

Dakota County Ordinance 110, Solid Waste Management, requires all businesses to recycle.

Commercial property owners and managers are required to:

- 1 Have recycling service
- 2 Recycle a designated list of materials
- 3 Co-locate recycling with trash containers
- 4 Label containers
- 5 Provide recycling education
- 6 Submit annual report



Learn more

More information about the business recycling requirements and how to comply is available at www.dakotacounty.us, search *business recycling requirements*.



Environmental Resources
14955 Galaxie Ave., Apple Valley, MN 55124

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Businesses in Dakota County are required to recycle



Business recycling requirements

County ordinance requires commercial property owners and managers to:

1 Have recycling service

Contract with a trash hauler for recycling collection services, or self-haul recyclables to a recycling facility. Work with your hauler to increase service levels if carts or dumpsters are overflowing.

2 Recycle designated materials

Provide recycling containers in buildings and on grounds to collect the Designated List of Recyclables from employees, tenants and customers. These designated materials must be collected and recycled:

- Paper
- Cardboard
- Cartons like milk & juice cartons
- Metal cans
- Glass bottles & jars
- Plastic bottles, containers and jugs numbered 1 2 5



Keep the Designated List of Contaminants out of recycling such as food and liquids, plastic bags and film, plastic utensils and straws, chip bags, fast food, and candy wrappers, and Styrofoam.



3 Co-locate recycling with trash containers

Wherever there is a trash container, there must be a recycling container within 10 feet. Recycling containers must be large enough to collect all recyclables in the building and on grounds, and not overflowing.

4 Label containers

Label each indoor and outdoor recycling and trash container with standardized labels. All labels must meet county label requirements:

- ✓ Use standardized terms: “Recycle” or “Recycling”, and “Trash” to indicate the type of waste collected.
- ✓ Be color-coded: Blue for recycling, gray or black for trash.
- ✓ Have standardized images: Recycling labels must use county-standardized images that show designated recyclable materials and include preparation instructions where applicable, such as “empty and dry items, flatten boxes”. Trash labels do not need images.

Order or download free recycling and trash labels from Dakota County that meet these requirements.

Replace labels if they are damaged, unreadable or if text or images conflict with county label requirements.

Waste and recycling haulers are responsible for labeling carts and dumpsters they provide to businesses.



5 Provide recycling education

Provide standardized recycling education at least once a year to each employee, tenant and housekeeping and custodial contractors, and any other contractor that is responsible for sorting, collecting or managing recycling. Also provide education within 30 days of a new hire or new tenant, and within 30 days of a substantial change to the waste and recycling program.

Education must cover what to recycle and how to recycle in accordance with recycling education requirements listed on the county’s website.

Get free educational resources from Dakota County that meet these requirements.



6 Submit annual report

Report recycling program effectiveness, including education activities, to Dakota County each year. The county will provide the report form.

