

# Department of Public Works Sanitation Section

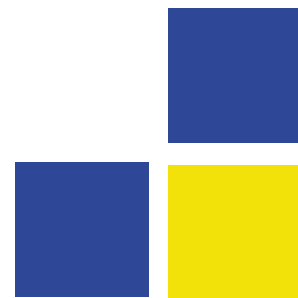
**Public Works Committee  
10/01/2025**



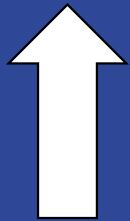
# DPW Annual Residential Recycling Report

File#: 250933

# 2024



# Program Highlights



Recycling Tonnage  
Increased 5.8%



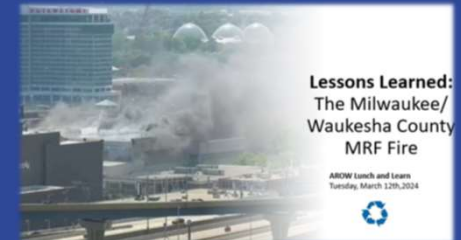
\$1.1M Increased  
Revenue From Sale  
of Recyclable  
Materials



60 MPS Students  
Participated In  
America Recycles  
Day Art Gallery



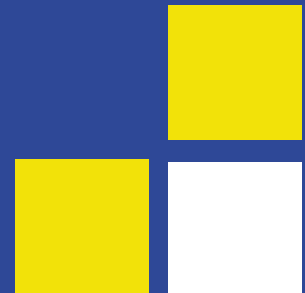
FEED MKE Project  
Awards \$190,000  
to 11 Organizations  
For Food Recovery  
And Composting



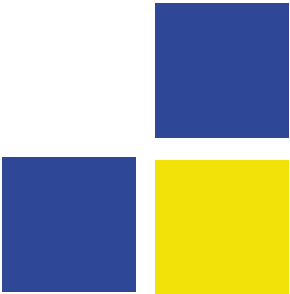
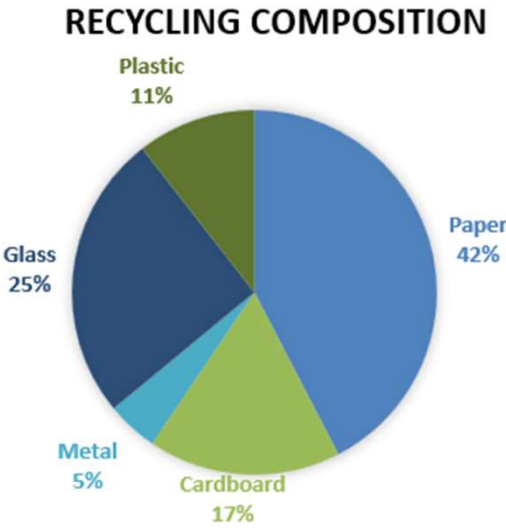
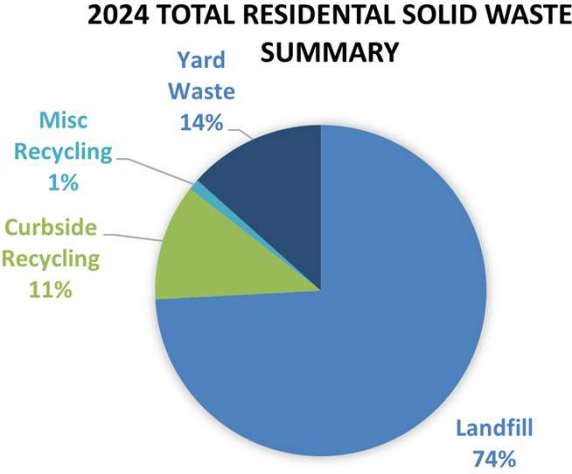
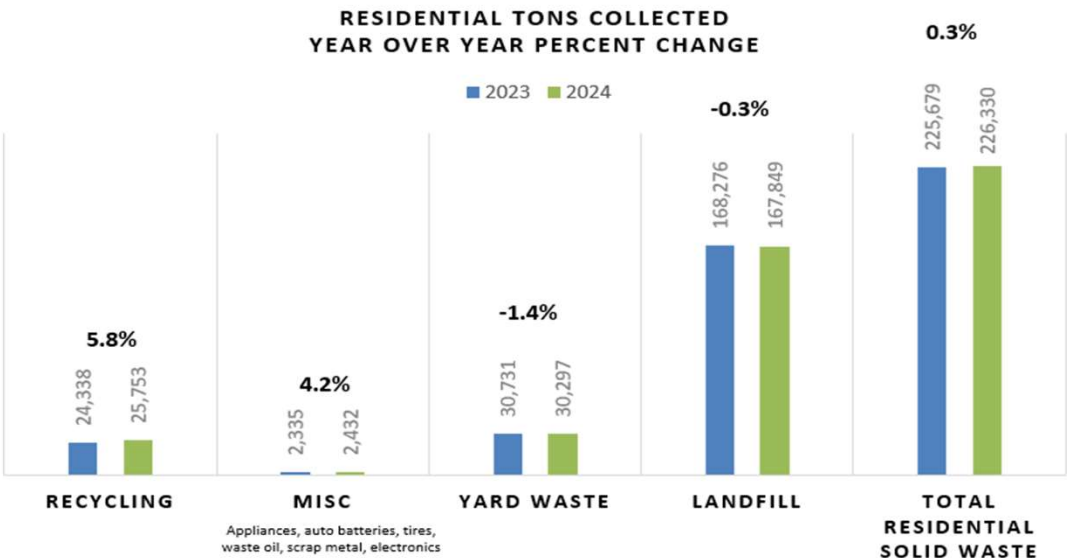
11 Presentations  
And Interviews



