



2019 Solid Waste Progress Report

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Introduction

The 2019 Solid Waste Management Progress Report provides an overview of Dakota County (County) projects and programs developed and continued throughout the year to meet the goals of the new 2018 – 2038 Dakota County Solid Waste Master Plan (Master Plan).

The Master Plan, adopted by the Dakota County Board of Commissioners in September 2018, provides a framework for the County, residents, businesses, schools districts, municipalities and others to properly manage municipal solid waste (MSW). Strategies focus on expanded use of existing educational, regulatory and financial tools; increased accountability and partnerships; and focused work in new areas such as multi-family dwellings and other large-volume generators.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Policy Plan set waste management objectives for Twin Cities Metropolitan Area counties and establishes a framework for meeting the statutory goal to recycle 75 percent of total solid waste generated by 2030 (includes organics diversion; Minn. Stat. § 115A.551).

Policy Plan Objectives for Municipal Solid Waste Management System

Management Method	2018 Actual	2019 Actual	2020 Goal	2025 Goal	2030 Goal
Source Reduction & Reuse			1.5%	3%	4%
Recycling & Organics	55%	53%	63%	68%	75%
Resource Recovery	2%	2%	35%	31%	24%
Maximum Land Disposal	42%	45%	2%	1%	1%

Due to rounding, totals do not equal 100%

Progress Summary

To manage our resources in an effective and environmentally-sound manner, Dakota County prioritizes municipal solid waste management in accordance with Minnesota's waste hierarchy; County programs and initiatives are designed to reflect this. Many programs are new or continuously adjusted to meet the needs of our community, with some of the benefits not yet realized.

Minnesota's waste hierarchy



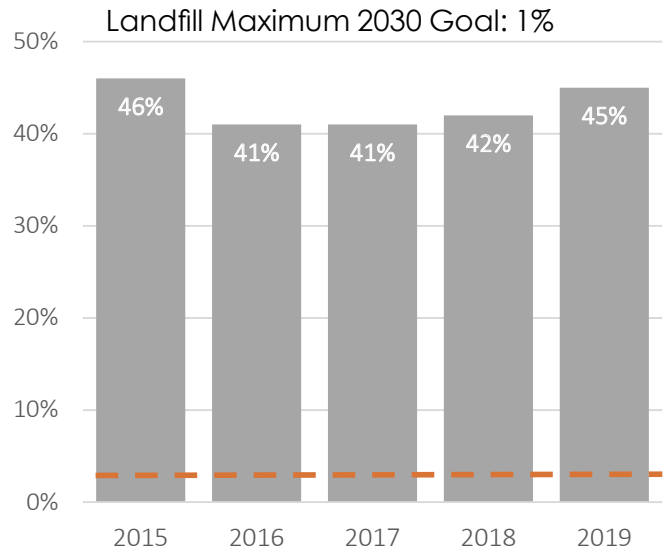
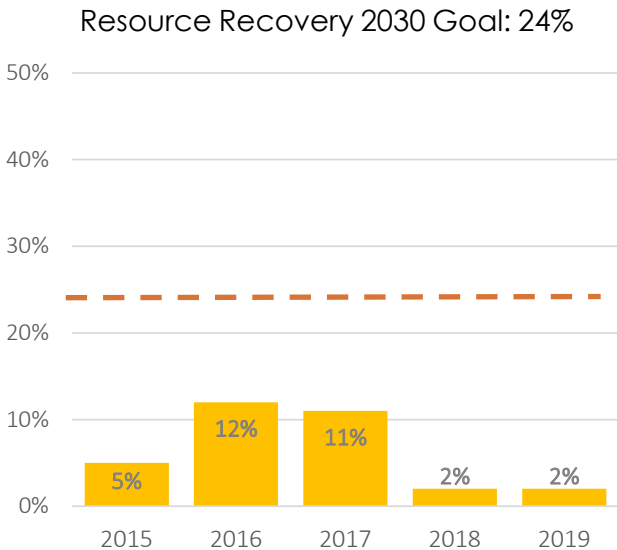
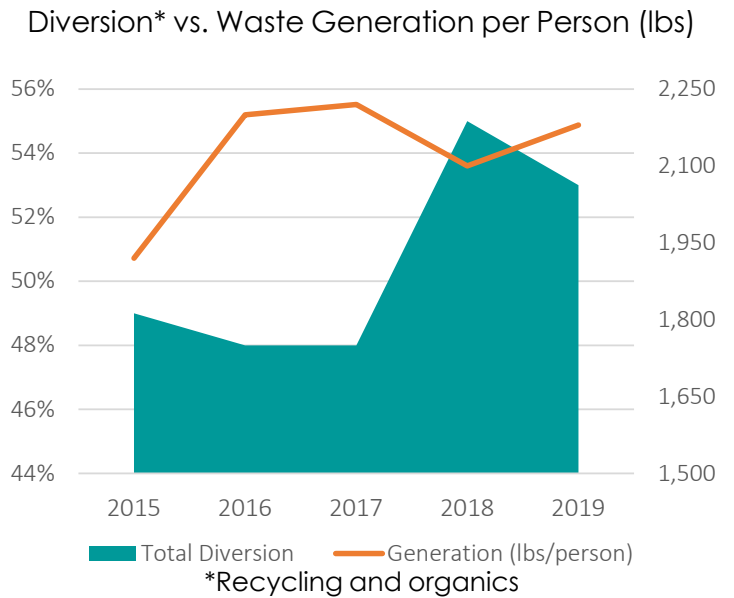
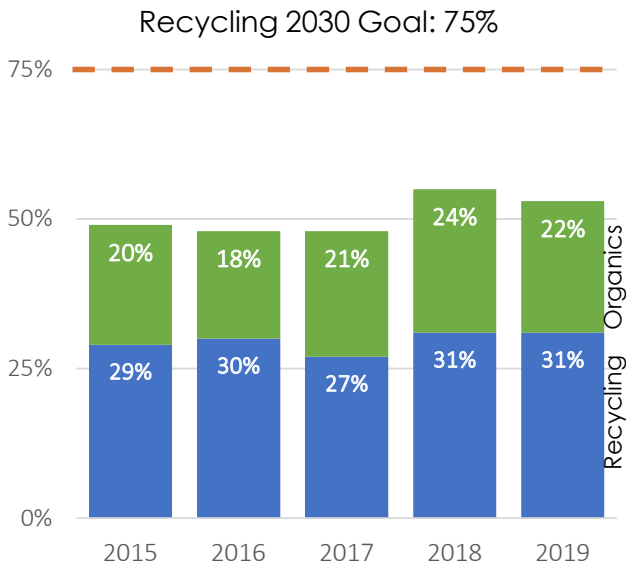
Listed in order of preference, the waste hierarchy directs Minnesotans to manage waste to have the biggest environmental benefits. (Minn. Stat. § 115A.02)

