

Dakota County Online Focus Group II - Report on Results -

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Opinion Research on
Elections and Public Policy

Probolsky Research
3990 Westerly Place Suite 185
Newport Beach CA 92660

Newport Beach (949) 855-6400
San Francisco (415) 870-8150
Washington DC (202) 559-270

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Qualitative Report

Introduction & Method

Probolsky Research conducted an online focus group discussion among Dakota County residents. The group was moderated by Adam Probolsky and focused on residents' attitudes, knowledge and forward looking thoughts on recycling in Dakota County.

Online Focus Group II: Dakota County Residents

Date: February 27, 2020 to March 3, 2020

This memorandum highlights key commentary from the discussions, with our goal of delivering actionable information. You will also likely find reviewing the transcript to be helpful towards developing a rich, unique understanding of the vernacular and tone of participants.

It is important to note that while the results of the online focus group are not statistically significant, they do help us uncover common language, themes, and messages to test further.

We have provided both the discussion guide and transcript for the focus group session as an appendix.

This discussion took place online, and participants were able to type their responses to questions asked in the initial discussion guide and subsequently by the moderator.

Emerging Themes and Recommendations

Residents express a strong understanding of the new label that is designed to go on the lid of the recycling cart. Most respondents found the new label to be clear and concise. There is some room for improvement on the communication of what is acceptable and not acceptable in terms of bagging recycling items before being put into the recycling cart.

Many respondents agree that the booklet is clear, informative, comprehensive, well organized, and is easy to follow and to find answers. They liked the booklet's layout and found it colorful with nice pictures and charts that make the text more understandable. One

person said it was too long, and one person wanted more tips on how to help the environment.

Most respondents stated they would like both a printed booklet mailed to their house and an updated version of the booklet available online. Many said the booklet should be mailed to new residents of Dakota County. Some would rather have the availability of just an online booklet but understand not everyone has access to a computer/internet, so there is the need for a printed edition, as well. Some preferred just a printed booklet mailed to their house. Some respondents said they expected to find printed booklets in libraries, grocery stores, government buildings, and voting facilities.

The top of the recycling bin is the primary source of information used by residents to decide what items to recycle. If the top of the bin does not answer the question about an item, they will turn to Google, or seek out a list from Dakota County, their trash hauler, or community association. Residents are aware of mailers that have been distributed by Dakota County with information on recycling. A few residents operate on a default assumption that most items are recyclable.

Many respondents said they liked the cling or didn't have any changes to suggest. Some respondents would change the blue color of the cling to green, because they associate recycling with the color green. A few respondents suggested changes to the font to make the text stand out more. A few would like a dedicated website instead of asking people to search for terms on the county website. And a few people had questions about where they were supposed to put this cling.

Just about all the respondents thought the brochure was understandable and readable. A few said the map on the last page was hard to read or blurry, but one respondent noted they thought that this may have been due to the .pdf copy.

Many respondents talked about wanting to protect the environment and doing their part to keep the Earth clean. Most said they wanted to reduce waste and reduce the items that end up in landfills or in the ocean. A few were worried about our impact on future generations. A few respondents said they wanted to set a good example to others, especially their children. And a few were motivated to save energy.

Most respondents said "When in doubt, throw it out" is reasonable, especially since experts are urging people to adopt this action. They understand that it may do more harm than good to throw uncertain items into the recycling bin. The workers who sort through recycling may come across something hazardous. Respondents also don't want workers to have to

separate their waste for them. In addition, this additional work may drive up costs. Those who said the statement isn't reasonable think that it would just encourage people to throw everything in the trash without thinking about separating the items. Rather, they think people should be motivated to recycle. A few respondents said people should research if an uncertain item is recyclable or not. A few respondents were surprised that experts urged people to do this and would like more information on their reasoning.

Most respondents have recycling bins throughout their house, particularly in the kitchen. When those get full, they bring the bins to the hauler cart, which is typically in or right outside the garage, and empty them into the cart. A few respondents said they place their recyclable items directly into the carts. A few respondents said they sort their recyclable items before placing them in the bin.

Residents say that the process should be easy to understand and eliminate confusion about which items go into which container. As one resident put it, "It needs to be easy not time consuming because its easiest to throw everything in the regular trash." Some residents would like to see a yearly program to recycle larger items as well as regular flyers to educate about proper recycling practices.

Residents overwhelmingly prefer Image A for being "more eye catching" due to its colors and display of actual items.

Summary of the Results

Quotations from focus group participants appear below as indented text. Three periods within quotations signify omitted text, usually repeated or filler words, such as "um," "you know" and similar phrases. Three periods sometimes signal the omission of words irrelevant to the message, but under no circumstances are words omitted in a manner that might change the participant's meaning. In a few instances, words within a quotation appear in brackets. These words are added for clarity and to facilitate interpretation of the participant's meaning.

This new label is designed to go on the lid of the recycling cart provided by your recycling hauler or on a dumpster if you live in a multi-family property. Is the information provided understandable and readable?

Most respondents found the new label to be clear and easy to understand. They thought that having pictures makes the concept clearer, and some stated they 3

liked seeing the recycling numbers. Some respondents mentioned that they didn't know they weren't supposed to use garbage bags for their recyclables or that they weren't supposed to put plastic bags in the recycling cart. Some found the text below the pictures to be too small to read.

- “The image shows all the information in a pretty decent way It's moron proof you'd have to deliberately not look at the image to misunderstand it.” - Maria K (74, Female, Lakeville)
- “I think it's especially confusing since some plastic bags are labeled as recyclable, so I used to buy them and put my recycling in them until I read something about how the county's recycling doesn't allow them.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “I have never really thought about it, I put everything in garbage bags so it doesn't blow around when it gets dumped in the truck. I guess I will need to change my habits!” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “It entirely depends on the size of the pamphlet itself. If it's the size of a normal sheet of paper it might be tough to read, but if it's a bit larger than the text size might be fine enough.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “Yes the pictures help as do the pictures that show what is NOT allowed.” - Marna B (46, Female, Eagan)
- “Having the recyclable numbers is helpful as I sometime will look to see if those number match so yes, this is a good label.” - AV Rez (60, Male, Apple Valley)
- “Yes it is. It looks to the point. I never knew you couldn't recycle those little plastic bags” - Jeff (56, Male, Hastings)
- “The label is very readable. The pictures and words of those items that should not be recycled is a great idea to make the concept much clearer.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

Would you know what to put in your recycling cart based on the information on this label?

Just about all the respondents said the label was clear and easy to follow. They found the pictures and the contrast of the categories of recyclables to be helpful. Some also said having the recycling numbers on the label was useful. One respondent missed the “Empty and dry containers” on the first look. That person suggested to change the color and font of that phrase so it will be more noticeable.

- “Yes. Specific and numbers makes it easy.” - Maria K (74, Female, Lakeville) 4

- “I missed empty and dry the first time through. Maybe change the color and font of that phrase so it will be more noticeable?” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)
- “Yes this would be very helpful in telling them apart.” - Ahabdul (27, Male, Apple Valley)
- “Yes, the pictures along with the text and just as important, what not to recycle is useful information in getting more participation.” - AV Rez (60, Male, Apple Valley)
- “Yes I like the way they made the pictures in color for the items you can recycle and the ones you can't in black and white.” - Jeff (56, Male, Hastings)
- “Yes, the contrast helps illustrate the point nicely... I appreciate the images, exclusions, and numbers.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “Yes, this sign is very clear as to what you can and cannot add to this can.” – Cliff H (49, Male, Burnsville)

Would you know what items to keep out of the recycling cart based on the information on this label?

Most respondents said the label is clear in informing people what should be kept out of the recycling cart. Some suggested the pictures and the text of the items not allowed should be larger and the label could be clearer about keeping out items that are often inappropriately included in recycling carts, such as certain plastic bags, pizza boxes, and plastic caps not attached to a container.

- “Yes though I'd make the do not images a bit bigger in my opinion they're too tiny.” - JohnK (72, Male, Hastings)
- “The images for non-recyclable items are not as clear. If there are certain items that are inappropriately included often (like plastic bags or pizza boxes) maybe those should have an actual image like the top section with an X over it.” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “Yes, but the text is a bit small.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “Yes, it is pretty clear for me.” - TanyaCH (52, Female, Burnsville)
- “Yes, items that do not belong are illustrated clearly.” - BETH (59, Female, Rosemount)
- “They couldn't add much more to make this any easier to understand.” - Cliff H (49, Male, Burnsville)
- “Yes, however there might need to be a graphic with the recycle symbol, so people know what to look for, especially with plastics.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

- “Yes - there are always some questions with intermediate plastics, but the numbers and pictures are very helpful.” - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)

Would you know how to prepare your recyclable materials based on the information on this label?

About half of the respondents thought the label was clear about informing people how to prepare recyclable materials. About half wanted more detail or had questions about how to prepare materials; for example, the label isn't clear about washing and drying bottles, cans, and cartons. A few respondents said the text should be larger.

- “Yes again I'd make the text a bit bigger but the information is clearly displayed.” - JohnK (72, Male, Hastings)
- “Yes, it is clear that I can include all appropriate items and don't need to bag them separately.” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “Also, how to prepare the items beyond clean and dry isn't clear: crush the cans? Crush the cartons? Break down boxes? That should/could be added if that is intended, or even permitted.” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)
- “Yes. Maybe adding the empty and dry containers somewhere inside the box because it could be indicating to the no section! Just saying it could be construed that way!” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “No, it is not clear how to prepare my recyclable materials. For example, should I wash the bottles and cans, etc?” - TanyaCH (52, Female, Burnsville)
- “Yes, I can see that they want cardboard boxes broke down and folded.” - BETH (59, Female, Rosemount)
- “I can keep the lid on glass jars to recycle? Otherwise it is clear to me.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “Not really. If I clean them how dry do they have to be?” - acollet1 (42, Female, Burnsville)
- “Yes, the words and graphics explain what is expected on how to prepare and avoid food and liquids.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

What else would you expect to see on a label to help you know how to recycle properly?

Some respondents stated they were satisfied with the label and nothing else needed to be added. Some wanted more detail about the extent to which materials should be cleaned and dried. Some wanted more detail on what materials are permitted, for example, pizza boxes and certain plastics. Some respondents wanted contact information or a website for answers to their questions.

- “More examples of different things you can and cannot recycle.” - Fostern1999 (41, Male, Hastings)
- “Any way to access further information like a web address or something.” - JohnK (72, Male, Hastings)
- “What are the consequences of not following the directions? For example, are certain materials discarded (and not recycled) if they are included without being cleaned out? Is there an additional cost for sorting when non-recyclable materials are included? Is there a website I can go to for more information?” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “It seems that all recyclables are to be mixed together. If that is so it should probably be clearly stated.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)
- “I would expect to see what to do with items that are stained with grease or anything like that. That is not explained on this label.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “Need to be as specific as possible. Can a pizza box go? It’s cardboard but then it says no food? I get asked this all of the time. Maybe indicate to people to look at the bottom to know if it qualifies as a recycled item.” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “I would say it should include a short sign or a word "clean and dry" items.” - TanyaCH (52, Female, Burnsville)
- “Phone number of hauler or Dakota County recycle center if any questions.” - Dick H (62, Male, Lakeville)
- “This is already very clear and I am not sure what else could be added.” - Cliff H (49, Male, Burnsville)
- “Seems very detailed. Nothing” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)
- “Plastics # breakdown.” - acollet1 (42, Female, Burnsville)

Would you prefer to see a label on the top or side of the recycling cart? Why?

A majority of respondents would prefer a label that was on top of the recycling cart. They said it would be easier, more accessible, and more convenient to see

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and would serve as a reminder every time they open the lid. The handful of those who would like the label on the side said the side of the recycling cart would be easier to see and would be more visible. Some respondents preferred the label be on both the side and the top of the cart to increase visibility or if one label gets worn.

- “Top that way I’m looking down and can read it more easily. Bending down seems like an inconvenience. Small inconvenience but still.” – JohnK (72, Male, Hastings)
- “It should be on the side. Side is always visible while top is usually viewed only while opening and shutting cart.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)
- “On the side. That way the accessibility of this label is maximized.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “Top, easier to see when you put things in.” - Dick H (62, Male, Lakeville)
- “I always like them on the top and on the side just in case one becomes unreadable.” - Cliff H (49, Male, Burnsville)
- “Top of the lid. Looks nicer. Instant reminder when lifting the lid.” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)
- “Both if possible - top would normally be easiest, but many times we just keep our recycling bin open in the garage to be able to drop things in from our door. But if it had to be one probably the side.” - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)
- “The top so the reminder is there every time you open the lid to recycle.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

What type of information would you expect to find by looking at the cover of this booklet?

Most respondents expect to find general information and instructions about how to recycle, what household items are recyclable, what can be placed in recycling carts, and how to prepare them for recycling. Respondents also would like information about how to recycle larger items and other things that can’t be put in their recycling carts. They suggested that it include a list of Dakota County recycling centers. Respondents also wanted contact information and a website for further questions. A few respondents stressed the booklet should include a lot of pictures.

- “Types of recyclable items curbside vs items to bring somewhere in particular. Phone numbers or websites to reference. Items not recyclable and where to dispose.” - Maria K (74, Female, Lakeville)
- “I would suggest as many pictures as possible just like the label and people will pay more attention.” - Amy A (46, Female, Rosemount)
- “What can and cannot be recycled, how to prepare items, where to dispose of larger items.” - Rachel M (34, Female, Eagan)
- “How to guide. What's acceptable or not and what happens to the recycling.” - Dick H (62, Male, Lakeville)
- “I would expect to find information on what/how I should recycle items from my home.” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “What types of items to recycle and where to take items that cannot go in my personal curbside cart.” - Kim P (62, Male, Eagan)
- “Reminders of what goes in your bin. List of local recyclers around that takes things that don't go in the home bin. Helpful to list what the recycling centers take. I like info on recycling statistics. Encouragement to recycle.” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)
- “I would expect to see answers to any questions I might have about how to recycle items that I cannot put into my recycle bin. I would also expect a list of places where specific items can be dropped off.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

Quickly look through the booklet pages. What is your first reaction?

Most respondents' first reactions were positive. They thought the booklet was informative, comprehensive, helpful, and easy to understand. They also liked the design of the booklet. They found it colorful, eye-catching, and well laid out with clear graphics and a lot of pictures. The few respondents who had a negative first reaction said the booklet was too long and there was too much to read. One person said the booklet should be larger and the text was hard to read.

- “Colorful booklet. A lot of information.” - Fosterrn1999 (41, Male, Hastings)
- “It has many pictures, tables and a lot of information which should be pretty helpful for users.” - TanyaCH (52, Female, Burnsville)
- “Well broken down into the three areas so the information isn't overwhelming. Good variety for pleasing the eye, clear graphics. Well done.” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)

- “A very thorough and easy to understand booklet.” - AV Rez (60, Male, Apple Valley)
- “Very informative, but unless the booklet is somewhat larger, the text is a bit hard to read.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “Very busy, too much reading. Most people won't read it if it's loaded with too much.” - Dick H (62, Male, Lakeville)
- “Wow, this is great! It covers information I had to dig to find previously, so this is so helpful!” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “It looks attractive and well laid out. Also looks very complete.” - BETH (59, Female, Rosemount)
- “Wow. This is great. Love the numbers to stop junk mail. Very helpful. Chart is clear.” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)

Can you give this booklet a new name? Even if you don't come up with a name, what words would you use in the title?

Many respondents said they like the name that is on the booklet now. Here are other suggestions:

- “Dakota County recycling guide.” - JohnK (72, Male, Hastings)
- “Home Recycling Guide- Everything to Know of How to Recycle Items!!” - TanyaCH (52, Female, Burnsville)
- “All things Recycling - One stop for Dakota County residents.” - Maria K (74, Female, Lakeville)
- “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: A Guide for Dakota County Residents.” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “Helping the earth through home recycling. Being good stewards through home recycling.” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)
- “When everybody recycles everybody benefits.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)
- “Easy to understand home recycling needs or Recycling for dummies!” - Cliff H (49, Male, Burnsville)
- “Recycling Tips and Tricks or Household Environmental Waste Guide.” - Kim P (62, Male, Eagan)
- “Home recycling and waste reduction.” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)
- “Home Waste Guide: How to recycle, reuse and reduce your home's waste in Dakota County.” - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)
- “Home Recycling and Disposal Guide.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

Is the information provided in this booklet understandable and readable?

All the respondents agreed that the booklet is understandable and readable. They said it was informative, well presented, and well organized. Two respondents said the booklet was too busy with too much to read. One respondent said the text was too small.

- “It is written and presented very well. I like it.” - TanyaCH (52, Female, Burnsville)
- “Yes. You’ve done a good job at breaking it into the three areas and the divisions make it even more understandable.” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)
- “Yes, easily understandable. I think that it’s comprehensive and not too busy. More of a reference than a simple guide which I think is good from my standpoint.” - AV Rez (60, Male, Apple Valley)
- “Yes, the information is very understandable and informative! In terms of readability, however, the text is a little bit small in my mind.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “Yes but just a little busy. Not sure where to look.” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “Yes - it is organized well and it is helpful.” - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)
- “The bolded topics and page set up is good. Easy to find the information you’re looking for among lots of good information.” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)
- “Yes, the booklet is very well done - clear and understandable.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

What do you like about this booklet?

Many respondents agree that the booklet is clear, informative, comprehensive, well organized, and is easy to follow and to find answers. They liked the booklet’s layout and found it colorful with nice pictures and charts that make the text more understandable. One person said it was too long, and one person wanted more tips on how to help the environment.

- “The layout makes it easy to read and the images help provide clarity on what can/cannot be recycled.” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)

- “I wonder if there could be some information added about how long it takes certain items to decompose. Information of this sort helps me be a better consumer. I also think a great way to reduce waste is by using reusable shopping bags, shopping at farmer's markets, and meal planning. Some of the points get close to this, but don't explicitly say it.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “It is clear and comprehensive.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)
- “The table of contents on the first page is very good in that it breaks out where to look first if you have a question on where a certain item or material should go.” - AV Rez (60, Male, Apple Valley)
- “I like it but I think it would be better if it was shorter. I worry people won't read as it's so long.” - Amy A (46, Female, Rosemount)
- “I like that it is easy to find information that you need, it's comprehensive, and it answers a lot of questions that were hard to find information about before.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “Colors, pictures, charts. Organized well with bolded topics.” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)
- “The booklet is well done. I like the charts, graphics and photos which make the text more understandable.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

What do you dislike about this booklet?

Some respondents said the booklet was too long, wordy, detailed, and should be more simplified. A few said it was too busy and their eyes kept jumping around. Some didn't like the cover, saying it was bland and boring. One person suggested to make the websites listed hyperlinks to connect directly with those websites for more information. Another wanted more tips to encourage people to help the environment.

- “I agree that people feel like: been there, done that with recycling. They've heard it all, it seems, so they might not think there is anything new to be gained from reading this booklet. How can you reinvigorate the topic of recycling? Like stewardship, or personal responsibility for the earth/creation/limited resources for the future generations.” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)
- “It is probably too lengthy and detailed for many people.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)
- “Too much to read. Simplify.” - Dick H (62, Male, Lakeville)
- “Cover is boring compared to the vivid inside.” - Jesse B (33, Female, Hampton)

- “I think it is well organized and eye-catching. In booklet form, as opposed to everything visible in this pdf format, I think it would not seem like too much information coming at you, as you would look at the "Table of Contents" and find the topic you need information on.” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “Some of the pages seem busy where my eyes just "jump around" vs. focusing on one area. Could be distracting for some readers.” - Kim P (62, Male, Eagan)
- “On some pages there was a little too much information. On other pages there were websites listed where you could find additional information. If this is an online booklet it would be great to be able to be connected directly to the additional information by clicking the link.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

What do you think about the design including the font (type/size/color), colors and images in this booklet?

Most respondents were favorable of the booklet design. They thought it was well laid out. They liked the color scheme and the different and creative fonts. Many were also critical of the design. Some thought the font was too small. Some didn't like the font on the first page. One person didn't like the mix of fonts on the same page. A few didn't like the color choices.

- “Colors go with the theme.” – Maria K (74, Female, Lakeville)
- “Earthy tones and nice font.” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)
- “This booklet has a great color scheme! I like the images used as well. Once again my only issue is the font size on the details of some of these items.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “I personally don't love the cursive font because not everyone can read cursive. I would hope that even older children could use this. Otherwise, I really like the design!” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “I like the bold colored labels. 1st page appears busy with hand written font. Rest of the font is good and easy to read. Not a fan of the cover.” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)
- “I think it is wonderful! You can tell a lot of thought went onto creating this much needed recycling reference booklet. The colors are nice, font is fine, images are appropriate.” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “I like the use of color. Font size is easy to read for me, but maybe some elderly people might have difficulties with some of the smaller print. Is this available in large print or online where people can adjust the font size? I'm not a huge fan of

the brown on the cover, but maybe you were going for a more recycled paper look?” - Kim P (62, Male, Eagan)

- “Not crazy about the font on the font page or the color choices. At times, there were too many mixes of font sizes and types on any one page.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

What do you think about the layout including length the amount of content and size?

Most respondents thought the amount of content was fine. They said it was well laid out, organized, and thought the information was useful. However, many also said the booklet was too long and wordy with too much information and should be condensed. A few found the booklet too busy and thought the information could be spread out more, so it's easier to read.

- “For mass appeal it needs to be condensed.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)
- “Too much content overtakes the images.” - Ahabdul (27, Male, Apple Valley)
- “I think the layout is a bit busy and maybe too much on the inside.” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “I think it's awesome! I wasn't expecting quite so much, but everything provided is quite useful.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “I like the layout and how it's organized. It seems to be an appropriate length.” - Rachel M (34, Female, Eagan)
- “Layout is fun and artistic. I like all the info. It's a one stop guide” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)
- “It is perfect in length and good content.” - Jesse B (33, Female, Hampton)
- “Overall, I think that the books looks pretty good. On some pages (6-7 and 10-11), there is a lot of information. Maybe break this up a little more. I know it would mean more pages, but it would mean that the pages are easier to read.” - Kim P (62, Male, Eagan)
- “I like the overall size of the booklet. Some pages had a bit too much information which could be solved by referring to additional information websites.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

Should there be one booklet with all information or separate booklets for 1) hazardous waste, 2) recycling, and 3) waste reduction?

