUSINESS	PHONE	TYPE OF GAS (CO ₂) CYLINDERS
Door County Waste & Recycling	920-743-9472	Propane Tanks \$2.00 charge
Lakes Gas Company	920-743-5704	20# cylinders for a \$5.00 charge
Sturgeon Bay Iron & Scrap Metal	920-743-2232	Propane Tanks

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Scrap Metal

There are two scrap metal companies in the Door County. These are companies which accept miscellaneous metal for recycling, including iron, steel, brass, copper and aluminum. They take large items such as empty tanks and small items like bicycles and lawn mowers. Some of them also take some major appliances such as stoves and microwave ovens. The companies are:

BUSINESS	PHONE	TYPE OF SCRSP METALS
Sturgeon Bay Iron & Scrap Metal	920-743-2232	Will pay for all metal products
Medals USA	920-333-0083	Will pay for all metal, iron, copper & brass.

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Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Most smoke detectors contain a small amount of Americium 241, a radioactive material. On the wall, a smoke detector is safe but if broken open in a landfill, it can pose a health threat. All detectors that have radioactive components must be labeled as such. The companies that manufacture detectors accept returned units for disposal as hazardous waste.

The majority of smoke detectors sold in the United States are made by First Alert. They will recycle them if you return them at your expense and include \$1.00 for a disposal fee. Their address for returning detectors is:

First Alert, Radioactive Waste Disposal, 780 McClure Rd., Aurora, IL 60504-2495
(1-800-323-9005)

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Most other smoke detectors are made by a Canadian company called American Sensors. Call them at 1-800-387-4219.

Carbon monoxide detectors do not contain any hazardous materials so they can be safely thrown away. However, they do contain circuit boards and platinum, both of which are worth recycling.

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Steel, Tin & Aerosol Cans

State law requires that metal food and beverage cans be recycled. In addition to curbside and drop-off collections, metal cans can be brought to scrap metal dealers listed. Cans must be rinsed clean and the labels removed. As with plastic bottles, it helps reduce recycling costs if cans are flattened.

Because of safety concerns that can arise from aerosol cans that have not been completely emptied, they are not accepted for recycling at the county's drop-off locations. You may recycle them curbside if your hauler is willing to take them. Aerosol cans are accepted at scrap yards, and may be recycled through the county's Clean Sweep program.

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Thermostats and Thermometers

Older thermostats and thermometers often contain mercury, a highly toxic metal. You can learn more about mercury: <http://dnr.wi.gov/files/pdf/pubs/co/co110.pdf>
<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/healthwaste/mercury.html>

You can tell if your device contains mercury as follows:

Thermostats: There are three types of thermostats in use in homes: 1) mercury; 2) spring-loaded, and 3) digital. Digital thermostats are relatively new and only began to gain popularity in the mid 1990's. Of the thermostats that are not digital, over 90% contain mercury. Thus, the vast majority of homes with thermostats that are ten years or older contain mercury.

There are two ways one can safely dispose of mercury thermostats.

Thermometers: There are two types of glass thermometers: 1) mercury based and 2) alcohol based. You can tell the difference by the color - a mercury thermometer is silver and an alcohol thermometer is either red or blue.

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Alcohol thermometers are safe to throw away in the trash. There are two ways one can safely dispose of mercury thermometers.

Currently, Door County does not have a place to accept mercury thermostats or thermometers. However, Brown County Household Hazardous Waste Facility will take these items. A fee is charged. For more information call (920) 492-4964 or visit their web page by clicking here: [Brown County HHWF](#)

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Video Tapes

The United States makes or imports about 20 million VHS tapes a month - it takes a little over 3 million gallons of petroleum to make them. Most video tapes, when they are no longer wanted, are thrown into the trash can. And that's too bad because the majority of them can be reused if they are properly cleaned.

Several companies and agencies now exist that take used video tapes and clean them for reuse. Unfortunately, none of these are in Wisconsin.

One agency that accepts video tapes as well as computer disks is Alternative Community Training, Inc. They are located at 2200 Burlington, Columbia, MO 65202 and can be reached by calling 1-800-359-4607. ACT is a non-profit organization that provides work experience for persons with disabilities.

Because ACT is a non-profit agency, persons who send those unwanted tapes and computer disks may be eligible for a tax write-off if they itemized their tax return. For more information, call them or visit their website at: <http://www.actrecycling.org/>

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Vinyl Siding

At this time, there are no recycling outlets for vinyl siding in our region. This material therefore is landfilled as part of construction and demolition debris.

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TOWNSHIP AND VILLAGE RECYCLING INFORMATION PHONE NUMBERS FOR THE APPROPRIATE MUNICIPALITY (all 920 area code)

TOWN OF BAILEYS HARBOR

Town Office – 839-9509; Don Sitte, Chairman–421-0481
Douglas Smith, Clerk–839-9509

TOWN OF BRUSSELS

Joe Wautier, Chairman-825-7277; JoAnn Neinas, Clerk-825-7618

TOWN OF CLAY BANKS

Myron Johnson, Chairman–743-9004; Jessica Bongle, Clerk–493-7383

TOWN OF EGG HARBOR

Town Office – 743-6141; Paul Peterson, Chairman-493-0528; Pam Krauel, Clerk-743-6141

VILLAGE OF EGG HARBOR

Village Office – 868-3334; Joe Smith, President-819-9741

VILLAGE OF EPHRAIM

Village Office – 854-5501; Michael McCutcheon, President-854-5501; Andrea Collack,
Clerk-854-5501

TOWN OF FORESTVILLE

Roy Englebert, Chairman-856-6706; Ruth Kerscher, Clerk-856-6551

VILLAGE OF FORESTVILLE

Village Office – 856-6886 or 366-3640; Terry McNulty, President-495-0402; Mary
Ann Salmon, Clerk-366-3640

TOWN OF GARDNER

Town Office – 825-1137; Jon Koch, Chairman-825-7567; Amy Sacotte, Clerk-825-1436

TOWN OF GIBRALTAR

Town Office – 868-1714; Dick Skare, Chairman, 868-3316; Beth Hagen, Clerk-868-1714

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TOWN OF JACKSONPORT

Town Office – 823-8136; Randy Halstead, Chairman-559-0646; Elissa Taylor, Clerk-823-8136

TOWN OF LIBERTY GROVE

Town Office – 854-2934; John Lowry, Chairman-421-1158; Janet Johnson, Clerk-854-7273

TOWN OF NASEWAUPEE

Steve Sullivan, Chairman–743-9391; Tom Olsen, Clerk-743-3118

TOWN OF SEVASTOPOL

Town Office – 746-1230; Leo Zipperer, Chairman-743-6355; Linda Wait, Clerk-746-1230

VILLAGE OF SISTER BAY

Village Office – 854-4118; David Lienau, President-854-5627; Christy Sully, Clerk-854-4118

TOWN OF STURGEON BAY

Town Office - 743-3908; Daniel Cihlar, Chairman-743-7844; Nancy Anschutz, Clerk-743-3908

TOWN OF UNION

John Bur, Chairman-362-88021; Rena LaLuzerne, Clerk-825-7569

TOWN OF WASHINGTON

Town Office-847-2522; James Hanson, Chairman-901-6574; Val Carpenter, Clerk-847-2522

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