Progress Towards Goals

A reported 452,556 tons of solid waste – recyclables, organics and trash – was generated in Dakota County in 2019 - a two percent decrease from the previous year.

- Combined recycling and organics amounts decreased six percent.
- Trash amounts increased by three percent.
- Recycled or composted 53 percent of waste.
- Two percent of waste was sent for resource recovery.

55% of waste diverted from landfills in 2019



Waste Reduction & Reuse

The MPCA has not identified reduction and reuse metrics for reporting purposes. Dakota County uses the per capita generation of municipal solid waste as our waste reduction metric. Overall waste generation in 2019 went down. Waste created per person in the county decreased from 2,180 pounds in 2018 to 2,100 pounds in 2019.

Fix-It Clinics

Residents receive free guided assistance to repair items at monthly Fix-It Clinics. These events help build community and keep household items out of landfills.

- 14 Fix-It Clinics, two focused on outdoor gear.
- 34 volunteers gave their time and knowledge
- 552 residents brought in 947 personal items.
- 3,500 pounds of items kept from getting trashed.
- 87 percent of items were repaired on site or the resident was shown how to fix an item later at home with the right materials.



County operations

Dakota County auctions surplus County equipment such as office furniture.

- 55 auctions had a return of \$18,036, plus additional savings from not having to pay for disposal or recycling of these products.
- 19,248 pounds of electronic collected for recycling and reuse.

Reuse area at The Recycling Zone

Residents took advantage of the reuse area:

- Over 407,000 pounds of items were taken
- Dakota County saved \$314,542 in avoided disposal costs from product reuse.

Local reuse options

City partners compiled a local list for residents to repair, share, buy or sell usable items. City staff used the list to raise awareness about the benefits of reusing materials.

Dozens of new opportunities were found and promoted, such as an indoor toy sale in Inver Grove Heights, a store in Rosemount that sells used lawn and garden equipment, and a costume rental shop in West St. Paul.

**Over 550 residents
repaired items at a
Fix-It Clinic**

Recycling

Dakota County Master Plan strategies focus on capturing both traditional recyclable materials - like paper, glass, plastic, and metal - and non-traditional recyclable materials like appliances and mattresses from all sectors – public entities, commercial, residential, schools and multifamily dwellings.

Of the total materials recycled:

- ↓ Paper and cardboard recycling decreased by 8 percent (18,346 tons)
- ↓ Glass recycling decreased by 13 percent (13,241 tons)
- ↓ Plastic recycling decreased by eight percent (7,164 tons)
- ↑ Metal recycling increased by 31 percent (9,631 tons)
- ↑ Other recyclable materials- appliances, tires, carpet, electronics, clothing, mattresses/box springs and batteries - increased by eighteen percent (22,400 tons)

Collection of non-traditional recyclables

- Collection efforts **diverted more than 100 tons of recyclable or reusable material** from landfills.
- **24 tons of mattresses**- 16 tons from city clean-up days, 8 tons through a city-sponsored drop-off at Certified Recycling in Burnsville.
- **60 tons of confidential documents**- shredded and recycled from city events
- **4.8 tons of string lights** - collected by ProAct Inc. from eight city sites, three County service centers and the Lebanon Hills Park Visitor Center.
- **23 tons of agricultural film and boat wrap**- on-site farm collection of 20.9 tons of agricultural film plastic (silage bags, bunker covers, bale wraps) and 2.55 tons of boat wrap taken by Revolution Plastics.