Just about all respondents would prefer one booklet. It would be easier to find information in one booklet and keep track of it. It would also create less waste. A few respondents said the booklet should include website links to resources that go more in-depth for each area.

- “Just one makes for an easier find of information.” - JohnK (72, Male, Hastings)
- “I think it makes sense to have everything in a single booklet but could there be additional online resources that go more in-depth for each area?” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “All in one is so helpful. I tend to misplace paper items.” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)
- “I think one book is the way to go here or else you stand the chance of more recycling due to the amount of books.” - Cliff H (49, Male, Burnsville)
- “No, I like that this booklet provides all the information in one place.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

Does this booklet contain too little information, too much information, or the right amount of information?

Most respondents said the booklet had the right amount of information. Some respondents said there was too much information or the pages looked too busy. Spreading the information out onto more pages or providing links to other resources for additional information might help. No respondents said there wasn't enough information.

- “It's the 3rd bowl of porridge in Goldilocks.” - JohnK (72, Male, Hastings)
- “Just the right amount to serve as a good general resource.” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)
- “Too much information, probably needs images to offset.” - Ahabdul (27, Male, Apple Valley)
- “It's a great booklet but a little too busy and too much information on each page maybe?” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “It's a perfect amount of information.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “It contains the right amount of information. One thing I would change would be referring people to go to the Dakota County website and then "search" for a term. I think you lose people that way instead of just saying go to

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Dakotacounty.us/recycle (an example url - not sure if it exists) and then have all the appropriate topics as links on the page for organics, green guide, etc.” - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)

- “It seems just right kept me interested.” - Jeff (56, Male, Hastings)

Would you know what to recycle and what not to recycle based on the information provided in this booklet?

All but two respondents who answered this question said they would know what to recycle. Two respondents had questions about how to recycle/compost coffee K-Cups.

- “One item not listed anywhere but is a highly used household item are k-cups or pods. On the box of the item itself it states how to recycle them, but nowhere in these books do I see any reference to them. Thoughts?” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)
- “They have come out with a new gadget that literally cuts the top off the K cup so you can use the grounds as compost and recycle the rest. \$12 on Amazon. Might be good information for the booklet.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)
- “If I went through all the reading. But pictures and a little bit of words would help me understand faster.” - Ahabdul (27, Male, Apple Valley)
- “Yes, this booklet is very informative.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “Yes this book is very clear on what you can and cannot recycle... I hope they make the real ones soon” - Cliff H (49, Male, Burnsville)
- “Yes. Just after looking through the booklet I already have more information than I did before reading it. - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

Looking through the booklet, if you had a couch to get rid of, would you know what to do?

Most respondents said they were able to find out how to recycle a couch. Some looked in the table of contents, which directed them to a bulky items chart on Page 8-9. Some remarked how clear and helpful the chart was. A few respondents said they were able to find the information but only after reading the entire booklet or having to take time to search for what to do. One respondent said the booklet didn’t provide clear information that indicated where to look.

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- “Yes. Just look at the recycling bulky items section.” - JohnK (72, Male, Hastings)
- “I do not see anything clear that indicates where.” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “Yes. You have to search for a bit, but the information can be found.” – (Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “Yes, I could look at page 8-9.” - Rachel M (34, Female, Eagan)
- “Chart is awesome. My favorite part of the guide. Very clear and helpful” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)
- “Yes! I looked at the "Table of Contents" and found, "Bulky Items" pages 8 - 9. The Chart is fantastic!” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “Yes. It looks like that information is found in the full-page chart (probably the centerfold). It tells you who will take furniture and provides their contact info.” - BETH (59, Female, Rosemount)

Where do you want to find this booklet – online or have it available in print? If in print, where would you expect to pick it up? Would you expect to have it mailed to your home?

Most respondents stated they would like both a printed booklet mailed to their house and an updated version of the booklet available online. Many said the booklet should be mailed to new residents of Dakota County. Some would rather have the availability of just an online booklet but understand not everyone has access to a computer/internet, so there is the need for a printed edition, as well. Some preferred just a printed booklet mailed to their house. Some respondents said they expected to find printed booklets in libraries, grocery stores, government buildings, and voting facilities.

- “I am struggling with this one myself. I think that having it online with web links to additional information is the best approach. However, I understand that not everyone has access to the internet and/or doesn’t want to access this information online. But in keeping with the overall theme of “green” I wonder if mailing to everyone is the best use of resources/money? Just a thought as I am not totally clear on what is the best approach. Mailing might end up being the only way some people would get the information.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)
- “Do you have a new citizen/resident packet that would arrive at the home newly sold? Also online is very practical and accessible. The library would be a good general location and maybe a stand on Election Day of city resources. Just a few ideas.” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)

- “I would have it available electronically but also have a hard copy mailed so that I would not use my printer and ink to have one in the house. Asking for a pick-up will not get the full participation you are probably seeking.” - AV Rez (60, Male, Apple Valley)
- “I would like to have this booklet available in print and delivered to my home, and possibly found in grocery stores and other places that distribute goods that can be recycled.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “Both. I would like it mailed and I would like to be able to reference an updated version online. I think having a few continually printed for new residents of Dakota County would also be helpful.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “I would like it online for sure (for updates and links as I previously mentioned) but I wouldn't mind getting the first edition or copy mailed to our home. We would definitely use it right away.” - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)
- “I'd like it mailed. Easy to access.” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)
- “I would prefer to have it online. However for those who do not have access or ability for online, then I see a need to have it available for pickup. Mailing seems like an expense that would not be necessary for the most part.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

Is the information provided on this cling understandable and readable?

All the respondents found the cling to be clear, understandable, and helpful. A few said they liked the pictures. One respondent suggested that the recycling numbers should be added on the cling. Another said the category titles and instructions get lost due to the colors and graphics.

- “Yes it's appealing to the eye and text is clear.” - JohnK (72, Male, Hastings)
- “Yes. Just add the plastic numbers.” - Maria K (74, Female, Lakeville)
- “The title and specific instructions in blue are lost “- I would do blue for title and change color of specific instructions into red or vice versa. I like the shortness of the specific instructions but they get lost.” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)
- “Yes, it is understandable and readable.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)
- “This is very clear and understandable.” - Cliff H (49, Male, Burnsville)
- “Yes pictures are helpful.” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)

What do you like about the design including the font (type/size/color), colors and images?

Most respondents like the cling design. They said it was eye-catching. The images are clear and appealing, the font is easy to read, and it's colorful. Some respondents said they associate green with recycling rather than blue. A few suggested changes to the font.

- “The color and the simplicity of it. It's straight to the point and text is clear and readable.” - JohnK (72, Male, Hastings)
- “Fonts are easy to read, colors are relevant to topic, size is good considering how much info is being conveyed.” - Maria K (74, Female, Lakeville)
- “I generally like it. Green makes me think more of recycling than blue does.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “I like it but would do a darker blue.” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “I like the font style and image layout. However, one thing I would change is the color from blue to another color that isn't as bright.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “I like the colors but green would be better. I would like a different font better.” - Rachel M (34, Female, Eagan)
- “I like the blue headers. Font is easy to read. Pictures help clarify.” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)
- “The images are appealing and the colors and fonts look good.” - Jeff (56, Male, Hastings)
- “It looks great, colorful and catches attention. Easy to read.” - Jesse B (33, Female, Hampton)
- “I like the photos - makes a bigger impact than reading the text. Maybe add some photos of those items that cannot be recycled on the bottom of the page with the text. Change up the font type a little between headers and text.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

What do you like about the layout including size?

Just about all the respondents liked the layout of the cling. They said it was simple, clear, and easy to read. They liked the groupings and the pictures. Those who mentioned size said it was fine. A few had questions on the size and dimensions of the cling, which was not indicated.

- “Size is perfect and the layout simple but that’s a good thing since you’re trying to show information.” - JohnK (72, Male, Hastings)
- “I like the pics for quick reference and lists for more detail.” – Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “Clear groupings I’d information is helpful at a glance.” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)
- “I like the layout with information with pictures, headers, and then more detailed information. The pictures are informative and keep it from being too text heavy. It look good!” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “Good size and easy to read.” - Amy A (46, Female, Rosemount)
- “Is this an 8 X 10, 5 X 7 etc? It is nice - just wondering how big...” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “Organized well. Layout is clear and not cluttered.” - Rachel M (34, Female, Eagan)
- “Easy to read and follow. Pictures are a fun touch.” - Jesse B (33, Female, Hampton)

What don’t you like about the cling?

Many respondents said they liked the cling or didn’t have any changes to suggest. Some respondents would change the blue color of the cling to green, because they associate recycling with the color green. A few respondents suggested changes to the font to make the text stand out more. A few would like a dedicated website instead of asking people to search for terms on the county website. And a few people had questions about where they were supposed to put this cling.

- “I would use bolder type for individual items.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)
- “I think it looks great actually.” - Ahabdul (27, Male, Apple Valley)
- “I think changing the blue to green would be a beneficial change. I also like the idea of a dedicated link instead of searching a website...Recycling makes me think of green.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “The only change I would make here is to change the color on the header or the groups so they are easier to read.” - Cliff H (49, Male, Burnsville)
- “Nothing wouldn't change a thing.” - Jeff (56, Male, Hastings)
- “Change the font type between headers and text to make it more noticeable.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

- “Where would you expect this to go? On inside waste bin? In the garage above the recycling area?” - Kim P (62, Male, Eagan)

Would you know what to recycle in your home and what to keep out of the recycling based off the information provided on this cling?

All but one respondent said the cling provides the information needed to know what household items can be recycled and what can't. One person said the cling didn't say if coffee K-Cups are recyclable or not.

- “Again, k-cups are not listed and are a common household item now.” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)
- “Yes, that information is clear.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “Yes - very informative.” - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)
- “Yes, it makes it very easy to understand both.” - Cliff H (49, Male, Burnsville)
- “Yes. Already found 2 items that I currently place in my recycling that I should not be.” - Kim P (62, Male, Eagan)

Would you know how to prepare material for recycling based on the information on the cling?

All the respondents said the cling was clear and informative about how to prepare material for recycling.

- “Yes, empty, flatten and no washing are some preparations mentioned.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)
- “Yes, the blue text is good for the reminder for preparation guidelines.” - AV Rez (60, Male, Apple Valley)
- “Yes, that information is clear.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “Yes, again it is very easy to understand.” - Cliff H (49, Male, Burnsville)

- “Yes. I found that I take too much time and effort that I don’t need to do based on the information provided - e.g. washing cans/bottles.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

Is it clear that this cling is meant to be stuck to a surface, like on a wall, window or container? Would you use this? If so, where would you put it?

About half the respondents knew the cling was meant to be stuck to a surface and about half said it wasn’t clear from the picture. Some respondents said they would put the cling on their refrigerator. Some said they would put it on the lid of the recycling bin. Some would put it in their garage or in the area they keep the recycling bin. A few said they would put it on the inside of their kitchen cupboard door.

- “Yes, side of fridge.” - Fostern1999 (41, Male, Hastings)
- “Yes, I would put it inside the cupboard door where my recycling bin is located.” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “Yes I would use this and it would go on the refrigerator.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)
- “The very bottom description of the backing should maybe be placed at the top so there is a notice of a cling document. I would place this on my garage wall next to the recycle bin. Would the recycle vendors be OK with putting this on their bins? That would be my question.” - AV Rez (60, Male, Apple Valley)
- “I would use it. Inside recycle lid.” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “No, it is not clear that this would be used to adhere to a surface.
- Yes, I’d put it on the top of my recycle bin.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)
- This was not clear to me before that’s why I asked. I would probably place one on our inside bin and in the garage by our recycling area. - Kim P (62, Male, Eagan)

Is the information provided in the Recycling Zone brochure understandable and readable?

Just about all the respondents thought the brochure was understandable and readable. A few said the map on the last page was hard to read or blurry, but one respondent noted they thought that this may have been due to the .pdf copy.

- “Yes! This is needed in our home.” - Maria K (74, Female, Lakeville)
- “Everything but the map is clear and easy to read.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “Everything except for the last page's information is clear. The map is very hard to read.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “I missed the last page but I'm not sure if it's hard to see because of the design or it seems like the pdf copy is somewhat blurry.” - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)
- “Yes - so nice you can just, "pull up" and someone will unload your recycling!” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “Very easy to read and understandable.” - Jesse B (33, Female, Hampton)

What type of information would you expect to find by looking at the cover of this brochure?

Respondents said that they expected to find information on how to recycle household items, hazardous materials, and electronics and where to bring them.

They stated the brochure informs of what they can and cannot bring to the Recycle Zone.

- “Everything referenced. How-to’s and what to do with certain materials.” - Maria K (74, Female, Lakeville)
- “I would expect to find out how to deal with my hazardous waste.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)
- “I would expect to find information on where I can recycle hazardous materials and electronics.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “How to rid of properly all household items.” - Cliff H (49, Male, Burnsville)
- “Where, and what I can bring to the, "Recycling Zone" that I can't dispose of at my home.” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “I would expect to find out where to bring my hazardous waste, cleaning/gardening chemical products and electronics. And what products are accepted and if not, where can I bring them.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

What do you like/dislike about the design including the font (type/size/color), colors and images?

About half of the respondents liked the overall design. Some said that they liked the pictures and the font. Most of the negative comments were about the color scheme. Some thought it should be green instead of orange, and others found the colors drab and boring.

- “I think the colors are kind of drab. Recycling is not an exciting topic. Maybe a little pizzazz would be a positive.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)
- “The design is fine, but the copy seems fuzzy/blurry sometimes. I assume that's just the pdf copy and the actual brochure is clear?” - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)
- “I like the pictures. I don’t love the color scheme. I would include a picture of the Recycling Zone because I would like to know what it liked like if I had not been there before.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “The images for the products that can be taken to the, "Recycling Zone" are difficult to see in the upper yellow area... I think another color would be more suitable.” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “I like the color scheme of this brochure. One thing I notice right away is that the image of the driver's license is outdated currently.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)²⁴

- “For some reason Orange does not work. I think it should be green...Yup, two things I think of when I look at that orange is Road Construction and Hunting.” - BETH (59, Female, Rosemount)
- “Great picture and the font is good.” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)
- “Too much orange. Maybe a light blue or green would be better.” - Jesse B (33, Female, Hampton)
- “I like the font types but think another color, other than gold, would be a better, more bold choice which would grab my attention better. Also maybe different items on the front cover to show how many products can be taken to the recycling zone.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

What do you like/dislike about the layout including brochure length and size?

Most respondents liked the size, length, and layout of the brochure. They thought the information was relevant. Some said they liked the font, text size, and pictures. Some respondents said they didn't like the brochure colors. A few said the brochure was too long, either being redundant or longer than needed due to design elements. A few respondents noted that the map wasn't necessary or was hard to read.

- “It is fine, not too long and necessary information seems to be included. The map doesn't do much, especially when most people will use GPS to find the location.” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “Certainly true, but think about folks that don't use technology to navigate to places. I feel the map works for those people, but in this copy the map is a bit hard to read.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “Relevant but long. Redundant in places.” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)
- “Brochure length and size are fine. There is a lot of information, organized and compiled well.” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “It seems like it is longer than needed due to design elements. Multiplied by every household in Dakota County, that's a lot of extra paper.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “Great layout and use of pictures. Font size is good.” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)
- “Not crazy about the color choice.” - Jesse B (33, Female, Hampton)
- “I like the layout of the booklet. Good use of different fonts and text size. Don't like the color choices for the front cover and the gold on several pages. A bolder color would grab attention.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

Would you know what to bring to The Recycling Zone based off the information provided in this brochure?

All respondents agreed that the brochure was clear about what to bring to the Recycling Zone. They thought it was comprehensive and the lists of items were helpful.

- “Accepted and unaccepted items are clearly listed.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)
- “Yes, pictures accompanied by lists is helpful.” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “Yes, the descriptions and directions are clear.” - AV Rez (60, Male, Apple Valley)
- “Yes, the information about what they do and do not accept is clear.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “Yes, the booklet is well written, very comprehensive and easy to interpret.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

Pretend you have used needles that you need to get rid of. Based on the information in this brochure, what steps do you need to do to prepare them?

All the respondents understood that needles need to be placed in a puncture-proof container, be properly sealed, and labeled "Do not recycle: household sharps."

- “Pack them in a sealed- puncture-resistant plastic container, tape lid shut, write "do not recycle- household sharps" on it.” - Kim P (62, Male, Eagan)
- “Pack in sealed puncture resistant plastic container and label as "Do Not Recycle: Household Sharps." - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “Use a puncture resistant container such as an empty laundry detergent bottle. Must indicate on the outside non recycle and make sure the bottle is taped shut so nothing can fall out. It's nice to know you have somewhere to bring items like that.” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “Put in a plastic puncture-resistant container, tape the lid shut and write "Do not recycle: household sharps." - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)

Pretend you have used batteries that you need to get rid of. Based on the information in this brochure, what steps do you need to do to prepare them?

Most respondents knew to keep batteries separate from other items. Less than half stated that they would place them in a sealed, leak-proof container. Less than half of the respondents said they would label the container. A few noted this information was hard to find in the brochure.

- “Use sturdy, non-leaking, tightly-closed container to place them in. Label.” - Kim P (62, Male, Eagan)
- “Put them in sturdy non leaking container with lid, label them and do not put fluorescent bulbs or thermometers with batteries.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)
- “Keep separate and label appropriately.” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- Batteries: Package properly. Use sturdy, non-leaking, tightly closed container and place them in a box that can be left at The Recycling Zone. If leaking/corroding, place in a plastic container with tight fitting lid. Do not place waste containers in garbage bags. Do not mix products. Keep batteries apart from fluorescent bulbs and thermometers.” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “Keep the batteries to be recycled together, preferably in an original container, but separate from fluorescent bulbs and thermometers. But I have to admit I had to scan the brochure multiple times to find it. Other products like sharps or TVs were easier to find.” - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)
- “Keep in a container and do not mix with other items. This was hard for me to find.” - BETH (59, Female, Rosemount)
- “Keep batteries separate from other things.” - Jeff (56, Male, Hastings)
- “Nothing other than to keep them separate from fluorescent bulbs and thermometers.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

Pretend you have used old paint that you need to get rid of. Based on the information in this brochure, what steps do you need to do to prepare them?

Almost all respondents said they would put the paint in a sealed, leak-proof container, preferably in its original can. Those who said they would put the paint in a can that was not its original container would label the can. Some respondents said they would keep the paint separate from other items, and some said they would place the paint containers in a box to be dropped off at the Recycle Zone. A few mentioned that they liked the idea of other county residents being able to use the leftover paint.

- “Place items securely in a box or bin. Do not mix with other paints. Make sure paint can is sealed properly. Others may be able to use your left over paint...It is nice and I have seen several people going through the cans.” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “I like that they have a room that others can find used paints. Separate the paints, seal them in their own box.” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)
- “Package the same as batteries- sturdy, non-leaking, tightly- closed container and place in box to be left. Keep original label when possible.” - Kim P (62, Male, Eagan)
- “Keep it in its' original container. Seal it tightly. Put it in a box you can leave at the, "Recycling Zone.” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “Keep in the original container if possible. Close the lid tightly and label if not in original container.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)
- “Keep it in its original container and sealed, and put it in a box.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)

What would you expect to find in a Green Guide?

Respondents said they would expect to find general information on reducing, re-using and recycling. They would like tips on how to help the environment, like reducing their carbon footprint, composting, energy efficiency, water waste and conservation, reducing yard waste, and information about green products.

- “Ways to conserve our natural resources & ways to preserve the environment.” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “How do go green at your house whether it's inside or outside. Things to do to preserve Mother Nature.” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “Along with the items below, is green guide also air contaminants to be avoided, nutrients for the ground or garden? List of green cleaning products?” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)
- “Information on how and where to recycle, how to reduce pollutants in groundwater, how to be more energy efficient, how to reduce your carbon footprint, and how to conserve resources.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “Information on recycling and reducing your carbon footprint.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “Information on recycling and composting.” - Rachel M (34, Female, Eagan)

Dakota County has an online, searchable directory that lists recycling, donation and disposal information for hundreds of items from appliances to glass bottles to vacuums. What should be the name of this directory? Even if you don't come up with a name, what words would you use in the title?

The key words important to most respondents were "Dakota County," "Recycling," "Disposal," "Green," and "Directory." Some would use the words "Green," "Reduce," "Re-use," and "Guide."

- "Dakota county Recycling Directory. Keep it simple." - JohnK (72, Male, Hastings)
- "I didn't know this was available. Maybe we should advertise this more. Dakota County Green: A Community Guide for Recycling, Reusing and Reducing." - Kim P (62, Male, Eagan)
- "Dakota County Recycle Online information center." - Dakota County Recycle Online information center.
- "Dakota County Recycling and Disposal Directory." - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- "Dakota County Disposal Directory." - Rachel M (34, Female, Eagan)
- "Dakota County directory and green guide." - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)
- "Dakota County recycling directory." - Dakota County recycling directory
- "Dakota County Recycling Directory seems straightforward." - Jesse B (33, Female, Hampton)

Go to the Dakota County webpage (www.dakotacounty.us), what page would you visit to figure out how to get rid of a mattress? Copy and paste the web addresses from the page(s) you went to.

The page most respondents landed on was

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/RecyclingDisposalGuide/Pages/default.aspx> which is the Green Guide page to enter an item in search residents would like to recycle.

Second was

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/Residential/Recycling/Pages/get-rid-of-stuff.aspx> which lists how and where to bring large items to be recycled.

Tied for second was

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/RecyclingZone/Pages/default.aspx> which is the Recycling Zone main information page.

**Next, we will be testing the Green Guide online directory at www.dakotacounty.us
Describe how you navigated the website to find the Green Guide? Was it easy or hard to find? What else would you like to share about the experience?**

Most respondents found it easy to locate the Green Guide on the directory. They clicked on “Environment” on the home page banner and then “Green Guide,” which was a selection on the “Environment” page. Some did a word search for “Green Guide” on the Dakota County home page. A few said that finding the Green Guide might have been more difficult if they hadn’t known what it was called. It appeared that some respondents may have been confused by this question, and they described how they did a search using the word “Mattress.”

- “Easy - From the top of the Home page, a sensible option was, "Environment". I clicked on it and the, "Green Guide" came up.” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “Simple, clicked on Environment and then on Green Guide.” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “Went to the site and searched mattress.” - Jesse B (33, Female, Hampton)
- “It was easy to find, though possibly not in the original intended way. I used the search bar to find the Green Guide.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “It would be more difficult if I didn’t know what it was called.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)

Once on the Green Guide page, search for the following items to see if each is recyclable: 1) mattress and 2) cardboard. How was the overall experience trying to learn if these items are recyclable?

All the respondents found it easy and straightforward to do a search for those items. There appears to be confusion whether mattresses are recyclable. A few answered that they can be dropped off or donated, but they answered “no” when asked if they are recyclable.

- “1) No- donate if possible. 2) Yes in home cart.” - Kim P (62, Male, Eagan)
- “It was easy, I was surprised by how many options there are for mattress disposal. I also liked that there was a reminder not to bag my items when I searched for cardboard.” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “Using the Green Guide search bar, it was very easy. This is a very good quick reference for questionable items. Great experience.” - AV Rez (60, Male, Apple Valley)
- “I like this tool. Nice to be able to just put in an item and get some options, instead of trying to click everywhere. Easy to use!” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “Found to be easy. And if there are questions one can call the number listed.” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)
- “After you get on the page it's easy, all kinds of information on mattresses. Cardboard is a lot easier to recycle.” - Jeff (56, Male, Hastings)
- “Once you did the search it is very easy to get the info requested. They give you the how and where and when for each.” - Cliff H (49, Male, Burnsville)
- “There were several options for getting rid of a mattress. Places to donate or places to drop off or get picked up. Some fees applied depending on our choice. For cardboard it was listed under recyclables accepted. Overall I found it pretty easy.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

Here is a list of what every recycling service hauler must accept for recycling starting in 2020. Are all words understandable? Would you change any of them?

Just about all the respondents said that this was clear and understandable. About half of the respondents had suggestions to clarify the list; mostly where to find the recycle numbers on items and what to look for, perhaps adding a graphic display for that. A few respondents wanted more detail about what kinds of

bottles, cans and plastic tubs recycling service haulers have to accept. A few respondents suggested changing the wording in the “Cardboard” category.

- “Yes, the words are understandable. No, I don't think they need changing.” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “I understand the words but wondering if there shouldn't be an explanation next to some of the food items. Rinsed milk and juice cartons, juice boxes, etc. Maybe I am being too particular but I know how people think sometimes and most will just throw the item in even dirty. Just a thought!” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “Butter not just margarine? Otherwise clear.” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)
- “Words are understandable. I might specify for glass bottles that it includes soda/beer/wine/liquor bottles and for metal cans I'd add soda/beer. I think most people know they can recycle them, but would hate to see some of them not recycled because they weren't on the list and they are probably some of the more frequent items. I saw wine cartons but not bottles.” - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)
- “Under plastic containers, is it only those numbers and the following types of containers or just the numbers of the plastic containers such as the listed examples? Paperboard was an unfamiliar term so I appreciate the e.g.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “I would list where to find the numbers on plastic containers, and maybe remove the word Corrugated from cardboard.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “I would specify “other tubs and lids”. Otherwise looks good.” - Rachel M (34, Female, Eagan)
- “No words were clear and understandable. I would not change them but maybe add the symbol graphic for containers 1, 2 or 5 so they could see what to look for.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

Here is a list of what every recycling service hauler must accept for recycling starting in 2020. Is the information useful? Do you find any of the information confusing?

Just about all the respondents said the information was clear and useful. About half of the respondents had suggestions to clarify the list. Some were confused about the recycle numbers and wanted more clarification on that. A few respondents wanted more details about what kinds of bottles, cans and plastic tubs they had to accept. A few respondents suggested changing the wording in

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the “Cardboard” category. They were confused by the word “corrugated.” A few wanted more clarification if lids had to be on bottles. And a few respondents wanted to know if items had to be cleaned and rinsed.

- “The information is useful and it’s pretty clear.” - JohnK (72, Male, Hastings)
- “I like that everything is organized in categories.” - Kim P (62, Male, Eagan)
- “This is useful and pretty comprehensive.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)
- “Information was useful but I don't see anything about the items being clean or rinsed.” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “Very useful and not confusing. I would just add a couple of things that I mentioned before. But overall a very comprehensive list. [I might specify for glass bottles that it includes soda/beer/wine/liquor bottles and for metal cans I'd add soda/beer. I think most people know they can recycle them, but would hate to see some of them not recycled because they weren't on the list and they are probably some of the more frequent items. I saw wine cartons but not bottles.” - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)
- “The only thing I found confusing was the use of corrugated cardboard. Is this different from regular cardboard? Other than that the information is useful” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “The numbered containers are confusing but other than that it seems clear.” - Jeff (56, Male, Hastings)
- “Will everyone know what corrugated cardboard is? Glass bottles and jars - do you need to say whether or not lids are included?” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

Here is a list of what every recycling service hauler must accept for recycling starting in 2020. Do you think it is relevant to you? Do you know what to recycle in your recycling cart based on this list?

All the respondents found this list relevant, and most thought it was thorough. A few respondents wanted more clarification on the recycle numbers. One person was unclear what “corrugated” meant, and one respondent thought the other guides were better because they had pictures.

- “I think it’s relevant since I recycle and it gives me a lot of information on what to put in my cart.” - JohnK (72, Male, Hastings)
- “This added to what I knew about recyclables.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)

- “It works, I like the other guides better with images for quick reference.” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “It is relevant in that I already recycle everything on the list. The one helpful bullet is listed the plastic container numbers since I don't always remember which numbers are recyclable.” - AV Rez (60, Male, Apple Valley)
- “Generally. I'm still uncertain about whether it is only plastics 1, 2, 5.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “Yes, for the most part. I'm still unsure on the corrugated cardboard. Other than that the information is clear.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “I think it's relevant. The list seems clear.” - Jeff (56, Male, Hastings)

What motivates you to recycle?

Many respondents talked about wanting to protect the environment and doing their part to keep the Earth clean. Most said they wanted to reduce waste and reduce the items that end up in landfills or in the ocean. A few were worried about our impact on future generations. A few respondents said they wanted to set a good example to others, especially their children. And a few were motivated to save energy.

- “An obligation to do my part in reducing waste and doing what is best for the environment.” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “Want to do what is best for the economy and the environment. Landfills should not be used for materials that can be used over and over again. It just doesn't make sense. And as much as those lands are renewed, future generations should not have to live on tops of garbage dumps no matter how safe.” - AV Rez (60, Male, Apple Valley)
- “I feel like it's a way for me to give back. To make a positive impact on the environment and while I am only one person, it's a start! Hopefully it starts to have an effect on people around me and they follow the example.” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “Wanting to reduce waste, save energy and preserve natural resources. We also want our kids to be in the habit of recycling, composting, etc.” - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)
- “I am motivated to recycle to minimize my family's impact so that the world we leave to our future generations is not one where the yogurt container I used today can still be found. I want them to not have to deal with the effects of our trash and conspicuous consumption.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)

- “We have way too much trash, as a species. I want to do everything I can to help out.” - Rachel M (34, Female, Eagan)
- “Keeping recyclables out of the landfills.” - Jeff (56, Male, Hastings)
- “I am very interested in keeping our planet green and worried about all the waste we produce, especially the waste that ends up in the ocean and/or harms nature.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

Do you think about the environment when you think about recycling?

All the respondents said they think about the environment when they think about recycling. Some said they want to leave a clean environment for their children and future generations.

- “Yes this is for future generations to come.” - Ahabdul (27, Male, Apple Valley)
- “Agreed! Even though I don't have kids, I have younger cousins who are growing up in our polluted world. We need to set an example for future generations and how they should treat the planet.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “Absolutely. Have to leave a clean world for the generations coming behind us.” - Jesse B (33, Female, Hampton)
- “All the time I grew up by the Pine Bend landfill and I saw firsthand how it changed the environment.” - Jeff (56, Male, Hastings)
- “Less waste will produce less chemicals and gasses released from landfills. Recycling helps us save energy and preserve natural resources. Leaving a better place for our children/grandchildren.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

What types of images pop into your mind if you do not recycle? Are they positive or negative images?

All the respondents spoke of negative images if they don't recycle. Most of the images were of “garbage islands” and plastic in the ocean. Many thought about the heaping landfills and piles of garbage everywhere. Some brought up images of animals caught in plastic.

- “They are negative images. Trash filling up the landfills, the sea filling up with garbage...” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “Negative- full landfills and garbage littering the sides of the roads, plastic in our oceans. These poor animals getting their heads stuck in the plastic rings. The list goes on. It's not good!” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “Negative. I think of plastic in the oceans, landfills with trashing caught in trees from the wind and my kids living on a much worse planet than when I grew up.” - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)
- “I think about the huge islands of trash in our oceans. I don't want to contribute to that. It's definitely a negative image, but it helps me to do good.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “I think of the negative image of those islands of trash growing larger and larger if I don't recycle.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “Look at the pictures of the oceans and the animals with all the plastics on or in them. Very negative images.” - Jeff (56, Male, Hastings)
- “Animals getting stuck in plastics or eating stuff. The huge pile of plastic in the ocean. Negative.” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)

Which of these statements would motivate you to recycle.

15 respondents said this statement would motivate them to recycle: *Recycling protects our forests, lakes and air.*

- “Makes it personal...” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “While I like the focus statement, for me personally, it helps to link recycling to the bigger impact on the environment.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “Because the wording relates to our state of Minnesota.” - BETH (59, Female, Rosemount)
- “I love nature and being in the outdoors so knowing recycling protects our forests, lakes and air is relevant and motivating to me.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

13 respondents said *Recycling is easy. Here is a list of what to recycle* would motivate them to recycle.

- “People I feel recycle the wrong items often.” - Jesse B (33, Female, Hampton)

- “The word easy. There’s a lot of unmotivated people on this earth.” - Jeff (56, Male, Hastings)

7 respondents liked the statement: *Let’s focus on recycling paper. Minnesotans are throwing away more than 285,000 tons of paper and 12,000 tons of aluminum cans each year.*

- “Visualizing waste is powerful.”- Maria K (74, Female, Lakeville)

5 respondents said that this statement would motivate them: *Help us meet our 75% recycling rate goal.*

- “I didn’t know that was a goal, but it motivates me to be a part of the solution.” - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)

4 respondents liked the statement: *Clean recycling gets recycled.*

- “I like that we also need to be conscious about the state of the materials we recycle. It is not a second trash can.” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)
- “Motivates me to think about what I am putting in the bin and not just assume that putting it in automatically means it is being recycled -- I have a part to play in making sure it meets expectations of being clean.” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)

4 respondents said *9 out of 10 Dakota County residents say recycling is important* would motivate them to recycle.

Which of the following phrases best describes your recycling philosophy?

11 respondents said *“When in doubt, throw it out (put in the trash)”* describes their recycling philosophy.

- “Easier for me to do.” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “I’ve heard putting in the wrong materials for recycling messes with the machines and is a giant hassle for the recycling plants.” - JohnK (72, Male, Hastings)
- “Garbage in recycling is hazardous to sorters.” - Jesse B (33, Female, Hampton)
- “I don’t want to ruin a batch of recycling by putting in non-recyclable items.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “I know it causes trouble and makes more work. If I can’t find a triangle I toss it.” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)
- “I don’t want the people that have to sort stuff to clean up my trash.” - Cliff H (49, Male, Burnsville)
- “I am pretty confident with what can be recycled. I have read that items placed in containers that are, not recyclable, adds additional cost to our recycling bills. So I will put it in the trash.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

10 respondents said “Recycle when in doubt” better represents their view on recycling.

- “I assume that if it isn’t recyclable it will get sorted out at some point.” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “What gets rejected in the recycle phase ends up in the land fill anyway.” - AV Rez (60, Male, Apple Valley)
- “I would rather they have something to remove from the recycle that was put in by accident than everything constantly going in the trash.” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “Easier to pick through recycled materials than trash.” - Mike S (72, Male, West St. Paul)
- “I know that not everything gets recycled anyway (in fact much less than we think from single sort) so if some of it isn’t going to be recycled anyway, I’d rather put something in that has a chance of making it.” - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)

Recycling experts are now urging people to adopt “when in doubt, throw it out”. Are you OK with this? Does this sound reasonable? Why or why not?

Most respondents said “When in doubt, throw it out” is reasonable, especially since experts are urging people to adopt this action. They understand that it may do more harm than good to throw uncertain items into the recycling bin. The workers who sort through recycling may come across something hazardous.

Respondents also don't want workers to have to separate their waste for them. In addition, this additional work may drive up costs. Those who said the statement isn't reasonable think that it would just encourage people to throw everything in the trash without thinking about separating the items. Rather, they think people should be motivated to recycle. A few respondents said people should research if an uncertain item is recyclable or not. A few respondents were surprised that experts urged people to do this and would like more information on their reasoning.

- “I suppose, but why are they encouraging this philosophy? I could see some people just not recycle altogether.” - Kim P (62, Male, Eagan)
- “It's fine. If that's the preferred method, I trust the experts to inform us” - Maria K (74, Female, Lakeville)
- “I am surprised by that. I think people need to be encouraged to recycle.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)
- “If that is what the experts advise then I'm OK with that. I thought that a doubtful material would be better served if recycled than if throw out but I've learned something new.” - AV Rez (60, Male, Apple Valley)
- “No, it takes maybe one extra second to be mindful of whether an item can be recycled or not.” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “Yes previous response answered this [Garbage in recycling is hazardous to sorters.] - Jesse B (33, Female, Hampton)
- “Yes, this is a reasonable statement. Some things are obvious that they go in the trash or recycling, but if you have your doubts, we have the internet and our guides on what goes where.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “Yes, because the sorters don't need to do my trash work for me.” - Cliff H (49, Male, Burnsville)
- “Yes. Because of what I've read about the issues with not doing so causing additional costs to the recycling program.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

If you are in the bathroom at home and you are unsure if an item is recyclable what would you do?

Most respondents said they would look in the recycling guide, on the Dakota County website or would search for the answer online. Some respondents would just throw the item into the trash. A few would look for a recycling symbol on the item, and if it didn't have one, they would toss it in the trash.

- “Check it out in my, "Recycling Brochure" when I am out of the bathroom!” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “Go to the guide on my indoor recycle container.” - Maria K (74, Female, Lakeville)
- “Probably throw it in the trash.” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “If I am at home, I may put something for the "time being" and then figure it out. Truth be told I may just throw it in the garbage.” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “Look it up on the Dakota county site.” - Jesse B (33, Female, Hampton)
- “I would look on the Dakota County website and check if the item is recyclable.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “Google it on my phone which is always somewhere near.” - BETH (59, Female, Rosemount)
- “Look for the recycle symbol otherwise I toss it.” - Natalie W (48, Female, Lakeville)

If you are in your bedroom and you have a box that you know is recyclable, what do you do? Explain what you do, step-by-step.

Most respondents said they would break down the box, flatten it and place it in the recycling bin. Some would just put the box in the bin. Some said they would first leave it in a recycling pile or in a bathroom/bedroom recycling bin to be brought later to the hauler recycling cart.

- “I bring it to recycling bin and take it apart to flatten it.” - Fosterrn1999 (41, Male, Hastings)
- “Go to my recycling bin, break down the box and toss it in.” - Kim P (62, Male, Eagan)
- “Set it aside and then bring it to the recycling bin located in the kitchen.” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “If it is small enough, I put it in the recycling as is. If it is larger, I break it down/fold it so that it fits.” - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)
- “1. Flatten it up
2. Place in recycle box” - Ahabdul (27, Male, Apple Valley)
- “I put it in the recycling bin in my bedroom. It then gets collected by my husband every 2 weeks or sooner if it is full and put into our recycling bin the garage, and then put out for recycling pickup.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “Leave it in my "recycle" pile until my husband gets sick of it and recycles it all!” - Rachel M (34, Female, Eagan)

- “I would bring it to the garage and either break it down immediately or later when I had more time. Then add it to the recycle bin.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

How does the recycling in your home get to your hauler cart? Please explain step-by-step.

Most respondents have recycling bins throughout their house, particularly in the kitchen. When those get full, they bring the bins to the hauler cart, which is typically in or right outside the garage, and empty them into the cart. A few respondents said they place their recyclable items directly into the carts. A few respondents said they sort their recyclable items before placing them in the bin.

- “I have a, "Recycling Bin" in my kitchen. There is a, "Recycling Cart" in our Condo's garage. When my "Bin" is full, it is taken down to the, "Cart". Recycling is picked up weekly.” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “We have a bin. Then we take the bin to the bin and toss it in. My rhyme scheme is on point. But in all seriousness. We have a bin in the kitchen when that gets full we take it the hauler.” - JohnK (72, Male, Hastings)
- “We take the bins located on each level out to the garage and dump in the cart. Items that are too large for the cart, we take to the Recycling Zone.” - Kim P (62, Male, Eagan)
- “Items are placed in paper bag in kitchen and then brought to bin.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)
- “My kids take it out after sorting inside.” - Jesse B (33, Female, Hampton)
- “We have green buckets from Ikea that we use as recycling bins in various rooms of the house. We also have a large recycling bin in the kitchen. When I recycle an item, I follow the recycling instructions and then place the clean item in the nearest recycling bin (unless it's an item for the Recycling Zone, which goes in a box in the garage). The recycling bins are collected by my husband every two weeks and dumped into the trash hauler's recycling bin and pushed to the curb.” - Adrienne B (36, Female, Eagan)
- “I place the items to be recycled directly in the recycling bin, and when it gets full, I place it out at the end of the driveway.” - Ben H (52, Male, Burnsville)
- “I sort recycling in my house and place it in the bin it belongs in.” - BETH (59, Female, Rosemount)
- “I have a smaller recycle bin near the kitchen and it goes there and then out to my garage to the recycle bin.” - Cliff H (49, Male, Burnsville)

When are you searching for information on recycling?

13 respondents said they search for recycling information “only when I have an item in my hand.” Most of these respondents will look something up if they are not sure if or how to recycle an item. Some of these respondents said they don’t search for information about recycling.

- “I only really need to look it up when I’m in the situation it calls for it otherwise never.” - JohnK (72, Male, Hastings)
- “If I have an item that I am unsure of I would consider looking it up to find out.” - Bob L (39, Female, Hastings)
- “I do know most of what can be recycled but when I have an item in question or one that I can almost certain is for drop off, I will search the Dakota Co. website for direction.” - AV Rez (60, Male, Apple Valley)
- “I don’t ever really search for information.” - Jeff (56, Male, Hastings)
- “I typically do not search for information on recycling until I am wondering if a specific item can be recycled or if I have an item that I need to get rid of and not sure how to.” - Colleen F (66, Female, Burnsville)

0 respondents said they search for recycling information “when I have free time.”

8 respondents cited “other” reasons when they search for recycling information. Most of these respondents said they will look something up if they are not sure if or how to recycle an item or if they have something out of the ordinary to recycle.

- “If I don't know what to do with an item, I look it up.” - Janet O (69, Female, St. Paul)
- “When I don't know where (trash/recycling) it should go, or if I have a new item, I look to check numbers if available.” - Kim P (62, Male, Eagan)
- “When I have something out of the ordinary to recycle.” - jaydee (67, Male, Burnsville)
- “I generally don't look it up - I rely on my spouse who researches it more than I do. But I also didn't know there was a guide/website like have been presented in this group. So I will be much more likely to look things up when I have it in my hand and am trying to figure out what to do with it.” - AVSAHD (39, Male, Apple Valley)

- “I like to think I have a good knowledge of what can be recycled and how it should go into the bin. There are instances where I need to make sure or a larger item and not sure how to proceed. If that is the case I will do a search of Dakota County Recycling.” - Jfo (49, Female, Farmington)
- “I only need to do that when I have something unusual to get rid of. It only happens once or twice a year.” - BETH (59, Female, Rosemount)

Appendix A: Discussion Guide

Welcome to the discussion.

Questions have been posted. Please log in now to complete the current questions. After you submit a response to each question, your place will be saved and remembered in case you need to take a break.

The study will remain open for three (3) days. We need you to check in daily and answer new questions and respond to what other participants and the moderator are discussing. Only those who fully participate will receive the Amazon gift card.

Your input is valued, and we look forward to a lively discussion.

Printed materials

Here are some printed materials you might look to for information on recycling.



Label

This new label is designed to go on the lid of the recycling cart provided by your recycling hauler or on a dumpster if you live in a multifamily property.

1. Is the information provided understandable and readable?
2. Would you know what to put in your recycling cart?
3. Would you know what items to keep out of the recycling cart?
4. Would you know how to prepare your recyclable materials?
5. What else would you expect to see on a label to help you know how to recycle right?
6. Would you prefer to see a label on the top or side of the recycling cart, and why?

Home Recycling Guide Booklet

Now lets talk about this recycling booklet.

1. What type of information would you expect to find by looking at the cover of this booklet?
2. Quickly look through the booklet pages. What is your first reaction?
3. What should be the name of this booklet? Even if you don't come up with a name, what words would you use in the title?
4. Is the information provided understandable and readable?
5. What do you like about the booklet?
6. What do you dislike about the booklet?
7. What do you think about the design including the font (type/size/color), colors and images?
8. What do you think about the layout including brochure length and size?
9. Should there be one booklet with all information or separate booklets 1) hazardous waste, 2) recycling, and 3) waste reduction?
10. Does the booklet contain too little information, too much information, or the right amount of information?
11. Would you know what to recycle and what not to recycle based on the information provided in this booklet?
12. If you had a couch to get rid of. Looking through the booklet, would you know what to do?
13. Where do you want to find this information – online or have it available in print? If in print, where would you expect to pick it up? Would you expect to have it mailed to your home?



Recycling Cling

1. Is the information provided understandable and readable?
2. What do you like about
 - a. The design including the font (type/size/color), colors and images
 - b. The layout including size?
3. What don't you like about it?
4. Would you know what to recycle in your home recycling and what to keep out of the recycling based off the information provided?
5. Would you know how to prepare material for recycling based on the information?
6. Is it clear that this piece is meant to be stuck to a surface, like on a wall or container? Would you use this? If so, where would you put it?