31% recycling rate
for Dakota County
businesses and residents



Hastings paper shredding event

Public space and event recycling

City staff increased recycling opportunities in municipal public spaces:

- Used a GIS field tool created by Dakota County to show locations of trash and recycling bins and verify best practices are in place at municipal-owned facilities and parks.
- Completed a container needs survey to identify gaps in service and infrastructure. Results will help the County to evaluate funding needs for 2020 and beyond.
- Updated recycling infrastructure in more than 20 parks. The City of South St. Paul added 52 recycling containers in Kaposia, Harmon, Lorraine and Jefferson Field parks.

Multifamily recycling program

Staff assisted 20 properties through the Multifamily Recycling Program to set up recycling containers with proper signage and trained residents.

The program was launched in May after a successful pilot program to help property owners, managers, staff and residents with recycling and waste prevention.

About half of the 2019 program participants are managed by the Dakota County Community Development Agency (CDA), which provides affordable housing for working families, seniors and homeless youth. Residents received a tote bag to carry recyclables to collection areas, a flyer explaining the program, and recycling information. CDA staff will discuss recycling expectations with all new residents upon move-in.

DAKOTA COUNTY FAIR

The seven-day event collected more than 3.5 tons of materials (19 percent) to be recycled or composted.

County staff worked with Dick's Sanitation, hauler for the Fair, to set up an educational booth and interactive display for fair visitors.

Eighteen Dakota County Master Recycler spent nearly 90 hours to help educate fair attendees and check on recycling containers.



SUCCESS STORY: Reducing fees

The property manager of Whitney Grove Townhomes in Apple Valley reached out to County staff after being charged with substantial contamination fees from their hauler. These fees resulted from tenants placing food, plastic bags and bulky waste into recycling dumpsters.

Through the Multifamily Recycling Program, Whitney Grove added recycling bins next to existing trash containers, labeled recycling and trash dumpsters and provided door-to-door education to tenants. With more than 25 percent non-English speaking residents, the County brought in an interpreter to reduce language barriers. **As a result of these efforts, the contamination fees were eliminated from monthly invoices - an annual savings of \$34,000.**



SUCCESS STORY: Low-Waste Breakfast

Pinecrest Elementary School in Hastings implemented a new collection method to combat contamination in the Breakfast-In-The-Classroom Program. Waste stations were placed in four hallways to capture breakfast waste, including a liquids collection bucket to empty milk cartons and cereal bowls. Student breakfast captains monitored and educated students. The school created a [short video to explain the process](#). Their effort resulted in keeping 22 pounds of liquids out of classroom sinks and trash containers and collecting 12 pounds of clean recycling daily from breakfast.

School recycling program

5th Annual School Recycling Workshop - July 17, Dakota Lodge, West St. Paul

Fifty school staff including administrators, building and grounds staff, food service staff, teachers and Green Team leaders learned about reducing milk and food waste in cafeterias, Dakota County's revised School Recycling Program and a plastic bag recycling challenge.

Green Schools Conference & Expo - April 8-9, St. Paul River Centre
Twenty-five educational leaders attended the national conference with support from Dakota County and The Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council. Topics included recycling program improvements, school gardens and student-driven sustainability leadership.

Partnering for better purchases

Dakota County staff partnered with school districts to cooperatively purchase environmentally preferable products. Independent School District (ISD) 191 transitioned to recycled-content plastic liners (i.e., trash bags) district-wide while ISD 194 began exploring the use of recycled-content liners within their operations.

School Waste Prevention and Recycling Grant Program

All public and private schools located in Dakota County are eligible to receive grants to help them start or improve waste management practices. Ten schools were awarded grants to work on:

- Expanding indoor and outdoor recycling with new containers
- Enhancing cafeteria waste collection with a stainless-steel sorting table and color-coded containers and signage
- Replacing single-use items with reusable trays, utensils or other durable options
- Transitioning to bulk service such as a milk or condiment dispenser to replace single-use items
- Reducing breakfast-in-the classroom waste
- Starting student Green Teams to support ongoing efforts

SUCCESS STORY: Greenout

Pine Bend Elementary in Inver Grove Heights hosted an end-of-school "greenout" and collected 148 pounds of reusable material and 104 pounds of recyclable materials. County staff provided collection containers, signs, scales and guidance. School staff, the student Green Team and adult volunteers helped students sort unwanted materials like notebooks, folders and school supplies. Reusable materials are provided to summer and after-school programs and classrooms the following year.



Business recycling support

The business program was updated to remove minimum waste generation thresholds and support a wider range of waste reduction efforts like installing dishwashers for reusable dishware or a refrigerator to use in extending the life of donated food.

- More than 12,600 container labels and educational resources ordered by businesses.
- Letter mailed to more than 10,000 businesses inviting them to participate in the program to help with recycling requirements and to lower hauler contamination fees.
- County staff and consultant worked with 87 businesses across a range of industries, including 1,313 follow-up contacts to ensure businesses had the tools to implement changes successfully.

Program Evaluation

On-site assessments of 23 past-participant businesses showed that 91 percent continued the original projects funded by the County. All surveyed businesses said the County-supplied containers were important in sustaining their projects, with 90 percent continuing to use them in strategic locations. Past participants indicated they need more educational resources to help with ongoing employee training, especially in high-turnover sectors.

Technical Assistance

Of the 87 businesses helped, more intense technical assistance was given to 40 businesses, diverting an estimated 244 tons of new material from the waste stream (369,858 pounds recyclable material; 117,905 pounds food waste and compostable material).



SUCCESS STORY: Shipping Innovation

Deck & Door Co. uses a lot of cardboard and Styrofoam to ship their products each year. Through the Business Recycling Program, they purchased a cardboard shredder that perforates their leftover cardboard to be used as cushioning which replaced foam peanuts. Their customers can easily recycle the packaging later. Deck & Door Co. saved money not buying foam peanuts and reused what they had on hand.

Recycling in County operations

A robust recycling program in Dakota County buildings collects a large amount of recycling and provides an example to partners and visitors.

Housekeeping Contract Training

Dakota County trained housekeeping staff on recycling procedures and incorporating environmental purchasing for plastic bags and cleaning products.

Recycling Program Evaluation

Based on a program evaluation, Dakota County staff and visitors have room for improvement. Waste sorts at selected County facilities showed staff and visitors were doing a good job when they were recycling and collecting organics (low contamination), yet they were not recycling all that they could. At service centers, staff and visitors recycled 68 percent of everything they could recycle (capture rate).

Dakota County Facility Waste Sorts

Facility	Recycle Rate	Capture Rate
Service Centers	44%	81%
Dakota Lodge (wedding reception)	54%	86%
Lake Byllesby Campground (summer weekend)	32%	86%

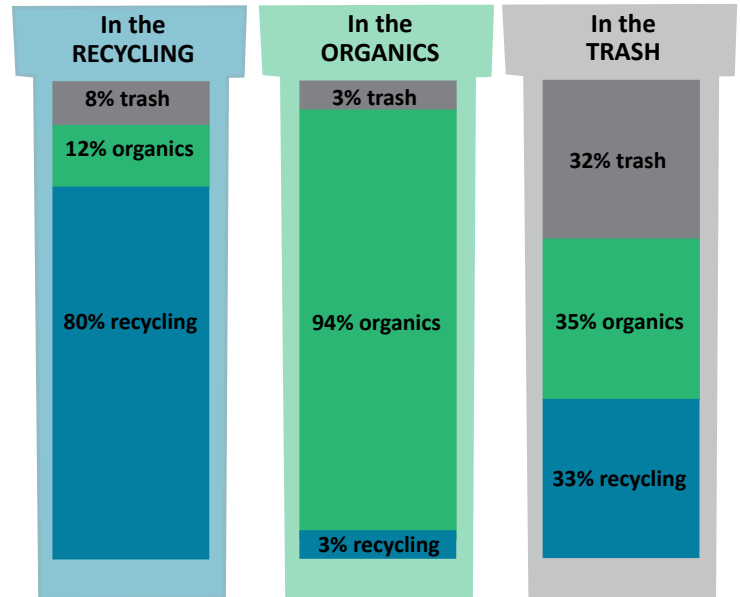
Capture rate: recycling that is in the correct place. A 100 percent capture rate means all the recycling is in the recycling bin without any in the trash or organics.

Staff Recycling Knowledge

After Service Center waste sorts were completed, County staff were asked about their recycling habits. A quarter of staff (557 employees) responded:

- 98 percent of respondents said recycling was important at work.
- C grade (76 percent correct answers) on what paper items are recyclable at work.
- B grade (83 percent correct answers) on what plastic materials are recyclable at work.
- Half (51 percent) said they recycle everything at work, with 43 percent saying they would recycle more if they knew what was recyclable.

Service Center Waste Sorts Overall



Staff Recycling Education

America Recycles Day, Nov. 15, kicked off an employee campaign to educate staff on what and how to recycle right. Messaging was based on waste sorts and staff surveys.

- Dakota County Senior Leadership shared why recycling is important in a 30-second video
- Division Directors and County Manager demonstrated proper recycling on posters hung throughout County buildings.
- More than 200 staff joined the first-ever Live Recycling Q & A to ask questions and hear about recycling at work.
- Separate posters about what to recycle and not to recycle were displayed at staff entrances.
- Staff could find more information on the County's intranet including informative articles with short videos of recycling and composting facilities.