Recycling Zone Brochure

1. Is the information provided understandable and readable?
2. What type of information would you expect to find by looking at the cover of this booklet?
3. What do you like/dislike about
 - a. The design including the font (type/size/color), colors and images
 - b. The layout including brochure length and size?
4. Would you know what to bring to The Recycling Zone based off the information provided?
5. Pretend you have used needles, batteries, and old paint that you need to get rid of. Based on the information in this brochure, what steps do you need to do to prepare your items?



Green Guide Testing

1. What would you expect to find in a Green Guide?
 2. Dakota County has an online, searchable directory that lists recycling, donation and disposal information for hundreds of items from appliances to glass bottles to vacuums. What should be the name of this directory? Even if you don't come up with a name, what words would you use in the title?
 3. Go to the Dakota County webpage (www.dakotacounty.us), what page would you visit to figure out how to get rid of a mattress? Copy and paste the URLs from the page(s) you went to.

4. Next, we will be testing the Green Guide online directory at www.dakotacounty.us. Describe how you navigated the website to find the Green Guide? Was it easy/hard?
5. Once on the Green Guide page, search for the following items to see if each is recyclable: mattress, cardboard. How was the overall experience trying to learn if these items are recyclable?

Communication

Here is a list of what every recycling service hauler must accept for recycling starting in 2020.

PAPER

- Newspaper and inserts
- Magazines and catalogs
- Mail and office papers

CARDBOARD

- Corrugated cardboard
- Paperboard (e.g., cracker boxes)

CARTONS

- Milk and juice cartons
- Soup, broth, and wine cartons
- Juice boxes

METAL CANS

- Aluminum, tin, and steel cans

GLASS BOTTLES AND JARS

PLASTIC BOTTLES, CONTAINERS AND JUGS

- Containers numbered 1, 2, or 5
- Soda, juice and water bottles
- Milk and juice jugs
- Margarine, cottage cheese, cream cheese and other tubs and lids
- Laundry detergent bottles and jugs

- Clear berry and produce containers

1. Are the words understandable?
2. Is the information useful? Do you find any of the information confusing?
3. Do you think it is relevant to you? Do you know what to recycle in your recycling cart based on this list?

Motivators

1. What motivates you to recycle?
2. Do you think about the environmental when you think about recycling?
3. What types of images pop into your mind if you do not recycle? Are they positive or negative images?
4. Which of these statements would motivate you to recycle.
 - a. Recyclign is easy. Here is a list of what to recycle.
 - b. Clean recycling gets recycled.
 - c. Let's focus on recycling paper. Minnesotans are throwing away more than 285,000 tons of paper and 12,000 tons of aluminum cans each year.
 - d. Recycling protexts our forests, lakes and air.
 - e. Help us meet our 75% recycling rate goal.
 - f. 9 out of 10 Dakota County residents say recycling is important.

Behaviors

1. Which of the following phrases best describes your recycling philosophy?
 - a. When in doubt, throw it out (put in the trash)
 - b. Recycle when in doubt
2. Recycling experts are now urging people to adopt "when in doubt, throw it out". Are you OK with this? Does this sound reasonable? Why or why not?
3. If you are in the bathroom at home and you were unsure if an item was recyclable what do you do?
4. If you are in your bedroom and you have a box that you know is recyclable, what do you do? Explain the step-by-step process.
5. How does the recycling in your home get to your hauler cart? Please explain step-by-step.
6. When are you searching for information on recycling?

- a. Only when I have an item in my hand.
- b. When I have free time.
- c. Other

Appendix B: Transcript

Dakota County Discussion Group - February 2020

Transcript of the focus group discussion as of 2020-03-04

Welcome to the discussion group

Questions have been posted. Please log in to complete the current questions. After you submit a response to each question, your place will be saved and remembered in case you need to take a break.

The group will remain open for five (5) days. We need you to check in daily and answer new questions and respond to what other participants and the moderator are discussing. Only those who fully participate will receive the Amazon gift card.

Your input is valued, and we look forward to a lively discussion.

Maria K

Sounds good

Bob L

Mike S

Amy A

Ben H

Marna B

Thank You

Jfo

Hello!

JohnK

TanyaCH

Hello everyone

Rachel M

jaydee

Dick H

AV Rez

Ahabdul

Matthew G

Jesse B

Jeff

Hello

BETH

Cliff H

Hello

Kim P

Janet O

Fosterrn1999

acollet1

Adrienne B

Colleen F

Natalie W

AVSAHD

Label

This new label is designed to go on the lid of the recycling cart provided by your recycling hauler or on a dumpster if you live in a multi-family property.

Is the information provided understandable and readable?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full image before answering.

JohnK

The image shows all the information in a pretty decent way It's moron proof you'd have to deliberately not look at the image to misunderstand it.

Maria K

Yes

Bob L

Pictures are helpful to show exactly what can be recycled. I have always bagged my recycling and so maybe include more information on why not to bag recyclables.

Mike S

Also, we crush containers (milk, cartons, etc.) I'm wondering if that too should be shown somehow- instead of a standing carton to show a crushed one?

Adrienne B

I agree. I think it's especially confusing since some plastic bags are labeled as recyclable, so I used to buy them and put my recycling in them until I read something about how the county's recycling doesn't allow them.

Ahabdul

You make a valid point, didnt think of that

Jesse B

I used to put them all in a garbage bag! Didn't realize how big of a head ache that is for facility workers

Bob L

I have never really thought about it, I put everything in garbage bags so it doesn't blow around when it gets dumped in the truck. I guess I will need to change my habits!

Mike S

Is it redundant to put No on the side then do not place ...? Otherwise looks clear.

Amy A

Yes, it makes a lot of sense.

Ben H

The information is clear for the most part. The text below the primary portion of the label is a bit hard to read

Scarlett I. Moderator

Would an increase in font size help the text be more readable?

Adrienne B

I think it would be better if it were a little larger.

Ben H

It entirely depends on the size of the pamphlet itself. If it's the size of

a normal sheet of paper it might be tough to read, but if it's a bit larger then the text size might be fine enough

Marna B

yes the pictures help as do the pictures that show what is NOT allowed.

Ahabdul

Pictures are always the best! I agree

Jfo

Yes very clear! Love it

Marna B

I agree

jaydee

It is clear and informative

TanyaCH

It looks clear for me. However I would prefer seeing green color than blue.

Rachel M

Yes, it's clear. I like that it has the plastic numbers on it.

Dick H

Yes it is

Ben H

I agree

AV Rez

Having the recyclable numbers is helpful as I sometime will look to see if those number match so yes, this is a good label.

Marna B

Yes Seeing the numbers helps

Ahabdul

Yes this is clear as crystal no question

Jesse B

Yes it is very clear

Jeff

Yes it is , it looks to the point. I never knew you couldn't recycle those little plastic bags

Jfo

I don't think you are the only one that thought that.

BETH

I find that to be pretty comprehensive. It tells you what you can put in the bin and what does not belong in the bin.

Cliff H

Very true

Cliff H

This display is clear and makes it easy for everyone to understand

Kim P

Information is both understandable and readable.

Janet O

Yes - easy to understand...

Fosterrn1999

Yes

acollet1

yes

Adrienne B

Yes, this is very clear and easy to understand.

Colleen F

The label is very readable. The pictures and words of those items that should not be recycled is a great idea to make the concept much clearer.

Natalie W

Yes appears very clear to me.

AVSAHD

Yes - very helpful, especially with the numbers that are recyclable.

Label Part 2

Would you know what to put in your recycling cart based on the information on this label?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full image before answering.

JohnK

Yes. The pictures help a lot on this issue

Maria K

Yes. Specific and numbers makes it easy

Bob L

Yes, images are helpful to provide clarity.

Mike S

Yes. Empty and dry is helpful too- makes you scrape can as you empty it.

Colleen F

I missed empty and dry the first time through. Maybe change the color and font of that phrase so it will be more noticeable?

Jeff

That would be helpful

Ahabdul

Yes this would be very helpful in telling them apart

Ben H

I agree

Amy A

Yes, it is clear and I wouldn't be confused.

Ben H

Yes, it is clear what to put in the recycling cart

Marna B

Yes I would.

Jfo

Yes I believe I would.

jaydee

Yes, the categories are evident.

TanyaCH

Yes, I would know that to put in my recycling cart.

Rachel M

Yes, it seems clear.

Dick H

Absolutely

AV Rez

Yes, the pictures along with the text and just as important, what not to recycle is useful information in getting more participation.

Adrienne B

I agree.

Jesse B

Yes very clear

Jeff

Yes I like the way they made the pictures in color for the items you can recycle and the ones you can't in black and white

Adrienne B

Yes, the contrast helps illustrate the point nicely.

BETH

Yes it's very clear.

Cliff H

Yes, this sign is very clear as to what you can and can not add to this can

Kim P

Yes. Looks very easy to follow.

Janet O

Yes, besides the pictures there are the words...

Fosterrn1999

Yes clear

acollet1

yes clear

Adrienne B

Yes. I appreciate the images, exclusions, and numbers.

Natalie W

Objects should be clear of food and dry. Specific plastics is helpful. Items are typical paper/cardboard/glass/aluminum

Cliff H

Very easy to understand

Colleen F

Yes. The label makes it much clearer than it did before a label.

AVSAHD

Yes

Label Part 3

Would you know what items to keep out of the recycling cart based on the information on this label?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full image before answering.

JohnK

Yes though I'd make the do not images a bit bigger in my opinion they're to tiny

Maria K

Yes

Bob L

The images for non-recyclable items are not as clear. If there are certain items that are inappropriately included often (like plastic bags or pizza boxes) maybe those should have an actual image like the top section with an X over it.

Mike S

Yes. Clear and three times redundant: no, crosses off and written under picture.

Ahabdul

Yes it is clear and precise no questions

Amy A

Yes, it is very clear.

Marna B

yes.

Ben H

Yes, but the text is a bit small

Jfo

Yes you have to look fairly close though.

Ben H

I agree

jaydee

The non recyclables are clearly understood

TanyaCH

Yes, it is pretty clear for me.

Rachel M

Yes, it is clear.

Dick H

Yes, very clear what is allowed or not

AV Rez

Yes and if the list needs to be added to, I would suggest doing that.

Jesse B

Yes it is pretty obvious

Jeff

Yes because the no is highlighted in red

BETH

Yes, items that do not belong are illustrated clearly.

Cliff H

Again, yes the sign is very clear as what you should never put in this can or any other can like it

Ahabdul

I agree.

Cliff H

They couldn't add much more to make this any easier to understand.

Kim P

Yes. It is clear.

Fosterrn1999

Yes it would be clear to me

Janet O

Yes

Adrienne B

Yes, this is easy to understand. May want to add about not recycling plastic caps not attached to container smaller than a certain size.

Cliff H

That is a very good point

acollet1

yes

Natalie W

Yes Pictures are helpful. Red NO is good but it could be bigger

Colleen F

Yes, however there might need to be a graphic with the recycle symbol, so people know what to look for, especially with plastics.

AVSAHD

Yes - there are always some questions with intermediate plastics, but the numbers and pictures are very helpful.

Label Part 4

Would you know how to prepare your recyclable materials based on the information on this label?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full image before answering.

Fosterrn1999

Yes, maybe larger but yes

JohnK

Yes again I'd make the text a bit bigger but the information is clearly displayed

Maria K

Yes- no bagging!

Bob L

Yes, it is clear that I can include all appropriate items and don't need to bag them separately.

Mike S

Yes dry and empty. Helpful to know and so out on the label!

Mike S

Also, how to prepare the items beyond clean and dry isn't clear: crush the cans? Crush the cartons? Break down boxes? That should/could be added if that is intended, or even permitted.

jaydee

Yes. Empty and dry are indicated; no foods or liquids etc.

Ahabdul

yes This image is very clear

Ben H

I agree

Amy A

Yes I would.

Marna B

no there is nothing specific enough

Scarlett I. Moderator

What would you like to see to be able to prep your materials correctly that is not shown here?

Ben H

Yes, it is clear how to prepare these materials

Jfo

Yes. Maybe adding the empty and dry containers somewhere inside the box because it could be indicating to the no section! Just saying it could be construed that way!

Jesse B

I agree with you on this!

TanyaCH

No, it is not clear how to prepare my recyclable materials. For example, should I wash the bottles and cans, etc?

Rachel M

It doesn't specify whether or not to rinse everything out or not.

Dick H

Yes

AV Rez

I don't know what the term "prepare" means but if there is anything else needed for users to know then that should be added.

Jesse B

Kind of it's not very detailed

Jeff

No not really

Scarlett I. Moderator

What would you like to see to be able to prep your materials correctly that is not shown here?

Jeff

Not sure if its something to be shown or written out

Scarlett I. Moderator

Would a mix of the two be more useful? let's say a diagram that explains how to prep each type of recyclable step by step?

Jeff

That would be a great idea. I think what you are doing is going to make a huge difference on how people recycle

BETH

Yes, I can see that they want cardboard boxes broke down and folded.

Cliff H

Yes, it makes it very clear as to what needs to be done

Janet O

Yes - clean containers with the tops on...

Kim P

Yes

Adrienne B

I can keep the lid on glass jars to recycle? Otherwise it is clear to me.

Colleen F

I had the same question and still not positive about the answer.

Natalie W

Yes clean and dry. Lids appear to be ok

acollet1

Not really. If I clean them how dry do they have to be

AVSAHD

Not at first - had to take a second look to see the "empty and dry" instructions.

Colleen F

Yes, the words and graphics explain what is expected on how to prepare and avoid food and liquids.

Cliff H

Very clear and to the point

Label Part 5

What else would you expect to see on a label to help you know how to recycle properly?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full image before answering.

Fosterrn1999

More examples of different things you can and cannot recycle

JohnK

Any way to access further information like a web address or something

Maria K

A website to reference with any questionable items

Bob L

What are the consequences of not following the directions? For example, are certain materials discarded (and not recycled) if they are included without being cleaned out? Is there an additional cost for sorting when non-recyclable materials are included? Is there a website I can go to for more information?

Ahabdul

Great questions!

Ben H

Great questions! I didn't think of these when I posted my original comment

Mike S

Very helpful the symbol and 1,2,3 numbers!

jaydee

It seems that all recyclables are to be mixed together. If that is so it should probably be clearly stated

Ahabdul

I think this would be sufficient to tell

Amy A

I can think of anything else I would need to see.

Marna B

who to contact if you are not sure

Ben H

I would expect to see what to do with items that are stained with grease or anything like that. That is not explained on this label.

Jeff

I agree

Jfo

Need to be as specific as possible. Can a pizza box go I. It's cardboard but then it says no food? I get asked this all of the time. Maybe indicate to people to look at the bottom to know if it qualifies as a recycled item.

TanyaCH

I would say it should include a short sign or a word "clean and dry" items.

Rachel M

The word "clean" should be included if you expect items rinsed out.

Dick H

Phone number of hauler or dakota county recycle center if any questions

AV Rez

If there is preparation for the materials then that should be included in some manner.

Jesse B

Adding much more would make it too busy

Jeff

The word clean dry container

BETH

I cannot think of anything more that should be added.

Cliff H

It does seem good to me also

Cliff H

This is already very clear and I am not sure what else could be added

Janet O

Seems clear to me.

Kim P

Seems like the big items are covered.

Adrienne B

It seems to contain all necessary information.

Natalie W

Seems very detailed. Nothing

AVSAHD

Can't think of anything else I would need

acollet1

plastics # breakdown

Colleen F

A better image of the recycle image that you will find on plastics, etc.

Label Part 6

Would you prefer to see a label on the top or side of the recycling cart? Why?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full image before answering.

Fosterrn1999

Top, just my preference

JohnK

Top that way I'm looking down and can read it more easily. Bending down seems like an inconvenience. Small inconvenience but still

Maria K

Top. Easy to see and I'm not reading on the side of a can

Bob L

Top, I would notice it every time I open the lid.

Jesse B

I don't want to have to search sides to find the thing! Top is best

Mike S

Both.

jaydee

It should be on the side. Side is always visible while top is usually viewed only while opening and shutting cart

Ahabdul

On top is very helpful and kind of sets as a reminder as ur throwing it in

Amy A

On top would be best as it would serve as a reminder each time the recycles are put in the bin.

Marna B

On the side its easier to see than on the top

Ben H

On the side. That way the accessibility of this label is maximized.

Jfo

On the top if there is a lid because people don't pay attention to the sides. At least in my experience.

TanyaCH

I would prefer on the side of the recycling cart.

Ben H

I agree

Rachel M

Top

Dick H

Top, easier to see when you put things in

AV Rez

Yes, on the top or side would be the place where it will be noticed by those using the cart.

Jesse B

Top. Easy viewing

Jeff

Top, I dont look at the side of the container

BETH

I would prefer it on the top. There, it would be a reminder of what goes in and what stays out.

Cliff H

I always like them on the top and on the side just incase one becomes unreadable.

Janet O

Top - easier to see - read, lift lid and put acceptable recyclables in the container.

Kim P

Top I would see it every time I open the lid.

Adrienne B

Is it possible for both? We often have items in our garage around our bins, so having in both places would be easier for us to verify that we are correctly recycling items.

Cliff H

I would like to see it two or more places also

Natalie W

Top of the lid. Looks nicer . Instant reminder when lifting the lid

AVSAHD

Both if possible - top would normally be easiest, but many times we just keep our recycling bin open in the garage to be able to drop things in from our door. But if it had to be one probably the side.

acollet1

Top/ easier to see and the integrity of the label will be better maintained.

Colleen F

The top so the reminder is there every time you open the lid to recycle.

Home Recycling Guide Booklet

Now lets talk about this recycling booklet. You will need this booklet open to answer the the next section of questions.

What type of information would you expect to find by looking at the cover of this booklet?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Home Recycling Guide Booklet before answering.

Fosterrn1999

What you can and cant recycle. Instructions, contact numbers

JohnK

Instructions on how to properly recycle specifically for house hold items

TanyaCH

I would expect to find a detailed guide of how to recycle items at home.

Maria K

Types of recyclable items curbside vs items to bring somewhere in particular. Phone numbers or websites to reference. Items not recyclable and where to dispose

Bob L

Information on what can/cannot be recycled and how to go about doing that.

Mike S

Just on the cover? I think the cover is clear and has the basic info as to what you will find in the booklet. Not too busy.

Ben H

I agree

jaydee

It should tell me everything I need to know to reduce , reuse and recycle in Dakota County

Ahabdul

A breakdown of what is recyclable and a guide on how to's

Amy A

I would suggest as many pictures as possible just like the label and people will pay more attention.

Adrienne B

This is a good suggestion. While the information is great, people don't tend to read things thoroughly. Pictures would help draw their attention and still get the information across.

Marna B

what types of items can be recycled

Ben H

I would expect to find information on the processing and handling of recycled materials.

Jesse B

I agree, should be straight forward

Jfo

What items inside my home can be recycled.

Rachel M

What can and cannot be recycled, how to prepare items, where to dispose of larger items.

Dick H

How to guide. What's acceptable or not and what happens to the recycling.

AV Rez

I would expect to know all of the information pertaining to what is and is not recyclable.

Jeff

A how to guide on recycling

Jesse B

Information on recycling in depth

BETH

I guess exactly how to reduce, reuse and recycle.

Cliff H

I would expect this to guide everyone in Dakota county with recycling needs and can and can not do's

Janet O

I would expect to find information on what/how I should recycle items from my home.

Kim P

What types of items to recycle and where to take items that cannot go in my personal curbside cart.

Natalie W

Reminders of what goes in your bin. List of local recyclers around that takes things that don't go in the home bin. Helpful to list what the recycling

centers take. I like info on recycling statistics. Encouragement to recycle

Adrienne B

I would anticipate that it would have information about how to recycle information found in my home, not a place of business. It would contain information about what can and can't be recycled as well as how to prepare items for recycling.

Cliff H

That is what I would assume as well

Colleen F

I would expect to see answers to any questions I might have about how to recycle items that I can not put into my recycle bin. I would also expect a list of places where specific items can be dropped off.

AVSAHD

How to recycle in Dakota County.

Home Recycling Guide Booklet Part 2

Quickly look through the booklet pages. What is your first reaction?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Home Recycling Guide Booklet before answering.

Fosterrn1999

Colorful booklet. A lot of information

JohnK

Seems to catch the eye but I'm not a huge fan of very colorful books but looks fine though

TanyaCH

It has many pictures, tables and a lot of information which should be pretty helpful for users.

Maria K

Helpful! Should be everything a resident would need to answer questions, and good ideas and resources for repairing and reducing waste

Bob L

Clean layout with good pictures, seems easy to read.

Mike S

Well broken down into the three areas so the information isn't overwhelming. Good variety for pleasing the eye, clear graphics. Well done.

Ben H

I agree

jaydee

It looks like a comprehensive guide to the three r's

AV Rez

A very thorough and easy to understand booklet.

Ahabdul

I love the detail!

Amy A

Very thorough but too long

Scarlett I. Moderator

Where do you think it can be cut down to make it shorter without losing valuable information?

Ben H

Very informative, but unless the booklet is somewhat larger, the text is a bit hard to read

Jfo

I love this! Colorful and informative!

Rachel M

Thorough and informative!

Dick H

Very busy, too much reading. Most people won't read it if it's loaded with too much.

Scarlett I. Moderator

Where do you think it can be cut down to make it shorter without losing valuable information?

Adrienne B

Wow, this is great! It covers information I had to dig to find previously, so this is so helpful!

Jeff

Its appealing to the eye, full of information and photos

Jesse B

It looks well made and entertaining

BETH

It looks attractive and well laid out. Also looks very complete.

Cliff H

This book is very laid out with lots of very good info for everything to do with all kinds of recycling needs.

Jfo

I agree!

Cliff H

It is a good book

Janet O

Tons of information! First thing I am going to do is stop my, "Junk Mail"! Thanks!

Kim P

Colorful and easy to read

Natalie W

Wow. This is great. Love the numbers to stop junk mail. Very helpful. Chart is clear.

Cliff H

Yes, good info

AVSAHD

Lots more information than I was anticipating from the cover. A lot more topics than simply "recycling."

Colleen F

It was much more comprehensive than I had anticipated.

Home Recycling Guide Booklet Part 3

Can you give this booklet a new name? Even if you don't come up with a name, what words would you use in the title?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Home Recycling Guide Booklet before answering.

Fosterrn1999

Recycling Guide

JohnK

Dakota county recycling guide.

TanyaCH

Home Recycling Guide- Everything to Know of How to Recycle Items!!

Maria K

All things Recycling- One stop for Dakota County residents

Ben H

Great title!

Bob L

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: A Guide for Dakota County Residents

Jesse B

I like this!

Mike S

Helping the earth through home recycling. Being good stewards through home recycling.

jaydee

When everybody recycles everybody benefits

AV Rez

Recycle and Guide are the words needed. Home is more refined and

therefore can be kept. I think the name is fine as is.

Ahabdul

I like the name already, no need to change

Amy A

Great name!

Ben H

I like the title this has currently

Jfo

I like the current title! I think it covers the home.

Adrienne B

I agree, the one it has is good.

Rachel M

I like the title it has now!

Dick H

Name is fine

Jeff

I like the one you already have

BETH

The name it has now is to the point and I like it.

Jesse B

I like the name it has

Cliff H

Easy to understand home recycling needs

Cliff H

Recycling for dummies!

Janet O

I think the name is good - short and to the point - you don't want something too long!

Kim P

Recycling Tips and Tricks? Household Environmental Waste Guide Guess I don't have anything profound at this time.

Cliff H

I like this one!

Natalie W

Home recycling and waste reduction

AVSAHD

Home Waste Guide: How to recycle, reuse and reduce your home's waste in Dakota County

Colleen F

Home Recycling and Disposal Guide

Adrienne B

This is a good idea, too!

Home Recycling Guide Booklet Part 4

Is the information provided in this booklet understandable and readable?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Home Recycling Guide Booklet before answering.

Fosterrn1999

Yes it is

JohnK

Completely understandable and readable.

TanyaCH

It is written and presented very well. I like it.

Maria K

Yes. And I like the table with check marks

Ben H

I agree

Bob L

Yes, the section breakdowns and images are helpful.

Mike S

Yes. You've done a good job at breaking it into the three areas and the divisions make it even more understandable.

jaydee

It is understandable and readable

AV Rez

Yes, easily understandable. I think that it's comprehensive and not too busy. More of a reference than a simple guide which I think is good from my standpoint.

Adrienne B

I agree. I'm more likely to keep a reference guide than a simple guide that contains information I already know.

Ahabdul

It's well informative

Amy A

Yes

Ben H

Yes, the information is very understandable and informative! In terms of readability, however, the text is a little bit small in my mind

Adrienne B

Yes, it's easily readable, and I appreciate that it is comprehensive.

Jfo

Yes but just a little busy. Not sure where to look.

Rachel M

Yes, very readable.

Dick H

Yes but again too much

AVSAHD

Yes - it is organized well and it is helpful.

Jeff

Yes it is , pictures help

BETH

It is. Actually it is very interesting.

Jesse B

Very.

Cliff H

The info is very easy to understand and readable

Adrienne B

I think so, too. It would be very helpful!

Cliff H

I agree

Janet O

Yes

Natalie W

The bolded topics and page set up is good. Easy to find the information your looking for among lots of good information

Cliff H

I agree it is an easy read

Kim P

Yes.

Colleen F

Yes, the booklet is very well done - clear and understandable.

Home Recycling Guide Booklet Part 5

What do you like about this booklet?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Home Recycling Guide Booklet before answering.

Fostern1999

Colorful with all the information needed

JohnK

Probably the amount of information included. A lot of other booklets are always lacking in this area but this one is jam packed

Maria K

Contains all of the information I could think of needing!

Bob L

The layout makes it easy to read and the images help provide clarity on what can/cannot be recycled.

Mike S

Good points made by all! I like that it also goes beyond the recycling concept, like repairing items and that you've provided a link for where to do this.

Adrienne B

I like that, too. I wonder if there could be some information added about how long it takes certain items to decompose. Information of this sort

helps me be a better consumer. I also think a great way to reduce waste is by using reusable shopping bags, shopping at farmer's markets, and meal planning. Some of the points get close to this, but don't explicitly say it.

jaydee

It is clear and comprehensive

Ben H

I agree

AV Rez

The table of contents on the first page is very good in that it breaks out where to look first if you have a question on where a certain item or material should go.

Ahabdul

Images and words to offset a lot of reading

Jfo

The contents are informative and the cover is simple.

Amy A

I like it but I think it would be better if it was shorter. I worry people won't read as it's so long.

Ben H

I like that this booklet has information not only on what to put in the

recycling bins, but also information on centers that take recycled goods

Adrienne B

I like that it is easy to find information that you need, it's comprehensive, and it answers a lot of questions that were hard to find information about before.

Rachel M

I like that it's thorough and organized.

Dick H

Colorful, bold titles to sections

AVSAHD

It covers many more topics than I thought it would from the cover. I also appreciate it has business you can take waste and/or recycle at for items that aren't covered by our trash hauling.

Jeff

Its colorful so kids would probably like it also

BETH

It's colorful and the images are good. Creative font is good but not overdoing it.

Jesse B

Easy to read. Colorful. It grabs your attention

Cliff H

I like the way the book is broke down by different groups

Janet O

It is well organized and easy to find what you are looking for.

Cliff H

I agree here

Natalie W

Colors, pictures, charts. Organized well with bolded topics.

Kim P

Colorful, easy to follow, good tips and information

Colleen F

The booklet is well done. I like the charts, graphics and photos which make the text more understandable.

Home Recycling Guide Booklet Part 6

What do you dislike about this booklet?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Home Recycling Guide Booklet before answering.

Fosterrn1999

The cover colors

JohnK

Probably the colorfulness I'm just not a fan of flamboyant?(I'm not sure that's the word) booklets

Maria K

Nothing

Bob L

I like it.

Mike S

I agree that people feel like: been there, done that with recycling. They've heard it all, it seems, so they might not think there is anything new to be gained from reading this booklet. How can you reinvigorate the topic of recycling? Like stewardship, or personal responsibility for the earth/ creation/limited resources for the future generations.

Adrienne B

This is a great point. I think this is where showing the years a single item takes to decompose as well as the impact on the environment gives it more depth.

Ben H

I agree

jaydee

It is probably too lengthy and detailed for many people

AV Rez

Maybe the action pictures of the people could be lessened or cut. But, they do serve a purpose.

Ahabdul

Maybe a lot of wording

Jfo

The insides are a little too busy.

Amy A

Too long

Ben H

The only thing that I dislike about this booklet is the text size, but that could always be based on my computer screen. If the booklet is a bit larger in size, then this could be easily read.

Adrienne B

A more dynamic cover may get more people to read it. Also, does it need to somewhere include wording suggesting residents keep and reference it?

Rachel M

I don't see anything I dislike.

Dick H

Too much to read. Simplify.

AVSAHD

The cover doesn't convey how helpful the guide is.

Jeff

The cover is bland

BETH

I do not see anything I dislike.

Jesse B

Cover is boring compared to the vivid inside

Cliff H

For all the good info in this book the only thing I don't like is the cover

Janet O

I think it is well organized and eye-catching. In booklet form, as opposed to everything visible in this pdf format, I think it would not seem like too much information coming at you, as you would look at the, "Table of Contents" and find the topic you need information on.

Adrienne B

I agree

Rachel M

I agree!

Cliff H

I agree here

Natalie W

I find it interesting and engaging for recycling. For all the information provided I think it is organized.

Kim P

Some of the pages seem busy where my eyes just "jump around" vs. focusing on one area. Could be distracting for some readers.

Natalie W

Maybe

Colleen F

On some pages there was a little too much information. On other pages there were websites listed where you could find additional information. If this is an online booklet it would be great to be able to be connected directly to the additional information by clicking the link.

Natalie W

Good idea with the links

AVSAHD

I agree and it would make the guide more easy to update. Also it

would cut down on paper waste since that seems to be part of the point.

Colleen F

Good idea - had not thought through the easier to update.

Home Recycling Guide Booklet Part 7

What do you think about the design including the font (type/size/color), colors and images in this booklet?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Home Recycling Guide Booklet before answering.

Fosterrn1999

I think it is good

JohnK

Size and font is perfect and for the 3rd time the colorfulness is a bit obnoxious but that's probably just me. Images are pretty good

Maria K

Colors go with the theme

Bob L

There is a lot of information which results in some small fonts but I don't know how you would get around that because the info included is necessary.

Mike S

Earthy tones and nice font.

jaydee

It is passive and unattractive

AV Rez

I'm not a graphic designer but it all seems good to me.

Ben H

I agree

Ahabdul

The design and colors are great, just too much wording

Jfo

The wording before the Home Recycling Guide could be a bit bigger so it grabs your attention.

Ben H

This booklet has a great color scheme! I like the images used as well. Once again my only issue is the font size on the details of some of these items

Amy A

Very nice

Adrienne B

I personally don't love the cursive font because not everyone can read cursive. I would hope that even older children could use this. Otherwise, I really like the design!

Rachel M

I like the different fonts and colors. The pictures are well-placed and relevant.

Dick H

Looks fine

AVSAHD

I like the design except for the front cover.

Natalie W

I like the bold colored labels. 1st page appears busy with hand written font. Rest of the font is good and easy to read. Not a fan of the cover.

Jeff

I like the design well thought out

BETH

I like the different font sizes and creative fonts.

Janet O

I think it is wonderful! You can tell a lot of thought went onto creating this much needed recycling reference booklet. The colors are nice, font is fine,

images are appropriate.

Adrienne B

Yes, someone or several people did a nice job on the design.

Jesse B

I think it's attractive and easy to follow

Cliff H

I like all of the design and I feel it is really laid out very well

Kim P

I like the use of color. Font size is easy to read for me, but maybe some elderly people might have difficulties with some of the smaller print. Is this available in large print or online where people can adjust the font size? I'm not a huge fan of the brown on the cover, but maybe you were going for a more recycled paper look?

Cliff H

You might have something here but I can read it still with my glasses

Colleen F

Not crazy about the font on the font page or the color choices. At times, there were too many mixes of font sizes and types on any one page.

Home Recycling Guide Booklet Part 8

What do you think about the layout including length the amount of content and size?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Home Recycling Guide Booklet before answering.

Fosterrn1999

Just about right. Maybe a tad long

JohnK

Length is perfect and it's better to have too much information than not enough it's a booklet the whole point is the information

Maria K

I like the layout. A lot of information but that is unavoidable as there is a lot of information to convey

Bob L

As previously stated, there is a lot of information which requires smaller fonts which could be difficult for some to read.

Ben H

I agree

Mike S

What I stated before in that will people really gain anything new from this information? It seems lengthy. What do you hope to gain in the booklet that isn't Putin the side of the bins?

Mike S

In rereading the booklet, there is random information at the bottom-

recycling all over the top then choosing a trash hauler on the bottom. It seems choosing a hauler should merit its own page. A hauler reflects your priorities- and maybe they all do the same work, but are there more conscientious haulers who want to be more 'recycle friendly'? And so to promote them more. Putting this at the bottom seems like a filler rather than valuing the choice possibilities.

jaydee

For mass appeal it needs to be condensed

AV Rez

I think the amount of content is good with enough font size and text to support the topics.

Ahabdul

Too much content overtakes the images

Jfo

I think the layout is a bit busy and maybe too much on the inside.

Ben H

I think that the content could maybe be spread out a bit so that there aren't pages filled with only text

Amy A

Too wordy and long

Adrienne B

I think it's awesome! I wasn't expecting quite so much, but everything provided is quite useful.

Rachel M

I like the layout and how it's organized. It seems to be an appropriate length.

Dick H

Too wordy

AVSAHD

I think it's a good amount. It's more than I thought would be there based on the cover, but I don't think it is too much. The sizes must be okay since I didn't give any of them a second thought.

Natalie W

Layout is fun and artistic. I like all the info. It's a one stop guide

Jeff

Its great not too lengthy

Adrienne B

I agree

Natalie W

Agree

BETH

I think the layout is good. There is more information in the small booklet than I thought there could be.

Janet O

Perfect!

Cliff H

I feel the length to the amount of info very fair and I would not change this at all

Natalie W

Agree

Jesse B

It is perfect in length and good content

Kim P

Overall, I think that the books looks pretty good. On some pages (6-7 and 10-11), there is a lot of information. Maybe break this up a little more. I know it would mean more pages, but it would mean that the pages are easier to read.

Cliff H

This is true but I think it fits

Colleen F

I like the overall size of the booklet. Some pages had a bit too much

information which could be solved by referring to additional information websites.

Home Recycling Guide Booklet Part 9

Should there be one booklet with all information or separate booklets for 1) hazardous waste, 2) recycling, and 3) waste reduction?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Home Recycling Guide Booklet before answering.

Fosterrn1999

One booklet

JohnK

Just one makes for an easier find of information

Maria K

One would be ideal. Keeping track of multiple wouldn't be good for me

Ben H

I agree

Bob L

I think it makes sense to have everything in a single booklet but could there be additional online resources that go more in-depth for each area?

Adrienne B

That's a great suggestion. It would also save paper.

Mike S

I wonder if that information is for all people. Would it be more advantageous to have booklets for specific 'clients'- businesses generate different recyclables than a normal residence. Would it be more cost effective with printing to generate individual and specific booklets based on your resident/commercial clientele?

jaydee

There should be one booklet with key information on hazardous waste, recycling and waste reduction and links to more information on all

AV Rez

No, I think one stop for everything pertaining to recycling is my preference. The more books, the more the risk of one or more being misplaced.

Ahabdul

One in all

Jfo

I wouldn't mind seeing different pamphlets that would be more informative.

Ben H

I think they should all be in one booklet. That way there is one booklet for all the information you need on waste management

Amy A

They all need to be in one to encourage people read it. They won't read separate books.

Adrienne B

I would struggle to keep it if it were in more than place, as I don't like to have a lot of pamphlets around.

Rachel M

Definitely 1 book. Three books is too many to keep track of.

Dick H

1 book with all the info

AVSAHD

I like that it is all in one booklet.

Natalie W

All in one is so helpful. I tend to misplace paper items

Jeff

Keep it all in one

BETH

I think one booklet with all of it. People don't like to have all kinds of paper stuff they have to keep around.

Adrienne B

Absolutely.

Natalie W

Agree

Natalie W

Agree

Janet O

One booklet.

Cliff H

I think one book is the way to go here or else you stand the chance of more recycling due to the amount of books

Jesse B

One book

Kim P

One book

Colleen F

No, I like that this booklet provides all the information in one place.

Natalie W

Agree

Cliff H

I agree

Home Recycling Guide Booklet Part 10

Does this booklet contain too little information, too much information, or the right amount of information?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Home Recycling Guide Booklet before answering.

Fosterrn1999

About the right

JohnK

It's the 3rd bowl of porridge in Goldilocks

Maria K

Just right!

Bob L

Seems like the right amount and covers various areas.

Mike S

Just the right amount to serve as a good general resource.

jaydee

There is too much information for the majority of people

AV Rez

The right amount.

Ahabdul

Too much information, probably needs images to offset

Ben H

I agree

Jfo

It's a great booklet but a little too busy and Too much information on each page maybe?

Ben H

The booklet has a great amount of information, but it could be spread out a bit more on the pages

Kim P

That's what I said.

Amy A

Too much and too long

Adrienne B

It's a perfect amount of information.

Rachel M

The right amount.

Dick H

Too much

AVSAHD

It contains the right amount of information. One thing I would change would be referring people to go to the dakota county website and then "search" for a term. I think you lose people that way instead of just saying go to dakotacounty.us/recycle (an example url - not sure if it exists) and then have all the appropriate topics as links on the page for organics, green guide, etc.

Cliff H

This book has just the right amount of info and if you need anything else the numbers are there to get what you need

Natalie W

Perfect

Jeff

Its seems just right kept me intrested

Adrienne B

Agree

Natalie W

Agree

BETH

It is just the right amount of information.

Cliff H

True and I agree

Jesse B

The perfect amount.

Janet O

Right amount of information.

Natalie W

Agree

Kim P

I think the right amount of information is included. Will there be an online version where people can click on links for additional information or go to various websites mentioned in the book?

Colleen F

I think this booklet tries to cover too much information. Adding the various website links could resolve that issue.

Home Recycling Guide Booklet Part 11

Would you know what to recycle and what not to recycle based on the information provided in this booklet?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Home Recycling Guide Booklet before answering.

Fosterrn1999

I would

JohnK

Yes.

Maria K

Absolutely

Bob L

Yes.

Mike S

Yes.

Mike S

One item not listed anywhere but is a highly used household item are k-cups or pods. On the box of the item itself it states how to recycle them, but no where in these books do i see any reference to them. Thoughts?

Colleen F

They have come out with a new gadget that literally cuts the top off the K cup so you can use the grounds as compost and recycle the rest. \$12 on Amazon. Might be good information for the booklet.

jaydee

Yes I would know

AV Rez

Yes, very much so.

Ahabdul

If i went through all the reading. But pictures and a little bit of words would help me understand faster

Jfo

I believe so. May take some reading.

Ben H

Agreed

Ben H

Yes, this booklet is very informative

Amy A

Yes

Adrienne B

Definitely.

Rachel M

Yes.

Dick H

Yes

AVSAHD

Yes - there is a lot of appropriate information.

Cliff H

Yes this book is very clear on what you can and can not recycle

Adrienne B

I agree.

Cliff H

I hope they make the real ones soon

Natalie W

Yes

Jeff

Yes

BETH

Yes.

Jesse B

Yes.

Janet O

Yes!

Kim P

Yes

Colleen F

Yes. Just after looking through the booklet I already have more information than I did before reading it.

Cliff H

I agree

Home Recycling Guide Booklet Part 12

If you had a couch to get rid of. Looking through the booklet, would you know what to do?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the

blue link to view the full Home Recycling Guide Booklet before answering.

Fosterrn1999

Yes

JohnK

Yes. Just look at the recycling bulky items section

Maria K

Definitely

Bob L

Yes, according to the recycling bulky items section.

Mike S

Yes with the chart. I like that you have places a reusable couch/furniture could go- like to bridging. Good to help others in our community!

jaydee

Yes there are multiple options listed for furniture

AV Rez

Yes, I went to the index, chose bulky items on page 9 and knew that the chart of vendors included those with check marks would take in furniture. It was quick and simple.

Ahabdul

Yes after a thorough read of the book

Ben H

Agreed. It takes a bit to find the right table for this item

Jfo

I do not see anything clear that indicates where?

Ben H

Yes. You have to search for a bit, but the information can be found

Amy A

Yes I would.

Adrienne B

Yes, I would.

Rachel M

Yes, I could look at page 8-9.

Dick H

Page 8

AVSAHD

Yes - the booklet is very clear.

Cliff H

Yes, I would know where to take it to get rid of it because of the book

Natalie W

Chart is awesome. My favorite part of the guide. Very clear and helpful

Cliff H

The chart is very clear and precise

Adrienne B

I agree, it's helpful.

Cliff H

Best one out there

Janet O

Yes! I looked at the, "Table of Contents" and found, "Bulky Items" pages 8 - 9. The Chart is fantastic!

Jeff

I would know where to take it

Jesse B

Yes

BETH

Yes. It looks like that information is found in the full-page chart (probably

the centerfold). It tells you who will take furniture and provides their contact info.

Kim P

Yes

Colleen F

Yes, the bulky item chart is easy to understand.

Home Recycling Guide Booklet Part 13

Where do you want to find this booklet – online or have it available in print? If in print, where would you expect to pick it up? Would you expect to have it mailed to your home?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Home Recycling Guide Booklet before answering.

Fosterrn1999

Print. Mailed to my house

JohnK

I'd like it in print and have it mailed to my home. I'm honestly not sure where I'd pick one up except maybe at the library in a stack or something maybe some other government buildings

Maria K

Both. Pick up from library

Bob L

It should be sent to every new household when they request waste removal/recycling services and available online.

Colleen F

I am struggling with this one myself. I think that having it online with web links to additional information is the best approach. However, I understand that not everyone has access to the internet and/or doesn't want to access this information online. But in keeping with the overall theme of "green" I wonder if mailing to everyone is the best use of resources/money? Just a thought as I am not totally clear on what is the best approach. Mailing might end up being the only way some people would get the information.

Mike S

Do you have a new citizen/resident packet that would arrive at the home newly sold? Also online is very practical and accessible. The library would be a good general location and maybe a stand on Election Day of city resources. Just a few ideas.

Adrienne B

Those are good ideas.

jaydee

It should be mailed to all and be available online

AV Rez

I would have it available electronically but also have a hard copy mailed so that I would not use my printer and ink to have one in the house. Asking for a pick up will not get the full participation you are probably seeking.

Ahabdul

Available for print and online would be two great options based on what ppl like preferences

Jfo

Online or in grocery stores would be good.

Ben H

I definitely agree with these booklets being in grocery stores

Ben H

I would like to have this booklet available in print and delivered to my home, and possibly found in grocery stores and other places that distribute goods that can be recycled

Amy A

I would expect it to be mailed. That is the only way I will read it.

Adrienne B

Both. I would like it mailed and I would like to be able to reference an updated version online. I think having a few continually printed for new residents of Dakota County would also be helpful.

Rachel M

I would like on mailed, with all the information also available online.

Dick H

Both, and mail it

AVSAHD

I would like it online for sure (for updates and links as I previously mentioned) but I wouldn't mind getting the first edition or copy mailed to our home. We would definitely use it right away.

Cliff H

I think in this day, you need to have it both ways. Some people don't want to look online and then the other way also

Natalie W

I'd like it mailed. Easy to access

Janet O

I would like it both ways - online and in booklet form. I would want it mailed to me.

Adrienne B

I think so too.

Cliff H

I agree

Jeff

Hate to say it but printed and mailed

Jesse B

I would like to have it mailed to me.

BETH

I would like to have it online. I wouldn't mind having it mailed out to me either.

Kim P

Online Mailed out

Colleen F

I would prefer to have it online. However for those who do not have access or ability for online, then I see a need to have it available for pickup. Mailing seems like an expense that would not be necessary for the most part.

Recycling Cling

Is the information provided on this cling understandable and readable?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Recycling Cling before answering.

Fosterrn1999

Yes

JohnK

Yes it's appealing to the eye and text is clear

Maria K

Yes. Just add the plastic numbers

Bob L

Yes.