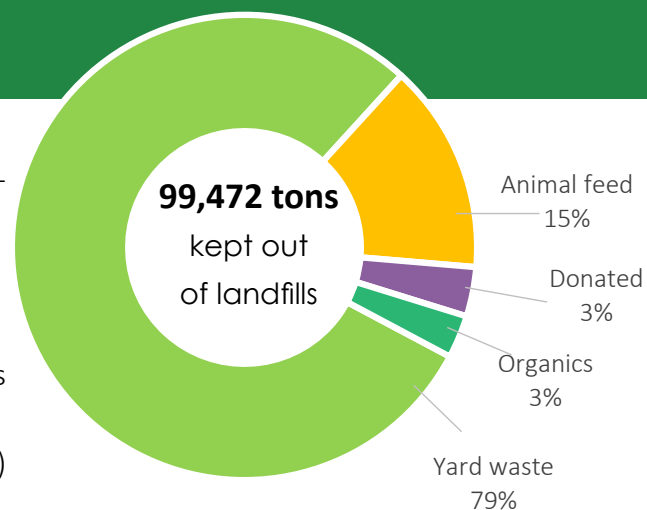


Senior Leadership like Matt Smith, County Manager, on posters

Organics

Organics - food waste, compostable materials and yard waste - was diverted from landfills in a variety of ways:

- 3,418 tons donated to people in need (four percent increase)
- 14,507 tons made into animal feed (25 percent decrease)
- 2,976 tons composted at commercial source-separated organics facility (70 percent decrease)
- 78,571 tons of yard waste was composted (one percent decrease)



Reducing wasted food in schools

The MN GreenCorps Member hosted by Dakota County tested best practices to prevent wasted food in school cafeterias.

Five schools agreed to conduct tray audits and student surveys. Leftovers on lunch trays were sorted and weighed and students were asked why they didn't eat all of their food. Data and recommendations were presented to school leadership. Prevention strategies were piloted, such as:

- Share tables for packaged, unopened items
- Water dispensers as an alternative to milk
- Spice stations to customize meals
- Visual and verbal signals to let students know how much time they have left to eat
- Education on USDA National School Lunch Program rules to improve lunch line efficiency
- Milk challenge for "one last sip" to bring awareness to wasted food.

A second round of tray audits evaluated the success of the strategies. **One school reduced the amount of wasted food by one-third.** Project participants, including principals, nutrition and teaching staff and students, said the project was a valuable learning opportunity. The School Recycling Program was updated to include support for reducing wasted food.

Prevent wasted food in homes

Food is the largest component of waste sent to landfills with households throwing away the most.

- 121 residents of Apple Valley, Farmington, Lakeville and Rosemount participated in the Food Waste Challenge to understand what food they toss and why. Participants tracked food scraps weekly and received training and tools to reduce food waste.
- Dakota County municipalities educated residents on wasted food prevention in city newsletters.

Tools like the Share Table reduce wasted food in schools



Master Recycler interviewed by Fox 9 about the Food Waste Challenge

City-led organics programs

Organics collection was added to four municipal buildings through the Community Funding Program:

- Apple Valley Central Maintenance Facility
- Hastings City Hall
- Inver Grove Heights City Hall
- Inver Grove Heights Public Works Facility.

This brings the total number of municipal facilities with organics collection in Dakota County to 28.

Residential organics drop-off & backyard composting programs

Dakota County now has four residential organics drop-off sites, including two additional residential organics drop-off sites: The Mulch Store in Rosemount and the Lakeville Water Treatment Facility.

- More than 4,000 households are registered, with 1,726 households joining the program in 2019.
- **Overall, residents composted around 153 tons of food scraps and other compostable materials.**

Through the Recycling Association of Minnesota spring sale, residents purchased 52 backyard composting bins. Dakota County provided residents with a 30 percent discount.

Organics collection in County operations

- Paper towel dispensers were installed in all County facility restrooms. Paper towels from restrooms and kitchens are composted with food scraps.
- Over 7,000 waste and recycling kits were distributed to Lebanon Hills and Lake Byllesby campers as well as guests at Whitetail Woods camper cabins. Each kit contains an informational “how-to” card and bags for recyclables, organics and trash.

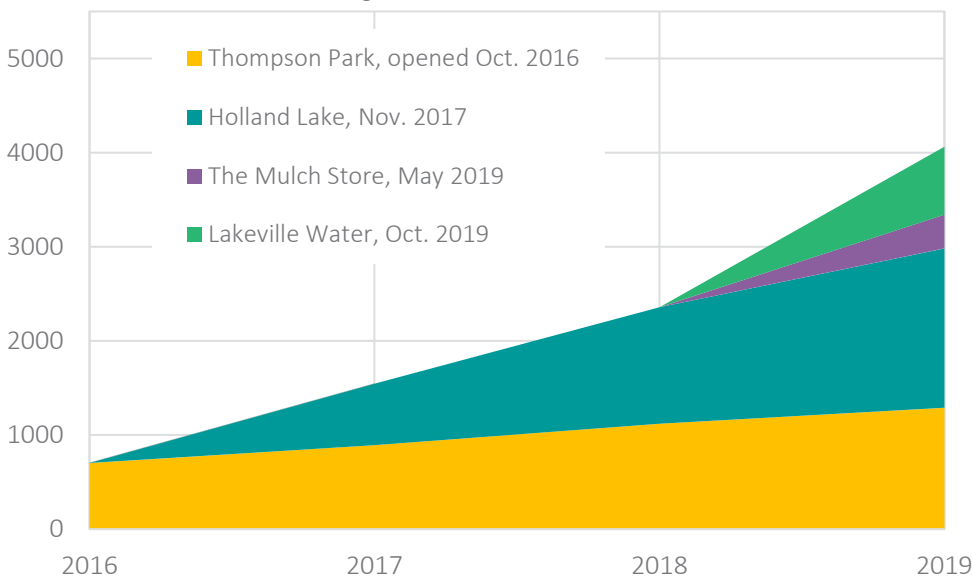
Organics at the Fair

All food vendors at the 2019 County Fair received a recycling guide and were offered a five-gallon bucket and compostable bags to collect “back-of-house” food scraps from their booths. Eighty percent of food vendors chose to participate – the highest participation to date. Over 600 pounds of food scraps were collected during the fair, and over 4,000 pounds of used cooking oil was captured for recycling.

Supporting organics & yard waste collection

- The County continued to lease land in Empire Township to Specialized Environmental Technologies, Inc., to operate source-separated organics and yard waste composting.
- Dakota County licenses and inspects seven yard waste facilities.

Residential Organics Drop Site Total Participation



Resource Recovery & Disposal

Resource Recovery

Two percent of waste generated in Dakota County (7,287 tons) was converted into energy at a resource recovery facility (32 percent less than previous year) through these facilities:

Facility	Amount sent
City of Red Wing Solid Waste Campus	67%
Elk River Resource Processing Plant	12%
Hennepin Energy Recovery Center	11%
Ramsey/Washington Recycling and Energy Center	7%
Olmsted Waste-To-Energy Facility	3%

Issues affecting resource recovery

Recycling & Energy Center designation

A limited amount of Dakota County waste was accepted at the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Center in Newport. On January 1, the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board enacted a waste designation ordinance directing all municipal solid waste generated in those counties to be delivered to the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Center.

HERC reaches capacity

The Hennepin Energy Recovery Center (HERC) in Minneapolis reached capacity in 2019 and started to not accept waste deliveries from out-of-county generators.

Great River Energy closed.

Regional capacity for resource recovery was further reduced when Great River Energy closed the Elk River Resource Recovery Plant on January 15.

Programs that support resource recovery efforts:

- Resource management contract requires delivery of County building and park trash to a resource recovery facility.
- Land leasing for a transfer station allowing delivery of waste to a resource recovery facility.

Land Disposal

Forty-five percent of the municipal solid waste (MSW) generated in Dakota County was landfilled (205,105 tons; 4 percent increase over previous year).

The County continues to face obstacles in meeting the Policy Plan objective to send a maximum of two percent of MSW to landfills. Privately-owned and operated landfills in Dakota County are conveniently located for waste haulers and no additional resource recovery capacity is available. The MPCA's strategy to enforce restriction on disposal (which requires waste to be sent to a resource recovery facility if capacity exists) helps get waste to the right facilities and assists the County's efforts to reduce land disposal.



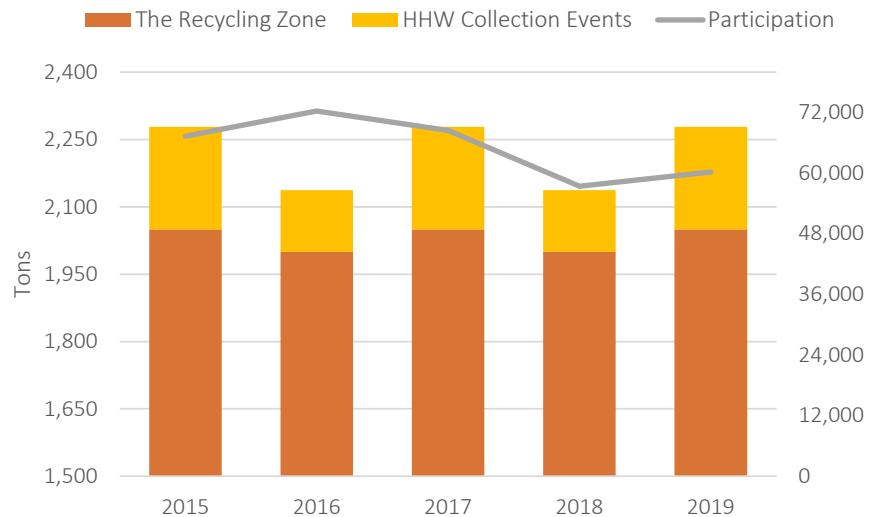
Waste Regulators inspect our landfills

Hazardous Waste

The Recycling Zone

Residents used The Recycling Zone and one-day collections to get rid of hazardous waste, electronics and other items.

- 56,506 households visited The Recycling Zone (six percent increase)
- More than 1,750 tons of materials were managed (1 percent decrease)
- 3,700 households participated one of four drop-off collections in Burnsville, Farmington, Hastings and Lakeville.



Business hazardous waste program

The Very Small Quantity Generator (VSQG) program helps businesses that produce smaller amounts of hazardous waste such as solvents, paints, used oil and fuels for a reasonable fee. In 2019, 312 businesses and municipalities took advantage of the program to bring in 43.3 tons of materials to The Recycling Zone for proper disposal.

Outreach & Education

Outreach and education do not have specific measurement goals in the Policy Plan, but strategies were included in the Master Plan to address public education requirements in Minn. Stat. §§ 115.552 and 115A.96.