Mike S

The title and specific instructions in blue are lost- I would do blue for title and change color of specific instructions into red or vice versa. I like the shortness of the specific instructions but they get lost.

jaydee

Yes, it is understandable and readable

Ben H

I agree

AV Rez

Yes, I think so.

Ahabdul

This is easy and well put together

Adrienne B

Yes, this is helpful.

Jfo

Yes looks good!

Ben H

Yes, very understandable

Amy A

Yes, I like it

Rachel M

Yes, it's very clear.

AVSAHD

Yes

Dick H

Yes, better.

Cliff H

This is very clear and understandable

Natalie W

Yes pictures are helpful

Adrienne B

I like the pictures, too.

Janet O

Yes - nice that labels can stay on and no washing is needed.

Cliff H

I agree

Jeff

Yes

Jesse B

Yes. I like it.

BETH

Yes, very.

Kim P

Yes.

Colleen F

Yes.

Recycling Cling Part 2a

What do you like about the design including the font (type/size/color), colors and images?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Recycling Cling before answering.

Fosterrn1999

Colorful and all the info needed

JohnK

The color and the simplicity of it. It's straight to the point and text is clear and readable

Maria K

Fonts are easy to read, colors are relevant to topic, size is good considering how much info is being conveyed

Bob L

I don't dislike the blue colors but I think most people associate the color green with recycling so I would probably have chosen a shade of green as the primary color.

Jeff

That is a good point

Ben H

I agree

Mike S

Images clear. Colors I referred to earlier.

jaydee

It is acceptable

AV Rez

All aspects look good for a one page document.

Ahabdul

I like the color and design well thought out

Adrienne B

I generally like it. Green makes me think more of recycling than blue does.

Jfo

I like it but would do a darker blue.

Ben H

I like the font style and image layout. However, one thing I would change is the color from blue to another color that isn't as bright

Amy A

Colorful and easy to read

Rachel M

I like the colors but green would be better. I would like a different font better.

Adrienne B

I agree, I think it should be in green instead of blue.

AVSAHD

Blue and green with white seem to make you think of recycling in a very positive light. I like it.

Dick H

Color, simple font.

BETH

I think the images include everything you need.

Cliff H

I like the break down of the groups and it is very easy to read

Janet O

Appealing and informative.

Natalie W

I like the blue headers. Font is easy to read. Pictures help clarify

Cliff H

I agree

Jeff

The images are appealing and the colors and fonts look good

Natalie W

Yes

Jesse B

It looks great, colorful and catches attention. Easy to read

Natalie W

Yes

Colleen F

I like the photos - makes a bigger impact than reading the text. Maybe add some photos of those items that can not be recycled on the bottom of the page with the text. Change up the font type a little between headers and text.

Kim P

I don't know how big this cling would be. Dimensions would be helpful to make a decision about the size. Information seems easy to read.

Recycling Cling Part 2b

What do you like about the layout including size?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Recycling Cling before answering.

Fosterrn1999

I like 1 pagers

JohnK

Size is perfect and the layout simple but that's a good thing since you're trying to show information

Maria K

Good size to make it legible. Not too big and

Bob L

I like the pics for quick reference and lists for more detail.

Mike S

Clear groupings I'd information is helpful at a glance.

jaydee

Layout is clear and concise

AV Rez

I like the bottom section on what NOT to recycle. That's just as helpful than the pictures and text in the body.

Ahabdul

It's perfect for the eyes

Adrienne B

I like the layout with information with pictures, headers, and then more detailed information. The pictures are informative and keep it from being too text heavy. It look good!

Adrienne B

Rather, it looks good!

Jfo

It's good. It's very informative.

Ben H

Agreed

Ben H

I think the layout is perfect

Amy A

Good size and easy to read

Rachel M

I like the layout.

AVSAHD

It seems fine. I have commented before and I still think it's true for this cling - asking people to search terms on the dakota county website instead of a dedicated and simple link doesn't seem very efficient.

Dick H

Not crowded with too much

BETH

The layout is very good. Everything is very comprehensive on this cling.

Cliff H

I think that it is the perfect size

Janet O

Is this an 8 X 10, 5 X 7 etc? It is nice - just wondering how big...

Adrienne B

I am curious as well. That would make a difference on font size needed.

Natalie W

Organized well. Layout is clear and not cluttered

Jeff

Easy to read and informative

Cliff H

I agree

Jesse B

Easy to read and follow. Pictures are a fun touch

Colleen F

I like the layout using both text and photos. I'd add photos to the bottom section as well.

Kim P

Easy to read

Recycling Cling Part 3

What don't you like about the cling?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Recycling Cling before answering.

Fosterrn1999

Nothing

JohnK

Nothing really maybe a darker blue because I like dark blue. I honestly can't find anything wrong with it

Maria K

Nothing

Bob L

not sure.

Mike S

The information listed seems so intuitive. To shorten it, maybe put what isn't included as paper, for example, and if there is no restriction just leave the space open.

jaydee

I would use bolder type for individual items

AV Rez

The title bar could be changed to something else but content and pictures are fine.

Ahabdul

I think it looks great actually

Adrienne B

I think changing the blue to green would be a beneficial change. I also like the idea of a dedicated link instead of searching a website.

Ben H

I definitely agree

Jfo

Nothing right now?

Ben H

The only think I dislike is the blue color of the cling

Amy A

Nothing

Rachel M

I think green would be better, and a different font.

Adrienne B

I agree. Recycling makes me think of green.

Colleen F

I think green would be a better color than blue. Good idea.

AVSAHD

Oops - just mentioned that I think there should be a dedicated and simple url/link instead of asking people to search terms on the county website.

Adrienne B

I agree.

Dick H

It's fine

BETH

I would not have any changes to suggest.

Cliff H

The only change I would make here is to change the color on the header or the groups so they are easier to read

Janet O

I wouldn't change it - but wondering how big it is and where it should be placed?

Natalie W

Honesty nothing

Jeff

Nothing wouldn't change a thing

Natalie W

Agree

Jesse B

Where would it go? Not sure where I would put it if it is a cling.

Colleen F

Change the font type between headers and text to make it more noticeable.

Cliff H

Good idea

Kim P

Where would you expect this to go? On inside waste bin? In the garage above the recycling area?

Recycling Cling Part 4

Would you know what to recycle in your home and what to keep out of the recycling based off the information provided on this cling?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Recycling Cling before answering.

Fosterrn1999

I would

JohnK

Yes

Maria K

Yes

Bob L

Yes.

Mike S

Yes

Mike S

Again, k-cups are not listed and are a common household item now.

jaydee

Yes I would know

AV Rez

For the most part, yes I would.

Ahabdul

Yes this is very informational

Ben H

Agreed

Adrienne B

Yes, I would.

Jfo

Yes the more explanation the better!

Ben H

Yes, that information is clear

Amy A

I would

Rachel M

Yes

AVSAHD

Yes - very informative.

Dick H

Yes

BETH

Yes. Exactly.

Natalie W

Yes very clear

Cliff H

Yes, it makes it very easy to understand both

Janet O

Yes

Jeff

Yes I would

Jesse B

Yes

Colleen F

Yes, I actually had a question on something that the booklet answered for me when I was reading through it.

Kim P

Yes. Already found 2 items that I currently place in my recycling that I should not be.

Cliff H

Yes me too

Recycling Cling Part 5

Would you know how to prepare material for recycling based on the information on the cling?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Recycling Cling before answering.

Fostern1999

Yes

JohnK

Yes

Maria K

Definitely

Bob L

Yes.

Mike S

Yes but again that info gets lost in the same color as title. I like that you were short with the preparation info which is helpful.

jaydee

Yes, empty, flatten and no washing are some preparations mentioned

AV Rez

Yes, the blue text is good for the reminder for preparation guidelines.

Ahabdul

Yes, this is clear enough

Adrienne B

Yes, it is clear.

Ben H

Agreed

Jfo

Yes

Ben H

Yes, that information is clear

Amy A

Yes

Rachel M

Yes

AVSAHD

Yes

Dick H

Yes

BETH

Yes. Images show what is expected.

Natalie W

Yes no concerns

Cliff H

Yes, again it is very easy to understand

Janet O

Yes

Jeff

Yes, well expl6

Jesse B

Yes

Colleen F

Yes. I found that I take too much time and effort that I don't need to do based on the information provided - e.g. washing cans/bottles.

Cliff H

Agree

Kim P

Yes

Recycling Cling Part 6

Is it clear that this cling is meant to be stuck to a surface, like on a wall, window or container? Would you use this? If so, where would you put it?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Recycling Cling before answering.

Fostern1999

Yes, side of fridge

JohnK

Yes it seems to big and chalked full of information to be just a small sheet. I'd probably magnet it to my fridge

Maria K

Yes. I would put it on our container in the house

Bob L

Yes, I would put it inside the cupboard door where my recycling bin is located.

Mike S

Yes. Fridge or recycling drawer.

jaydee

Yes I would use this and it would go on the refrigerator

AV Rez

The very bottom description of the backing should maybe be placed at the top so there is a notice of a cling document. I would place this on my garage wall next to the recycle bin. Would the recycle vendors be OK with putting this on their bins? That would be my question.

Ben H

That definitely is a good question

Ahabdul

Yes this would be perfect around trash areas and on walls

Adrienne B

No, I wasn't clear on where it should go. I am also not sure where I would use this. A sticker for the recycling container seems like I would get more use from that.

Jfo

I would use it. Inside recycle lid.

Ben H

If I hadn't been told that this was it's intention, I would have expected this to

be laminated and pinned to a corkboard or something along those lines

Rachel M

It's not clear from the image. I would put it on my fridge.

AVSAHD

Not a first glance, but after I read it all it was clear.

Dick H

Yes, yes, by my garbage in the house

BETH

I did not know that it is meant to do that. I would put it on the inside door of a cupboard in the kitchen.

Natalie W

I probably wouldn't use it. I think if I got it and recognized it was a cling.

Cliff H

I would personal not use it but It would be good on a recycle bin

Janet O

Inside my Pantry Door...? Not sure - guess I'd have to see it first!

Jeff

Refrigerator magnet ? I dont know where I would put this

Jesse B

It is not clear. I am not sure where I would use it at home

Colleen F

No, it is not clear that this would be used to adhere to a surface. Yes, I'd put it on the top of my recycle bin.

Kim P

This was not clear to me before that's why I asked. I would probably place one on our inside bin and in the garage by our recycling area.

Cliff H

I might also put it in my garage

Recycling Zone Brochure

Is the information provided in this brochure understandable and readable?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Recycling Zone Brochure before answering.

Fosterrn1999

Yes

JohnK

Yes but it seems a bit obnoxious with how it displays it which makes it a bit difficult to understand just a little

Maria K

Yes! This is needed in our home

Bob L

Yes

AV Rez

Yes.

Mike S

Yes

jaydee

Yes it is

AVSAHD

Yes

Ahabdul

Understandable and readable

Ben H

I agree

Adrienne B

Everything but the map is clear and easy to read.

Jfo

Yes I would agree.

Ben H

Everything except for the last page's information is clear. The map is very hard to read

AVSAHD

I agree - I missed the last page but I'm not sure if it's hard to see because of the design or it seems like the pdf copy is somewhat blurry.

Adrienne B

I thought that as well

Rachel M

Yes

BETH

It is understandable and readable.

Cliff H

It is very easy again to understand

Natalie W

Yes it is clear

Janet O

Yes - so nice you can just, "pull up" and someone will unload your recycling!

Jeff

Yes

Jesse B

Very easy to read and understandable

Cliff H

Agree

Colleen F

Yes.

Kim P

I can only see the cover.

Recycling Zone Brochure Part 2

What type of information would you expect to find by looking at the cover of this brochure?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Recycling Zone Brochure before answering.

Fosterrn1999

Stories and info on recycling

JohnK

Information on recycling in general or a business called recycling zone.

Maria K

Everything referenced. How tos and what to do with certain materials

Bob L

Information on how to recycle household items.

Ben H

Agreed

AV Rez

Any item that may be questionable for regular recycling.

Mike S

This is more of a reuse booklet than just recycle. Drive up means it isn't a home friendly booklet but requires more 'energy' if you will.

jaydee

I would expect to find out how to deal with my hazardous waste

AVSAHD

How to recycle things that don't fit in your trash haulers' recycle bin.

Ahabdul

What can be recycled and where

Adrienne B

I would expect to find information on what I can take to the Recycling Zone.

Jfo

What can be recycled and where.

Ben H

I would expect to find information on where I can recycle hazardous materials and electronics

Rachel M

How to recycle household items and hazardous waste.

BETH

It looks like it will be information on hazardous waste which I do not have much experience in.

Natalie W

Where and how to recycle hazardous goods

Cliff H

How to rid of properly all household items

Janet O

Where, and what I can bring to the, "Recycling Zone" that I can't dispose of at my home.

Jeff

What you can and cannot recycle and where

Jesse B

What to recycle and where.

Colleen F

I would expect to find out where to bring my hazardous waste, cleaning/ gardening chemical products and electronics. And what products are accepted and if not, where can I bring them.

Cliff H

agree

Kim P

What I can and cannot bring to the Recycling Zone

Recycling Zone Brochure Part 3a

What do you like/dislike about the design including the font (type/size/color), colors and images?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Recycling Zone Brochure before answering.

Fosterrn1999

Looks outdated.

JohnK

I like that it's trying to have its own style I personally don't like the style though I find the layout can cause some confusion but it's generally ok

Maria K

The picture could be different and more relevant

jaydee

I think the colors are kind of drab. Recycling is not an exciting topic. Maybe a little pizza would be a positive

Bob L

There is nothing I dislike about it, fonts seem basic and information included is necessary.

AV Rez

The cover does a good job of explaining and then showing items that might not be familiar to those who want to recycle household materials.

Mike S

The sentence on the cover is missing a point about delivering/drop off point.

AVSAHD

The design is fine, but the copy seems fuzzy/blurry sometimes. I assume

that's just the pdf copy and the actual brochure is clear?

Ben H

I imagine so as well

Ahabdul

I like the informational photos and wording and images

Adrienne B

I like the pictures. I don't love the color scheme. I would include a picture of the Recycling Zone because I would like to know what it looked like if I had not been there before.

Adrienne B

Looked like

Janet O

The images for the products that can be taken to the, "Recycling Zone" are difficult to see in the upper yellow area... I think another color would be more suitable...

Jfo

Not exactly fond of the color on the front.

Ben H

I like the color scheme of this brochure. One thing I notice right away is that the image of the driver's license is outdated currently

Rachel M

I like it overall.

BETH

For some reason Orange does not work. I think it should be green.

AVSAHD

Yeah, I didn't think of that with my original comment, but I agree with Beth that it should be green to help make it stand out as recycling/reusing.

BETH

Yup, two things I think of when I look at that orange is Road Construction and Hunting.

Natalie W

Great picture and the font is good

Cliff H

I don't really like the yellow on the cover, but the rest is good

Jeff

The color is not very appealing

Cliff H

Agree

Adrienne B

Agree

Cliff H

Forsure

Jesse B

Too much orange. Maybe a light blue or green would be better

Colleen F

I like the font types but think another color, other than gold, would be a better, more bold choice which would grab my attention better. Also maybe different items on the front cover to show how many products can be taken to the recycling zone.

Kim P

Not crazy about the cover. Seems to be a lot of the orange/yellow.

Recycling Zone Brochure Part 3b

What do you like/dislike about the layout including brochure length and size?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Recycling Zone Brochure before answering.

Fosterrn1999

The other one was more colorful

JohnK

I dislike the length seems a bit short since some pages are filler and could store more information but don't

Maria K

I like it

jaydee

I think that all relevant information is provided.

Bob L

It is fine, not too long and necessary information seems to be included. The map doesn't do much, especially when most people will use GPS to find the location.

Ben H

Certainly true, but think about folks that don't use technology to navigate to places. I feel the map works for those people, but in this copy the map is a bit hard to read

AV Rez

I think that the length is good since it's comprehensive.

Mike S

Relevant but long. Redundant in places.

AVSAHD

All of the information seemed very relevant so I wouldn't shorten it. Size was fine.

Ahabdul

Perfect length and size for me

Janet O

Brochure length and size are fine. There is a lot of information, organized and compiled well.

Adrienne B

It seems like it is longer than needed due to design elements. Multiplied by every household in Dakota County, that's a lot of extra paper.

Jfo

I like the visuals on the inside. It helps provide exactly what is what.

Ben H

I like size and length of the brochure

Rachel M

Length and size are good.

BETH

The layout is good. I think it is the right amount of info and size.

Natalie W

Great layout and use of pictures. Font size is good

Cliff H

The book size and such is fine just the main color isn't good

Jeff

Dont like the color, the size is good

Jesse B

Not crazy about the color choice

Cliff H

Agree

Colleen F

I like the layout of the booklet. Good use of different fonts and text size. Don't like the color choices for the front cover and the gold on several pages. A bolder color would grab attention.

Kim P

I can only see the cover. Not sure how big this is. I am imagining it to be like a 4X6 booklet.

Recycling Zone Brochure Part 4

Would you know what to bring to The Recycling Zone based off the information provided in this brochure?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Recycling Zone Brochure before answering.

[Fosterrn1999](#)

Yes

[JohnK](#)

Yes

[Kim P](#)

Yes

[Maria K](#)

Yes I would

[jaydee](#)

Accepted and unaccepted items are clearly listed

[Bob L](#)

Yes, pictures accompanied by lists is helpful.

[Janet O](#)

Yes

[Ben H](#)

I agree

AV Rez

Yes, the descriptions and directions are clear.

Jfo

Yes the directions are very clear.

Mike S

Yes

AVSAHD

Yes - it is very clear.

Ahabdul

Yes very clear

Adrienne B

Yes, the information about what they do and do not accept is clear.

Ben H

Yes, that information is clear

Rachel M

Yes

BETH

Yes.

Natalie W

Yes. Very helpful

Cliff H

Yes the info here is very clear

Jeff

Yes very clear

Jesse B

Yes it is very through

Colleen F

Yes, the booklet is well written, very comprehensive and easy to interpret.

Cliff H

I agree

Recycling Zone Brochure Part 5a

Pretend you have used needles that you need to get rid of. Based on the information in this brochure, what steps do you need to do to prepare them?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Recycling Zone Brochure before answering.

Fosterrn1999

Put in puncture proof bag

JohnK

Seal them in a puncture resistant container tape it shut label it. " Do not recycle household sharps

Kim P

Pack them in a sealed- puncture-resistant plastic container, tape lid shut, write "do not recycle- household sharps" on it

Maria K

Sealed, puncture proof container, tape and label correctly

jaydee

Pack them in sealed puncture proof container, tape container lid shut and label it "Do not recycle: household sharps"

Bob L

Pack in sealed puncture resistant plastic container and label as "Do Not Recycle: Household Sharps"

Janet O

Home Sharps: Package properly. Pack in a sealed puncture-resistant plastic container such as a detergent bottle. Tape the lid shut and label the container, "Do not recycle: household sharps." Do not place sharps in a baggie or cardboard box. * Needles, syringes and lancets

AV Rez

By putting them in a heavy plastic container and labeling the contents so they will not be recycled.

Jfo

Use a puncture resistant container such as an empty laundry detergent bottle. Must indicate on the outside non recycle and make sure the bottle is taped shut so nothing can fall out. It's nice to know you have somewhere to bring items like that.

Mike S

Make a plastic resistant container, put goods inside t, tape it shut and label it Do Not recycle, household sharps. I like the idea of the container to be made.

AVSAHD

Put in a plastic puncture-resistant container, tape the lid shut and write "Do not recycle: household sharps."

Ahabdul

Puncture proof container sealed and labeled sharps do not recycle

Adrienne B

Put in a plastic container with lid. Tape shut. Write "Do not recycle-household sharps."

Ben H

Place them in a puncture-resistant container, tape the lid shut and label the container with "Do not recycle: sharps"

Rachel M

Place them in a sealed puncture-proof container labelled "Sharps".

BETH

They want them placed in a sealed, puncture proof container that is labeled "Household Sharps".

Adrienne B

Agree.

Natalie W

Put in a sealed container and mark it sharps. Do not recycle

Ben H

Agreed

Cliff H

Place them in a proper container that is clearly marked Sharps!

Jeff

Place them in a puncture resistant container tape container shut and label household sharps do not recycle

Jesse B

put them in a container that could not be punctured and seal and label the container as "do not recycle, household sharps".

Cliff H

True and I agree

Colleen F

I would need to put them in a container that could not be punctured and seal and label the container as “do not recycle, household sharps”.

Recycling Zone Brochure Part 5b

Pretend you have used batteries that you need to get rid of. Based on the information in this brochure, what steps do you need to do to prepare them?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Recycling Zone Brochure before answering.

Fosterrn1999

Non leak bag and label it

JohnK

Put in leak proof container with a lid then label it

JohnK

Forgot to mention but keep the batteries separate from thermometers and fluorescent bulbs

Kim P

Use sturdy, non-leaking, tightly-closed container to place them in. Label

Maria K

Package properly, label and separate from certain products

jaydee

Put them in sturdy non leaking container with lid, label them and do not put fluorescent bulbs or thermometers with batteries

Bob L

Keep separate and label appropriately.

Janet O

Batteries: Package properly: Use sturdy, non-leaking, tightly closed container and place them in a box that can be left at The Recycling Zone. If leaking/corroding, place in a plastic container with tight fitting lid. Do not place waste containers in garbage bags. Do not mix products. Keep batteries apart from fluorescent bulbs and thermometers.

Ben H

Agreed

AV Rez

Separate and place them in a plastic container if leaking or a box and label accordingly.

Jfo

If possible keep in original container if not use a tightly closed, non leaking container and label it. Keep batteries separate from fluorescent bulbs and thermometers. Pay attention to the type of batteries accepted such as single-use and button cell.

Mike S

Keep the batteries separate to be recycled.

AVSAHD

Keep the batteries to be recycled together, preferably in an original container, but separate from fluorescent bulbs and thermometers. But I have to admit I had to scan the brochure multiple times to find it. Other products like sharps or TVs were easier to find.

Ahabdul

Place separately away from other recyclable items

Adrienne B

Keep them separate from other recycling.

Ben H

Place them in a sturdy, non-leaking container, separate from other materials, and put the container in a box

Adrienne B

I agree

Rachel M

Keep separate.