Dakota County staff and municipal partners used a variety of promotional outlets and in-person tactics to educate residents on recycling.

- **939,785 impressions**- Cities conducted indirect education through social media, newsletters, emails and other outlets
- **12,600 residents** directly educated by City partners through in-person events.
- **123 percent increase** for The Recycling Zone webpage visits over the previous year; 480 percent increase in pageviews for the Dakota County residential recycling page.
- **6,200 rural residents educated about tire disposal** through a mailer sent by the Rural Solid Waste Commission, representing the 13 townships and six rural cities in Dakota County.

The Dakota County e-news service provides waste and recycling education tailored to each audience:

E-news	Number Sent	Subscribers	Open Rate
Resident	14	1,700	39%
Business	6	357	30%
Schools	4	500	36%
Organics Drop Sites	6	4107	53%
Master Recycler	13	241	52%

Master Recycler/Composter Program

The Dakota County Master Recycler/Composter program completed its sixth year with 59 new participants—bringing the total number of volunteers to 290.

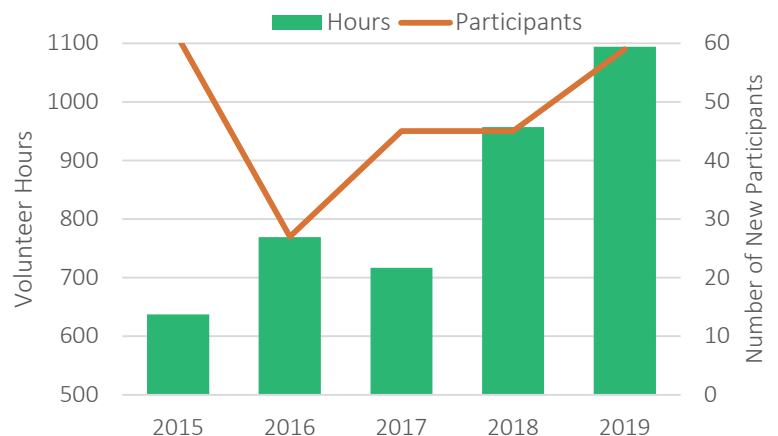
- 13 additional graduates completed their obligatory 30 hours of volunteering.
- Master Recyclers engaged with 50,000 people at various events.

Participants fill out a pre- and post-class test to see if they gained basic recycling knowledge.

- The spring class went from 73 percent correct answers to 82 percent
- The fall class went from 79 percent correct answers to 85 percent

Top 5 Ways MRCs Volunteered

1. Fix-It Clinics
2. Tabling
3. Waste stations
4. Event organizing
5. Collection events



County Ordinance Updates

On November 26, 2019, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners adopted a revised Solid Waste Management Ordinance ([Ordinance 110](#)) to implement the regulatory strategies in the Master Plan. The revised Ordinance impacts how solid waste is managed by residents, businesses, organizations, the waste industry and the public sector.

Stakeholder input

Staff embarked on a public engagement effort to gather feedback on the strategies from stakeholders – municipalities, businesses, schools, residents, trade associations and the waste industry. **More than 1,300 stakeholders participated** in online and in-person engagement opportunities from March 15 to April 15.

Based on input and discussion with the County's Physical Development Committee, amendments to the ordinance were drafted and stakeholders were again asked for feedback. Engagement results were presented to the County Board of Commissioners prior to a public hearing on the proposed ordinance amendments.

Ordinance 110 Amendments

New Designated Lists

With much input from recycling haulers and sorting facilities, a list of recyclable materials was created that all haulers serving Dakota County must accept and all generators must collect for recycling. A list is also provided if organics (food scraps) are being collected. *Standardizing the basic items that we recycle and collect – no matter where you live in Dakota County or the hauler you have – benefits everyone.*

Full lists can be found at www.dakotacounty.us

- [Designated List of Recyclables and Contaminants](#)
- [Designated List of Organics and Contaminants](#)

Residents

Beginning in 2021, residents living in single-family homes, apartments, condominiums, duplexes and assisted living facilities must recycle items on the Designated List of Recyclables. In addition, the revised ordinance prohibits residential generators from placing materials from the Designated List of Contaminants into any recycling container.

Commercial Entities

Recycling requirements

Commercial organizations, including municipalities, events and schools, must recycle items on the Designated List of Recyclables and must:

- Provide recycling containers in buildings and on grounds for tenants, employees and customers and have recycling service through a contract with a hauler or self-haul recyclables.
- Locate recycling containers within 10 feet of all trash containers.
- Label containers, both indoors and outdoors, according to [County Labeling Requirements](#).
- Provide standardized recycling education to employees, tenants, and housekeeping and custodial staff/contractors following [County Education Requirements](#).
- Report program effectiveness, including education activities to the county annually.

GENERATOR RECYCLING REQUIREMENTS

Dakota County Ordinance 110 Solid Waste Management was amended to include regulatory strategies contained in the Master Plan. New requirements will help make progress towards the state recycling goals (more information at the end of the report):

- a [designated list of recyclables](#) that everyone must recycle – residents, businesses, schools and government – and haulers must collect.
- a [designated list of organics](#) certain businesses that generate food scraps must collect.