BETH

Keep in a container and do not mix with other items. This was hard for me to find.

Natalie W

Separate from other items

Cliff H

Keep separate from other types of recycling

Jeff

Keep batteries separate from other things

Jesse B

Nothing. Keep away from Mercury it seems

Colleen F

Nothing other than to keep them separate from fluorescent bulbs and thermometers.

Cliff H

Agree

Recycling Zone Brochure Part 5c

Pretend you have used old paint that you need to get rid of. Based on the information in this brochure, what steps do you need to do to prepare them?

Below is a thumbnail preview of the image. Please click on the blue link to view the full Recycling Zone Brochure before answering.

Fosterrn1999

Put in non leak container

JohnK

Keep in leak proof container preferably it's original and label it

Kim P

Package the same as batteries- sturdy, non-leaking, tightly- closed container and place in box to be left. Keep original label when possible.

Ben H

Agreed

Maria K

Secure container sealed with label

jaydee

Put paint in sturdy non leaking container with secure lid and label

Bob L

Keep in original container or label it appropriately and keep is separate when dropping off.

Janet O

Keep it in its' original container. Seal it tightly. Put it in a box you can leave at the, "Recycling Zone".

AV Rez

Keep the paint in the original can or if not, label accordingly. Then place them in a box to be dropped off at the recycle zone.

Jfo

Place items securely in a box or bin. Do not mix with other paints. Make sure paint can is sealed properly. Others may be able to use your left over paint.

Mike S

I like that they have a room that others can find used paints. Separate the paints, seal them in their own box.

Jfo

It is nice and I have seen several people going through the cans.

AVSAHD

Put the paint in non-leaking containers and then put the containers in a box. Do not mix with other products.

Ahabdul

Original containers, sealed in box

Adrienne B

Keep it in it's original container, sealed, and in a box.

Ben H

Keep it in its original container and sealed, and put it in a box

Rachel M

Original containers, sealed, placed into a box.

Adrienne B

This what I understood, too.

BETH

Place in a box.

Natalie W

Sealed in original containers

Cliff H

Try to keep them in original containers and don't mix them with other items

AVSAHD

Yes, I forgot try to keep in the original container which I think most people do with paint. I agree with Cliff.

Cliff H

Only true way to know what is in something is the original packing

Jeff

Keep in original container make sure its sealed

Jesse B

Original container preferred. Sealed tight.

Colleen F

Keep in the original container if possible. Close the lid tightly and label if not in original container.

Cliff H

I agree

Green Guide Testing

What would you expect to find in a Green Guide?

Fosterrn1999

Recycling information

JohnK

Information on reducing reusing and recycling

Kim P

Information on what I should recycle at home

Maria K

Recycling, composting, reusing

Ben H

Agreed

jaydee

What and how to reduce use of, reuse and recycle and where items can go

Bob L

Information on recycling and/or other things I can do to improve the environment.

Janet O

Ways to conserve our natural resources & ways to preserve the environment.

AV Rez

Information that will be helpful to preserve the environment.

Jfo

How do go green at your house whether it's inside or outside. Things to do to preserve mother nature.

Mike S

Along with the items below, is green guide also air contaminants to be avoided, nutrients for the ground or garden? List of green cleaning products?

Adrienne B

This would be helpful, as many cleaners that portray themselves as green often aren't.

AVSAHD

Recycling, disposal and alternatives to chemicals for household use.

Ahabdul

Information on how to recycle and where to

Adrienne B

Information on how and where to recycle, how to reduce pollutants in groundwater, how to be more energy efficient, how to reduce your carbon footprint, and how to conserve resources.

Ben H

Information on recycling and reducing your carbon footprint

Rachel M

Information on recycling and composting.

BETH

Info about water waste and composting.

Natalie W

Energy efficiency, waste reduction in your home and composting

Adrienne B

I like your idea of including waste reduction.

Cliff H

Items safe to the environment and energy saving products

Adrienne B

That sounds good.

Cliff H

This is the best way to do things

Jeff

Energy efficiency

Jesse B

How to be green? Energy efficiency maybe?

Cliff H

Good and I agree

Colleen F

Not sure - green guide would mean just yard waste, composting, etc. or it could mean how to live a green life. That would include how to reduce

waste, what, where to recycle, etc.

Green Guide Testing Part 2

Dakota County has an online, searchable directory that lists recycling, donation and disposal information for hundreds of items from appliances to glass bottles to vacuums. What should be the name of this directory? Even if you don't come up with a name, what words would you use in the title?

Fosterrn1999

Dakota County Recycling E-Guide

JohnK

Dakota county Recycling Directory. Keep it simple

Kim P

I didn't know this was available. Maybe we should advertise this more.
Dakota County Green: A Community Guide for Recycling, Reusing and Reducing

Kim P

Found it! This is very exciting to know about!

Maria K

How to reduce, reuse and recycle - Dakota County residents

jaydee

Smart guide to the Three R's

Bob L

Something about green living in Dakota County or play off the Forever Wild parks motto with Forever Green or Forever Clean.

Colleen F

I like this idea!

Janet O

Dakota County Recycling, Donation and Disposal Information.

AV Rez

Dakota County Online Recycle and Disposal Guide.

Jfo

Dakota County Recycle Online information center.

Mike S

What to do with unwanted household items. How to dispose of unwanted household items. Recycling reusing disposal of...

AVSAHD

Simply "Green." But recycle works as well even if it's more than just recycling.

Ahabdul

Dakota County Recycle and disposal Directory

Adrienne B

Dakota County Recycling and Disposal Directory

Ben H

Dakota County Directory of Disposables

Rachel M

Dakota County Disposal Directory

BETH

Dakota County Recycling Directory

Ben H

I like this idea!

Natalie W

Dakota county directory and green guide

Jeff

Dakota County recycling directory

Cliff H

Dakota recycling

Jesse B

Dakota County Recycling Directory seems straight forward

Adrienne B

I like this as well.

Cliff H

I agree

Colleen F

Green Guide - way to reduce and reuse waste.

Green Guide Testing Part 3

Go to the Dakota County webpage (www.dakotacounty.us), what page would you visit to figure out how to get rid of a mattress? Copy and paste the web addresses from the page(s) you went to.

Fosterrn1999

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/RecyclingZone/Pages/default.aspx>

Janet O

<http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/RecyclingDisposalGuide/Pages/default.aspx> On the Dakota County Home page, the option was there to search for, "What can we help you find?" I typed in: "Recycling Mattress". The first option was, "Green Guide". I clicked that and the option to, "type the name of a waste item and we'll tell you how to recycle or dispose of it". I

typed in, "mattress" and, "Mattresses & Box Springs" came up. When I clicked that, many options came up: * Donate * Recycle Drop-off * Large item pick-up service * Drop off - Transfer Stations & Landfills

JohnK

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/RecyclingZone>
<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/RecyclingZone/Materials/Pages/default.aspx> <https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/RecyclingDisposalGuide/Pages/default.aspx>

Kim P

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/Residential/Recycling/Documents/HomeRecyclingGuide.pdf>

Maria K

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/Residential/Pages/default.aspx>

jaydee

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/RecyclingDisposalGuide/Pages/default.aspx>

Bob L

Environment

AV Rez

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/search/pages/results.aspx?k=mattress>
<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/RecyclingDisposalGuide/Pages/default.aspx>

Jfo

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/Residential/Recycling/Pages/get-rid-of-stuff.aspx>. I do have to say though, it's not overly intuitive. Maybe it's just me (lol) but somewhat confusing.

Ben H

I somewhat agree. I had to look for the page through the search bar rather than through the tabs at the top of the page

Mike S

Initially I thought home and property. Environment, where it is, also makes sense.

AVSAHD

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/Residential/Recycling/Pages/get-rid-of-stuff.aspx>

Ahabdul

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/Residential/Pages/default.aspx>

Jesse B

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/RecyclingDisposalGuide>

Adrienne B

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/Residential/Recycling/Pages/get-rid-of-stuff.aspx>

Ben H

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/RecyclingDisposalGuide/Pages/default.aspx>

Rachel M

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/RecyclingDisposalGuide/Pages/default.aspx>

BETH

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Pages/default.aspx#>

Natalie W

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment>

Jeff

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/RecyclingDisposalGuide>

Cliff H

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/RecyclingDisposalGuide/Pages/default.aspx>

Colleen F

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/RecyclingDisposalGuide/Pages/default.aspx>

Cliff H

Agree

Green Guide Testing Part 4

Next, we will be testing the Green Guide online directory at www.dakotacounty.us Describe how you navigated the website to find the Green Guide? Was it easy or hard to find? What else would you like to share about the experience?

Fosterrn1999

Www.dakotacounty.us. Then went to the menu, recycling and green guide

Janet O

Easy - From the top of the Home page, a sensible option was, "Environment". I clicked on it and the, "Green Guide" came up.

JohnK

Easy clicked environment and found it

Kim P

Easy It was under Environment

Maria K

Clicked on environment and found it

jaydee

It was easy to find under environement

Bob L

Simple, clicked on Environment and then on Green Guide.

AV Rez

Very easy under the Environment tab.

Jfo

Very easy and simple to find.

Mike S

Environment. Made sense to me.

AVSAHD

I clicked on the "environment" tab and then green guide. Not too hard to find, though I think some people would think the "environment" tab was more macro-scale or county-wide environmental issues like water quality and protection of other natural resources. I personally don't like searching for topics on websites because sometimes the search engines are poor or my interpretation might be different than the person who designed it. So I tried to search one of the things that wasn't listed and it came right up.

Ahabdul

Click the sandwich menu to go into environment and select green guide.

Jesse B

Went to the site and searched mattress

Adrienne B

I searched for it. It was easy to find.

Ben H

It was easy to find, though possibly not in the original intended way. I used the search bar to find the Green Guide

Adrienne B

I did this too. It would be more difficult if I didn't know what it was called.

Ben H

I definitely agree. If I hadn't known the title I wouldn't have known where to look

Rachel M

It's easy to find once I knew what I was looking for.

BETH

It was very easy to find.

Jeff

Did a online search for Green Guide ,it was easy

Natalie W

Typical. Took 2 searches

Cliff H

Just went to the site and did a search for mattress and the green guide came up

Colleen F

I thought it was pretty easy. I went to the website and choose The Recycling Zone, then clicked on Materials accepted. When I couldn't find mattress listed, I chose "check the Dakota country green guide" and did a search for mattress.

Cliff H

Same

Green Guide Testing Part 5

Once on the Green Guide page, search for the following items to see if each is recyclable: 1) mattress and 2) cardboard. How was the overall experience trying to learn if these items are recyclable?

Fosterrn1999

No, yes. Not too bad

Janet O

The site was easy to navigate and the information was easily found. Once on the, "Green Guide" page, you are offered the option to, "Type in name of a waste item and we'll tell you how to recycle or dispose of it". I typed in, "Cardboard" and was told: "Put this item in your home recycling cart. Do not bag your home recyclables". I typed in, "Mattress" and was given several options for: * Donate * Recycle Drop-off * Large item Pick-Up Services * Drop-off - Transfer Stations & Landfills

JohnK

1.No 2.Yes It was pretty easy to find out

Kim P

1) No- donate if possible 2) Yes in home cart

Maria K

Way easy. People just need to know if the resources and use them

jaydee

The search function was very easy to use and info was direct

Ben H

Agreed

Kim P

Totally agree

Bob L

It was easy, I was surprised by how many options there are for mattress disposal. I also liked that there was a reminder not to bag my items when I searched for cardboard.

AV Rez

Using the Green Guide search bar, it was very easy. This is a very good quick reference for questionable items. Great experience.

Jfo

I like this tool. Nice to be able to just put in an item and get some options, instead of trying to click everywhere. Easy to use!

Mike S

Found to be easy. And if there are questions one can call the number listed.

AVSAHD

Very easy.

Ahabdul

It's quite simple and easy to get to

Jesse B

Very easy to find the information

Adrienne B

I found it easy to find the information.

Ben H

Easy enough. The information to the very far right of the page is harder to read, however

Rachel M

It was easy.

BETH

It was fine. Not sure I like the layout of the website.

Jeff

After you get on the page it's easy, all kinds of information on mattresses cardboard is alot easier to recycle

Natalie W

Info popped up quickly

Cliff H

Once you did the search it is very easy to get the info requested. They give you the how and where and when for each

Colleen F

There were several options for getting rid of a mattress . Places to donate or places to drop off or get picked up. Some fees applied depending on our choice. For cardboard it was listed under recyclables accepted. Overall I found it pretty easy.

Adrienne B

Yes, I agree.

Cliff H

I agree

Communication

Here is a list of what every recycling service hauler must accept for recycling starting in 2020.

PAPER

- Newspaper and inserts
- Magazines and catalogs
- Mail and office papers

CARDBOARD

- Corrugated cardboard
- Paperboard (e.g., cracker boxes)

CARTONS

- Milk and juice cartons
- Soup, broth, and wine cartons
- Juice boxes

METAL CANS

- Aluminum, tin, and steel cans

GLASS BOTTLES AND JARS

PLASTIC BOTTLES, CONTAINERS AND JUGS

- Containers numbered 1, 2, or 5
- Soda, juice and water bottles
- Milk and juice jugs
- Margarine, cottage cheese, cream cheese and other tubs and lids
- Laundry detergent bottles and jugs
- Clear berry and produce containers

Are all words understandable? Would you change any of them?

Fosterrn1999

Yes, no

Janet O

Yes, the words are understandable. No, I don't think they need changing.

JohnK

The words are understandable and I'm not positive I'd change anything thing

Kim P

Understandable Wouldn't change

Maria K

Clear to me

jaydee

Clear and concise

Bob L

All words are understandable. No need to change any.

AV Rez

Yes and I would not offer to change any of them.

Jfo

I understand the words but wondering if there shouldn't be an explanation next to some of the food items. Rinsed milk and juice cartons, juice boxes, etc. Maybe I am being too particular but I know how people think sometimes and most will just throw the item in even dirty. Just a thought!

Mike S

Butter not just margarine? Otherwise clear.

AVSAHD

Words are understandable. I might specify for glass bottles that it includes soda/beer/wine/liquor bottles and for metal cans I'd add soda/beer. I think most people know they can recycle them, but would hate to see some of them not recycled because they weren't on the list and they are probably some of the more frequent items. I saw wine cartons but not bottles.

Ahabdul

All of em is crystal clear

Jesse B

Very clear and easy to understand. I would show where numbers are

Ben H

I agree with this idea

Kim P

I like the adding the numbers idea. Maybe this would be even more helpful.

Adrienne B

Under plastic containers, is it only those numbers and the following types of containers or just the numbers of the plastic containers such as the listed examples? Paperboard was an unfamiliar term so I appreciate the e.g.

Ben H

I would list where to find the numbers on plastic containers, and maybe remove the word Corrugated from cardboard

Rachel M

I would specify "other tubs and lids". Otherwise looks good.

BETH

Yes, I think so.

Jeff

Yes , I didn't know about numbered containers though

Natalie W

Clear and understandable

Cliff H

This is a very good list of items

Colleen F

No words were clear and understandable. I would not change them but maybe add the symbol graphic for containers 1, 2 or 5 so they could see what to look for.

Cliff H

that is a good idea

Communication Part 2

Here is a list of what every recycling service hauler must accept for recycling starting in 2020.

PAPER

- Newspaper and inserts
- Magazines and catalogs
- Mail and office papers

CARDBOARD

- Corrugated cardboard
- Paperboard (e.g., cracker boxes)

CARTONS

- Milk and juice cartons
- Soup, broth, and wine cartons
- Juice boxes

METAL CANS

- Aluminum, tin, and steel cans

GLASS BOTTLES AND JARS

PLASTIC BOTTLES, CONTAINERS AND JUGS

- Containers numbered 1, 2, or 5
- Soda, juice and water bottles
- Milk and juice jugs
- Margarine, cottage cheese, cream cheese and other tubs and lids
- Laundry detergent bottles and jugs
- Clear berry and produce containers

Is the information useful? Do you find any of the information confusing?

Fosterrn1999

Yes, i do not

Janet O

Both useful and clear.

JohnK

The information is useful and it's pretty clear

Kim P

I like that everything is organized in categories.

Maria K

Very helpful.

jaydee

This is useful and pretty comprehensive

Bob L

Information was useful but I don't see anything about the items being clean or rinsed.

Ben H

Very true. I didn't think about this originally!

AV Rez

I believe it is useful and simple to understand.

Jfo

Useful and clear!

Mike S

Clear.

AVSAHD

Very useful and not confusing. I would just add a couple of things that I mentioned before. But overall a very comprehensive list.

Ahabdul

Not confusing at all

Jesse B

No confusing very clear cut

Kim P

Sorry, I think you meant "not". This is why I agreed. :)

Adrienne B

I like the idea of adding the symbol with the numbers.

Ben H

The only thing I found confusing was the use of corrugated cardboard. Is

this different from regular cardboard? Other than that the information is useful

Colleen F

I was also concerned that no everyone would understand corrugated cardboard.

Rachel M

Not confusing.

Jeff

The numbered containers are confusing but other than that it seems clear

BETH

Not confusing at all. It's very useful.

Natalie W

Seems similar to me

Cliff H

This is a better list only the numbers of the plastic could be made easier to understand

Colleen F

Will everyone know what corrugated cardboard is? Glass bottles and jars - do you need to say whether or not lids are included?

Kim P

Good thought to add lids on or off. I heard somewhere that the lids off tend to clog machinery.

Cliff H

They should

Communication Part 3

Here is a list of what every recycling service hauler must accept for recycling starting in 2020.

PAPER

- Newspaper and inserts
- Magazines and catalogs
- Mail and office papers

CARDBOARD

- Corrugated cardboard
- Paperboard (e.g., cracker boxes)

CARTONS

- Milk and juice cartons
- Soup, broth, and wine cartons
- Juice boxes

METAL CANS

- Aluminum, tin, and steel cans

GLASS BOTTLES AND JARS

PLASTIC BOTTLES, CONTAINERS AND JUGS

- Containers numbered 1, 2, or 5
- Soda, juice and water bottles
- Milk and juice jugs
- Margarine, cottage cheese, cream cheese and other tubs and lids
- Laundry detergent bottles and jugs
- Clear berry and produce containers

Do you think it is relevant to you? Do you know what to recycle in your recycling cart based on this list?

Fosterrn1999

Yes and yes

Janet O

Yes

JohnK

I think it's relevant since I recycle and it gives me a lot of information on what to put in my cart

Kim P

Yes

Maria K

Very much - my family fits in with these

jaydee

This added to what I knew about recyclables

Ben H

Agreed

Bob L

It works, I like the other guides better with images for quick reference.

AV Rez

It is relevant in that I already recycle everything on the list. The one helpful bullet is listed the plastic container numbers since I don't always remember which numbers are recyclable.

Jfo

Yes, I like to see a detailed list of what is accepted and not. This explains everything thoroughly to me.

Mike S

Yes we all have all sorts of these items at home, so it is relevant. Yes I know what to put in our cart.

AVSAHD

Yes, but again I think adding some common items would help. And I like the idea someone else mentioned about putting the plastic number symbols on the guide as well.

Ahabdul

Yes quiet clear

Jesse B

Yes

Adrienne B

Generally. I'm still uncertain about whether it is only plastics 1,2,5.

Ben H

Yes, for the most part. I'm still unsure on the corrugated cardboard. Other than that the information is clear

Rachel M

Yes

Jeff

I think its relevant, the list seems clear

BETH

Yes. It's very thorough.

Natalie W

Yes recycle all those things. I always look on the package

Cliff H

Yes this list is very good and it is clear what you can recycle

Colleen F

Yes. It is relevant to me and helps me to better understand what is included

with my recycling.

Cliff H

I agree

Motivators

What motivates you to recycle?

Fosterrn1999

The environment and my kids

Janet O

Wanting to do my part to protect our environment...

JohnK

I'm not the only guy living on this rock so I don't feel right just dumping it. But if I was the only dude on this rock.....

Kim P

I want to do what I can to protect our environment.

Maria K

Doing my part to reduce waste and energy

jaydee

I just came from touring a country where littering is common. That motivates me and the sheer amount of recyclable items also motivates me

Mike S

I also found that in foreign countries their trash is collected in very visible areas, which surprises me that they don't recycle or even pick up their trash. How did we get so conscious about our trash/recycling when we really have our large amount of trash hidden from us? Just glad we have the chances we do.

Colleen F

I agree with you. I have been shocked at how little is done in other countries regarding recycling and/or litter in general.

Bob L

An obligation to do my part in reducing waste and doing what is best for the environment.

AV Rez

Want to do what is best for the economy and the environment. Landfills should not be used for materials that can be used over and over again. It just doesn't make sense. And as much as those lands are renewed, future generations should not have to live on tops of garbage dumps no matter how safe.

Jfo

I feel like it's a way for me to give back. To make a positive impact on the environment and while I am only one person, it's a start! Hopefully it starts to have an effect on people around me and they follow the example.

Ben H

Definitely agree! I hope that the trend continues

Mike S

To be a good steward of the opportunities we have been provided for limiting/reducing the waste in landfills. Also to save energy.

AVSAHD

Wanting to reduce waste, save energy and preserve natural resources. We also want our kids to be in the habit of recycling, composting, etc.

Ahabdul

To continue to make the world a better place

Jesse B

Set a positive example for my kids and teach them responsibilities in the world

Adrienne B

I am motivated to recycle to minimize my family's impact so that the world we leave to our future generations is not one where the yogurt container I used today can still be found. I want them to not have to deal with the effects of our trash and conspicuous consumption.

Ben H

There are literal islands of trash the size of Texas in our oceans. If that isn't motivation I don't know what is

Rachel M

We have way too much trash, as a species. I want to do everything I can to help out.

Adrienne B

I agree.

Jeff

Keeping recyclables out of the landfills

BETH

I feel that it's the least I can do to keep our earth clean.

Natalie W

I'm crazy about recycling. I want to help save our earth. We ship our trash to other countries

Cliff H

I worked for a recycle/garbage company back in the 90's when this was all new and it sucked because everything had to be sorted, but now today when everything can be comingled there is no reason not to help the planet out some

Colleen F

I am very interested in keeping our planet green and worried about all the waste we produce, especially the waste that ends up in the ocean and/or harms nature.

Adrienne B

I agree.