Effective dates for commercial requirements

July 1, 2020: Businesses already required to recycling under the [state's commercial recycling law](#) must meet new requirements.

Jan. 1, 2021: All other businesses and organizations (e.g., manufacturers, small businesses/churches) must meet new requirements.

2020: Labels must be placed on trash, recycling and organics containers (if collected) purchased after 2019 and by Jan. 1, 2022 for containers purchased prior to 2020.

Food Waste Requirements

Commercial organizations, including schools, colleges and universities with dining services that generate at least one ton (eight cubic yards) of trash per week and generate back-of-house organics (food scraps) and large events with 300 or more people, must separate and collect a [designated list of organics](#) (food scraps) from back-of-house areas for appropriate management (donation, food-to-animals, commercial composting) and implement best waste management practices for collection, including:

- All organics containers are properly labeled. Labels must be consistent with Dakota County waste abatement messaging guidelines and indicate the material type collected, images of the food waste types accepted, color-coded green, visible and legible to users and include preparation requirements (where applicable);
- The collection schedule and container capacity are sufficient to collect all back-of-house organics generated to prevent overflowing containers;
- Ensure back-of-house food waste is separated and delivered for food recovery or to an organics facility;
- Provide standardized waste abatement messages in print or electronic form to each employee and housekeeping and custodial contractor within 30 days of hire and annually thereafter;
- Annually report to the County to demonstrate program effectiveness on County forms.

Effective dates for food waste requirements

Businesses and organizations subject to back-of-house organics collection requirements will be phased in, by sector, over the next five years:

By January 1, 2022: Grocery stores; food wholesalers, distributors, and manufacturers

By January 1, 2023: Hospitals; schools, colleges and universities with dining services

By January 1, 2024: Office buildings with dining services; hotels; farmers markets; food shelves and food banks; restaurants; shopping centers; golf and country clubs; public/rentable commissaries or kitchens; nursing and residential care facilities; sports venues; event centers and caterers; large event venues with organics

Municipalities

Ordinance 110 already required municipalities to implement a solid waste abatement program consistent with the County's Solid Waste Master Plan and to annually report results to the County. Revised Ordinance 110 also requires all municipalities to deliver County-developed standardized solid waste abatement messaging to its residents; ensure all residents, including multifamily residents and commercial generators, have the opportunity to recycle; and support implementation of the County's Master Plan.

In addition to the above, municipalities with more than 10,000 residents are required to update or enact a municipal code that is consistent with and no less restrictive than the amended Ordinance 110 by January 1, 2021. City code must address localized multifamily recycling requirements. City code cannot contradict Ordinance 110 and must allow the County to enforce requirements such as, weekly residential recycling, mandatory generator recycling, large generator food waste collection and standardized messaging.

Residential Multi-Unit Properties

Recycling Requirements

Ordinance 110 has new requirements for multi-unit properties with four or more residential units. Building owners and property managers who manage solid

waste through a common contract must recycle the designated list of recyclables and follow best management practices. Multi-unit properties must provide recycling containers with a weekly service capacity of at least 0.1 cubic yards per dwelling unit (i.e., 40 dwelling units would require at least four cubic yards of recycling capacity is provided each week). In addition, standardized waste abatement messaging must be provided to all new tenants within 30 days of moving in and annually to all tenants.

Waste Haulers & Facilities

Effective November 2019, each hauler-supplied solid waste container must identify the container capacity. Haulers are also required to submit an amended hauler license prior to changes in offered service (e.g., material acceptance). Further, all recycling, organics and trash containers purchased by haulers after December 31, 2019 must be properly labeled consistent with the County's waste abatement messaging standards and indicate the type of material collected via images and text. New labels must be color-coded, legible to users and include preparation requirements consistent with County standards. Existing containers purchased prior to January 1, 2020 must meet the new label requirements by January 1, 2022.

Also effective as of November 2019, haulers have the ability to co-collect organics in durable compostable bags with mixed municipal solid waste and deliver to a facility to be separated for composting or anaerobic digestion. Reduced regulations for small-volume collection and transfer of organics, yard waste, munic-

ipal solid waste, construction and demolition waste and certain recyclables were also incorporated into Ordinance 110. In addition, Ordinance 110 changes included updates to align with recent changes in state statute (hauler reporting and insurance requirements, and compost facility requirements).

Effective July 1, 2020, all hauler invoices must contain itemized information for service prices, taxes, fees, container size(s), collection frequency and service period covered.

Effective January 1, 2022, haulers will be required to offer weekly recycling service to all residential customers. A hauler is exempt from weekly recycling requirements if its previous year's residential recycling rate is at 40% or greater.

Beginning in 2025 and every five years thereafter, land disposal facilities must complete a waste composition study.

Resources

To assist solid waste generators, Dakota County developed additional resources to help businesses, organizations, school districts and municipalities start or improve an existing recycling program and become compliant with the new requirements. Resources include: containers, standardized labels and educational materials; funding for recycling and food waste collection improvements; and non-regulatory on-site consulting assistance.