Cliff H

I agree

Motivators Part 2

Do you think about the environment when you think about recycling?

Fosterrn1999

I do

Janet O

Of course.

JohnK

Yes

Kim P

Yes

Maria K

Yes

jaydee

Very much so

Bob L

Yes.

AV Rez

Yes.

Jfo

Absolutely!

Mike S

Yes.

Mike S

It also makes me think of what we could reduce our consumption, materialism.

AVSAHD

Yes

Ahabdul

Yes this is for future generations to come

Ben H

Agreed! Even though I don't have kids, I have younger cousins who are growing up in our polluted world. We need to set an example for future generations and how they should treat the planet

Jesse B

Absolutely. Have to leave a clean world for the generations coming behind us

Adrienne B

Yes, I do. To me, it's intertwined.

Ben H

Yes, especially recently, after taking a college geology course

Rachel M

Yes

Jeff

All the time I grew up by the Pind Bend landfill and I seen first hand how it changed the environment

Adrienne B

That would be interesting.

BETH

Yes very much so.

Natalie W

Yes.

Cliff H

Always

Colleen F

Less waste will produce less chemicals and and gasses released from landfills. Recycling helps us save energy and preserve natural resources. Leaving a better place for our children/grandchildren.

Adrienne B

Yes.

Cliff H

Good point

Motivators Part 3

What types of images pop into your mind if you do not recycle?
Are they positive or negative images?

Fosterrn1999

Negative smog

Janet O

They are negative images. Trash filling up the landfills, the sea filling up with garbage...

JohnK

Neutral negative if it's just me if it's everyone not doing it garbage Island is

what pops to mind

Kim P

Garbage everywhere

Maria K

Landfills and trees mowed down

jaydee

Landfills, junkyards and littering

Bob L

Items ending up in landfills when they could have been recycled.

AV Rez

Negative images of larger and larger land fills that contain materials that can be reused and help the environment and economy.

Jfo

Negative- full land fills and garbage littering the sides of the roads, plastic in our oceans. These poor animals getting their heads stuck in the plastic rings. The list goes on. It's not good!

Mike S

I think of big trash heaped up. Sadly I also realize that in other parts of the world one mans trash is another's sustenance and treasure.

AVSAHD

Negative. I think of plastic in the oceans, landfills with trashing caught in trees from the wind and my kids living on a much worse planet than when I grew up.

Ahabdul

The world eating itself up

Jesse B

Negative obviously. I imagine my hunting land littered.

Adrienne B

I think about the huge islands of trash in our oceans. I don't want to contribute to that. It's definitely a negative image, but it helps me to do good.

Ben H

I agree! We need to eradicate those islands of trash, not add to them

Ben H

I think of the negative image of those islands of trash growing larger and larger if I don't recycle.

Rachel M

Negative images of people and animals suffering.

Jeff

Look at the pictures of the oceans and the animals with all the plastics on

or in them. Very negative images

Adrienne B

Yes! I always cut my pop rings because of the animal images.

BETH

I can't not recycle. I don't really know what the images would be but it would be negative.

Natalie W

Animals getting stuck in plastics or eating stuff. The huge pile of plastic in the ocean. Negative.

Cliff H

Negative just go to a dump and see the years of waste before recycling I recall coming to the dump here in Burnsville in 1980 and what a mess and waste

Colleen F

Negative. It takes such little effort to recycle. If I am in a place where I can not find a recycle bin I will take it home with me if I can. Unfortunately that is not always possible.

Cliff H

I agree

Motivators Part 4

Which of these statements would motivate you to recycle.

Recycling is easy. Here is a list of what to recycle.



Clean recycling gets recycled.



Let's focus on recycling paper. Minnesotans are throwing away more than 285,000 tons of paper and 12,000 tons of aluminum cans each year.



Recycling protects our forests, lakes and air.



Help us meet our 75% recycling rate goal.



9 out of 10 Dakota County residents say recycling is important.



Fosterrn1999

Recycling is easy. Here is a list of what to recycle., Let's focus on recycling paper. Minnesotans are throwing away more than 285,000 tons of paper and 12,000 tons of aluminum cans each year., and Recycling protects our forests, lakes and air.

Janet O

Recycling protects our forests, lakes and air.

Makes it personal...

JohnK

Recycling is easy. Here is a list of what to recycle. and Recycling protects our forests, lakes and air.

I like this place and I don't want to see it trashed

Jeff

I like it

Kim P

Recycling is easy. Here is a list of what to recycle. and Recycling protects our forests, lakes and air.

Maria K

Recycling is easy. Here is a list of what to recycle. and Let's focus on recycling paper. Minnesotans are throwing away more than 285,000 tons of paper and 12,000 tons of aluminum cans each year.

Easy is great. Visualizing waste is powerful

Ben H

I agree!

jaydee

Recycling is easy. Here is a list of what to recycle., Clean recycling gets recycled., Let's focus on recycling paper. Minnesotans are throwing away more than 285,000 tons of paper and 12,000 tons of aluminum cans each year., Recycling protects our forests, lakes and air., Help us meet our 75% recycling rate goal., and 9 out of 10 Dakota County residents say recycling is important.

All valid and compelling reasons

Bob L

Clean recycling gets recycled. and Help us meet our 75% recycling rate goal.

Clean recycling gets recycled motivates me to think about what I am putting in the bin and not just assume that putting it in automatically means it is being recycled -- I have a part to play in making sure it meets expectations of being clean. 75% goal seems attainable and easy to understand.

AV Rez

Recycling is easy. Here is a list of what to recycle.

Jfo

Recycling protects our forests, lakes and air.

Recycling protects our forest, lakes and air.

Mike S

Recycling is easy. Here is a list of what to recycle., Clean recycling gets recycled., and Recycling protects our forests, lakes and air.

I like that we also need to be conscious about the state of the materials we recycle. It is not a second trash can.

AVSAHD

Help us meet our 75% recycling rate goal.

I didn't know that was a goal, but it motivates me to be a part of the solution.

Ahabdul

Recycling is easy. Here is a list of what to recycle., Clean recycling

gets recycled., Let's focus on recycling paper. Minnesotans are throwing away more than 285,000 tons of paper and 12,000 tons of aluminum cans each year., Recycling protects our forests, lakes and air., Help us meet our 75% recycling rate goal., and 9 out of 10 Dakota County residents say recycling is important.

All

Jesse B

Recycling is easy. Here is a list of what to recycle.

People I feel recycle the wrong items often.

Jfo

I agree! I do think sometimes people are just being plain lazy and just throw anything in.

Adrienne B

Recycling protects our forests, lakes and air.

While I like the focus statement, for me personally, it helps to link recycling to the bigger impact on the environment.

Ben H

Recycling is easy. Here is a list of what to recycle., Let's focus on recycling paper. Minnesotans are throwing away more than 285,000 tons of paper and 12,000 tons of aluminum cans each year., Recycling protects our forests, lakes and air., and 9 out of 10 Dakota County residents say recycling is important.

Rachel M

Recycling is easy. Here is a list of what to recycle.

Jeff

Recycling is easy. Here is a list of what to recycle., Let's focus on recycling paper. Minnesotans are throwing away more than 285,000 tons of paper and 12,000 tons of aluminum cans each year., Recycling protects our forests, lakes and air., Help us meet our 75% recycling rate goal., and 9 out of 10 Dakota County residents say recycling is important.

The word easy. Theirs alot of unmotivated people on this earth

BETH

Recycling protects our forests, lakes and air.

Because the wording relates to our state of Minnesota.

Natalie W

Let's focus on recycling paper. Minnesotans are throwing away more than 285,000 tons of paper and 12,000 tons of aluminum cans each year. and Recycling protects our forests, lakes and air.

Cliff H

Recycling is easy. Here is a list of what to recycle., Recycling protects our forests, lakes and air., and 9 out of 10 Dakota County residents say recycling is important.

These are a good list of responses that should be used more

Colleen F

Recycling protects our forests, lakes and air.

I love nature and being in the outdoors so knowing recycling protects our forests, lakes and air is relevant and motivating to me.

Cliff H

I agree

Behaviors

Which of the following phrases best describes your recycling philosophy?

When in doubt,
throw it out (put
in the trash)

11 - 52%

Recycle when in
doubt

10 - 48%

Fosterrn1999

Recycle when in doubt

Janet O

When in doubt, throw it out (put in the trash)

Easier for me to do.

JohnK

When in doubt, throw it out (put in the trash)

I've heard putting in the wrong materials for recycling messes with the machines and is a giant hassle for the recycling plants.

Bob L

I am curious to see how the recycling process works. It would be interesting if there was a video online showing the process from beginning to end. It could also serve to educate the public regarding the

problems caused when items are placed in the recycling bin that don't belong.

AV Rez

I have heard the same but if I could get a little more understanding of how the process works, it would be helpful in being more responsible for making those choices.

Colleen F

Excellent idea.

JohnK

That's actually not a bad idea. Get on it Dakota county

Kim P

When in doubt, throw it out (put in the trash)

I guess I don't follow either of these as I try to find out what I should or should not recycle.

Maria K

Recycle when in doubt

Easier to place in trash since recyclables are gone through

jaydee

Recycle when in doubt

We have limited capacity to deal with trash

Bob L

Recycle when in doubt

I assume that if it isn't recyclable it will get sorted out at some point.

AV Rez

Recycle when in doubt

What gets rejected in the recycle phase ends up in the land fill anyway.

Jfo

Recycle when in doubt

I would rather they have something to remove from the recycle that was put in by accident than everything constantly going in the trash.

Mike S

Recycle when in doubt

Easier to pick through recycled materials than trash.

AVSAHD

Recycle when in doubt

I know that not everything gets recycled anyway (in fact much less than we think from single sort) so if some of it isn't going to be recycled anyway, I'd rather put something in that has a chance of making it.

Ahabdul

Recycle when in doubt

If confused, look it up before u throw it in trash

Jesse B

When in doubt, throw it out (put in the trash)

Garbage in recycling is hazardous to sorters.

Ben H

Too true!

Adrienne B

When in doubt, throw it out (put in the trash)

I don't want to ruin a batch of recycling by putting in non-recyclable items.

Ben H

When in doubt, throw it out (put in the trash)

Rachel M

When in doubt, throw it out (put in the trash)

Jeff

When in doubt, throw it out (put in the trash)

I guess that phrase is burnt into my head

BETH

Recycle when in doubt

If in doubt, find the solution.

Natalie W

When in doubt, throw it out (put in the trash)

I know it causes trouble and makes more work. If I can't find a triangle I toss it.

Rachel M

This ^^

Cliff H

When in doubt, throw it out (put in the trash)

I don't want the people that have to sort stuff to clean up my trash

Adrienne B

I agree.

Cliff H

Don't want to clean up after myself and sure not after others

Colleen F

When in doubt, throw it out (put in the trash)

I am pretty confident with what can be recycled. I have read that items placed in containers that are, not recycleable, adds additional cost to our recycling bills. So I will put it in the trash.

Cliff H

I agree

Behaviors Part 2

Recycling experts are now urging people to adopt “when in doubt, throw it out”. Are you OK with this? Does this sound reasonable? Why or why not?

Fosterrn1999

I am ok with that. Yes

Janet O

Yes - throwing an, "unrecyclable item" in recycling can wreck havoc on the system...

JohnK

Yes but I'm not sure the reasoning maybe what I heard through the grape vine is right but I'm already biased in favor of this

Kim P

I suppose, but why are they encouraging this philosophy? I could see some people just not recycle altogether.

Ben H

Very true. For a long time my family didn't sort our recycling from our garbage. We only started sorting through ours in the last few years

Maria K

It's fine. If that's the preferred method, I trust the experts to inform us

jaydee

I am surprised by that. I think people need to be encouraged to recycle

Bob L

I think it would give people an excuse not to recycle or consider what they are putting in the trash because "experts" don't seem to care.

Kim P

I agree.

AV Rez

If that is what the experts advise then I'm OK with that. I thought that a doubtful material would be better served if recycled than if throw out but I've learned something new.

AVSAHD

I would prefer the opposite, but if there is data or research to show that it hurts recycling efforts, I would want to know that information and change my behavior. Because my tendency would be to throw it in recycling if I wasn't sure. But the more information we have on what is and what isn't recyclable will hopefully limit this problem.

Jfo

No, it takes maybe one extra second to be mindful of whether an item can be recycled or not.

Mike S

Yes but however this also tends toward the lazy bone in man so could just help us into throwing everything into the trash.

Ahabdul

No, it should be thrown into the right place.

Jesse B

Yes previous response answered this

Adrienne B

I think it will help consumers make better choices to use products that are packaged in recyclable containers. If I am always having to throw something away because it isn't recyclable, I will change to a different brand that has recyclable packaging.

Ben H

Yes, this is a reasonable statement. Some things are obvious that they go in the trash or recycling, but if you have your doubts, we have the internet and our guides on what goes where

Rachel M

I have heard that putting the wrong things in can cause a lot of trouble, and cause recyclable things to be trashed. So I think it is reasonable.

Jeff

Yes because if they dont know it would probably create more harm than good

BETH

I guess it's reasonable. I would hate to be the one to sort all that trash.

Natalie W

Yes

Cliff H

Yes, because the sorters don't need to do my trash work for me

Colleen F

Yes. Because of what I've read about the issues with not doing so causing additional costs to the recycling program.

Adrienne B

Yes.

Cliff H

True

Behaviors Part 3

If you are in the bathroom at home and you are unsure if an item is recyclable what would you do?

Fosterrn1999

Look at the guide

Janet O

Check it out in my, "Recycling Brochure" when I am out of the bathroom!

JohnK

I'd probably have my phone on me so just head on over www.dakotacounty.us and go to the green guide. But if I can't just store it till I figure out what to do and if push comes to shove trash

Kim P

Figure out if it can or cannot be recycled before placing it in the trash or

recycling container.

Maria K

Go to the guide on my indoor recycle container

jaydee

Probably put it in trash

Bob L

Probably throw it in the trash.

AV Rez

Throw it out.

AVSAHD

I would ask my wife if she knows if it is recyclable or not. If she didn't know, I would try to look it up before throwing it out or recycling it.

Jfo

If I am at home, I may put something for the "time being" and then figure it out. Truth be told I may just throw it in the garbage.

Mike S

Throw it. I don't keep a recycling bin in the bathroom.

Ahabdul

Look it up and make sure

Jesse B

Look it up on the Dakota county site

Ben H

Agreed!

Adrienne B

I would bring the item to the kitchen and look it up on my phone.

Ben H

I would look on the Dakota County website and check if the item is recyclable

Rachel M

Carry it to the kitchen where I have a list.

Jeff

Look on the label to see if its recyclable if it doesn't say I'd throw it in the trash

BETH

Google it on my phone which is always somewhere near.

Adrienne B

Good point!

Natalie W

Look for the recycle symbol otherwise I toss it

Cliff H

Look it up

Colleen F

Bring it out of the bathroom and look it up.

Cliff H

Agree

Behaviors Part 4

If you are in your bedroom and you have a box that you know is recyclable, what do you do? Explain what you do, step-by-step.

Fosterrn1999

I bring it to recycling bin and take it apart to flatten it

Janet O

Break it down & bring it to my, "Recycling Bin" in my kitchen.

JohnK

Break it down toss it in the recycling bin

Kim P

Go to my recycling bin, break down the box and toss it in.

Ben H

Agreed

Maria K

Break it down, place in our indoor recycle can

jaydee

If it is a small box I would bring it into the kitchen and place it in recycle bag. Large box would be brought out to bin in garage

Bob L

Set it aside and then bring it to the recycling bin located in the kitchen.

AV Rez

Take the box to the garage, break it down to flat and place in the recycle bin.

AVSAHD

If it is small enough, I put it in the recycling as is. If it is larger, I break it down/fold it so that it fits.

Jfo

I always break down boxes and sometimes I start a pile or I immediately bring out to our recycle bin. I try to get as much stuff as I can in the bin so I try to break everything down.

Mike S

Put it on the landing to take it down stairs where the recycling bin is located.

Ahabdul

1. Flatten it up 2. Place in recycle box

Jesse B

Sort it inside in recycling sorter then garbage what needs garbage.

Adrienne B

I put it in the recycling bin in my bedroom. It then gets collected by my husband every 2 weeks or sooner if it is full and put into our recycling bin the garage, and then put out for recycling pickup.

Ben H

I take the box out to my garage and I separate the items that I can recycle myself from the ones I have to take separately. Then I place the items I can recycle myself in my recycling bin and place the other items aside so I can deliver them later

Rachel M

Leave it in my "recycle" pile until my husband gets sick of it and recycles it all!

Jeff

Set it in the kitchen till I take my recycling out

BETH

Again, I'd google it with my phone because my phone is right there.

Natalie W

I have a container in the bathroom under the sink for recycling

Cliff H

Break the box down after it is empty and put it in the recycle bin

Colleen F

I would bring it to the garage and either break it down immediately or later when I had more time. Then add it to the recycle bin.

Cliff H

agree

Behaviors Part 5

How does the recycling in your home get to your hauler cart?
Please explain step-by-step.

Fosterrn1999

Walk it through garage to outside bin

Janet O

I have a, "Recycling Bin" in my kitchen. There is a, "Recycling Cart" in our Condo's garage. When my , "Bin" is full, it is taken down to the, "Cart". Recycling is picked up weekly.

JohnK

We have a bin. Then we take the bin to the bin and toss it in. My rhyme scheme is on point But in all seriousness We have a bin in the kitchen when that gets full we take it the hauler

Kim P

We take the bins located on each level out to the garage and dump in the cart. Items that are too large for the cart, we take to the Recycling Zone.

Maria K

We have a can just for recyclables and we dump it outside in the hauler

jaydee

Items are placed in paper bag in kitchen and then brought to bin

Bob L

Recycling bin is located next to trash in the kitchen and then (when full) it is brought outside to the hauler cart.

AV Rez

Garbage and recycle are taken to the garage where both carts are located. They stay inside until placed curbside on pick up day.

AVSAHD

Our hauler carts (we have two recycling ones) are right by our interior garage door and usually at least one is always open so we can drop recyclables right from our garage door without going out. Especially in winter.

Ben H

Very nice!

Jfo

We have a smaller bin right outside the door and then that gets emptied a few times a week into the larger bin. I am the main one that recycles or makes sure something is thrown in the right bin.

Mike S

I put it in a designated container and put it it next to the trash can.

Mike S

Just a thought- we all have large bins for recycling. What if at some point the city/recycling companies had smaller bins made out of recycled materials for us to keep in the home. Yes, many items that could be recycled probably get thrown due to convenience in the home, as who might want to walk down to the garage or condo place just to recycle. Though, it sounds like throwing recyclable items is becoming acceptable so... doesn't that defeat recycling?

Ahabdul

Boxes get taken to the big dumpster in the garage and no signage is available for other recycle items

Jesse B

My kids take it out after sorting inside

Adrienne B

We have green buckets from Ikea that we use as recycling bins in various

rooms of the house. We also have a large recycling bin in the kitchen. When I recycle an item, I follow the recycling instructions and then place the clean item in the nearest recycling bin (unless it's an item for the Recycling Zone, which goes in a box in the garage). The recycling bins are collected by my husband every two weeks and dumped into the trash hauler's recycling bin and pushed to the curb.

Ben H

I place the items to be recycled directly in the recycling bin, and when it gets full, I place it out at the end of the driveway

Rachel M

When it gets full in the house, my husband brings it outside.

Jeff

I bring it all out before I do chores at the end of the day

BETH

I sort recycling in my house and place it in the bin it belongs in.

Natalie W

I have bins that pull out. Bring them out to the garage

Cliff H

I have a smaller recycle bin near the kitchen and it goes there and then out to my garage to the recycle bin

Colleen F

We keep our recycling bin right by the garage service door for extremely

easy access. The night before pickup, we bring to the bottom of our driveway so our hauler can easily retrieve it.

Cliff H

Nice

Behaviors Part 6

When are you searching for information on recycling?

Only when I have an item in my hand.

13 - 62%

When I have free time.

0 - 0%

Other

8 - 38%

Fosterrn1999

Only when I have an item in my hand.

Janet O

Other

If I don't know what to do with an item, I look it up.

JohnK

Only when I have an item in my hand.

I only really need to look it up when I'm in the situation it calls for it otherwise never

Kim P

Other

When I don't know where (trash/recycling)it should go, or if I have a new item, I look to check numbers if available.

Maria K

Only when I have an item in my hand.

Don't have much free time and wouldn't be looking for this info to fill that time

jaydee

Other

When I have something out of the ordinary to recycle

Ben H

Agreed

Bob L

Only when I have an item in my hand.

If I have an item that I am unsure of I would consider looking it up to find out .

AV Rez

Only when I have an item in my hand.

I do know most of what can be recycled but when I have an item in question or one that I can almost certain is for drop off, I will search the Dakota Co. website for direction.

AVSAHD

Other

I generally don't look it up - I rely on my spouse who researches it more

than I do. But I also didn't know there was a guide/website like have been presented in this group. So I will be much more likely to look things up when I have it in my hand and am trying to figure out what to do with it.

Jfo

Other

I like to think I have a good knowledge of what can be recycled and how it should go into the bin. there are instances where I need to make sure or a larger item and not sure how to proceed. If that is the case I will do a search of Dakota County Recycling.

Mike S

Only when I have an item in my hand.

Ahabdul

Other

I've been programmed by my job because of all the signage

Jesse B

Only when I have an item in my hand.

I don't think about recycling 24/7 it's not a huge hobby

Adrienne B

Only when I have an item in my hand.

I only need information when I have a question about a particular item, typically. However, if information is sent to me or available at an event I am at, I read it.

Ben H

Other

I search for information when I am unsure of what to recycle

Rachel M

Only when I have an item in my hand.

Jeff

Only when I have an item in my hand.

I dont ever really search for information

BETH

Other

I only need to do that when I have something unusual to get rid of. It only happens once or twice a year.

Natalie W

Only when I have an item in my hand.

Cliff H

Only when I have an item in my hand.

When I am able to see it then I do my search so I know what to do with it

Colleen F

Only when I have an item in my hand.

I typically do not search for information on recycling until I am wondering if a specific item can be recycled or if I have an item that I need to get rid of and not sure how to.

Adrienne B

Me too.

Cliff H

I agree