251 Compost  
Bins Sold

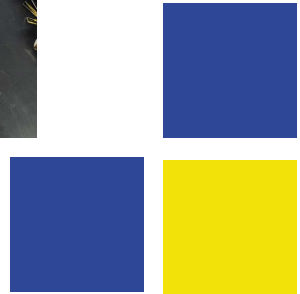


# Program Summary



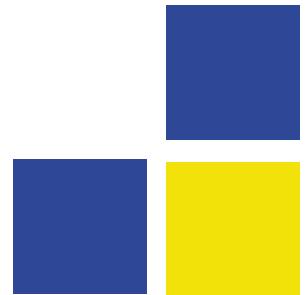
# America Recycles Day

---





# America Recycles Day



# 2025 Updates



**FREE FOOD SCRAP DROP-OFF**

Interested in composting your home food scraps?

Now you can!

[milwaukee.gov/FoodScraps](http://milwaukee.gov/FoodScraps)

**FREE PILOT PROGRAM**

City of Milwaukee  
COMPOST CRUSADER



City of Milwaukee

## 2025 SANITATION FALL MAILER

**BY THE NUMBERS:**  
The Department of Public Works' flood recovery response

**GOT LEAVES?**  
Take advantage of the fall leaf program

**Food Scrap Drop-Off Pilot Program DETAILS INSIDE**

**YEAR-ROUND recycling schedule update**

Plus: Christmas tree collection, yard waste disposal, and winter Drop Off Center hours.



### New Winter 2025-26 – Recycling Schedule Set Year-Round!

#### What does this mean for our residential customers?

Your previous recycling schedules featured set dates and cart set out only from April – November. From December – March, City crews retrieved carts from storage locations since collection frequency was variable, often anywhere from 2-4 weeks between collections. This variability had been necessitated as part of the model for staffing DPW's winter snow and ice control operations. DPW is adjusting to enable improved recycling service in the winter. While some winter service delays are to be expected, under your new schedule **you will now receive recycling collection every other week year-round!** If your recycle cart is on your property and we previously walked up to retrieve it in the winter, you will need to bring it to the curb (or alley line) for collection on your service day just as you do for garbage collection.

#### Set Out Reminders

- Set out cart(s) by 7 a.m. on the scheduled day, year-round. Crews will **NOT** retrieve carts from storage locations.
- Place cart(s) at the alley/curb line three (3) feet away from trees, vehicles, mailboxes, etc. with the lid opening to the alley/street.
- Return cart(s) to the storage location by 10 p.m. on collection day (per City Ord. 79-5 – violation may result in a fine). Crews do not return carts to storage locations.
  - Exception: If pickup is postponed due to winter weather, leave cart(s) at the collection point until emptied. When collection runs behind, DPW will catch back up.
- Ensure carts are visible, shoveled out, and there is a clear path free from snow, ice, cars, etc.
- Place cart(s) at the alley/curb line three (3) feet away from trees, vehicles, mailboxes, etc. with the lid opening to the alley/street.

#### Recycling Reminders

- Recyclables must be loose. Do not use plastic bags for materials.
- Exception: Extra recyclables can be placed in cardboard boxes or paper bags next to the cart.
- Empty and rinse all containers. Flatten cardboard. No plastic bags. Leave items loose in the cart.

Cans	Paper	Glass
Aluminum and steel cans	Cardboard (flattened), cereal boxes, paper tubes, mixed paper, newspapers, magazines, and mail	Bottles and jars <b>NO WINDOW GLASS, LIGHT BULBS, CERAMICS, OR CHINA</b>
Plastics	Cartons	Items NOT collected
#1, #2, and #5 only Kitchens, laundry, and bath bottles and containers <b>NO BAGS, POUCHES, OR WRAP</b> <b>NO MOTOR OIL/ANTIFREEZE BOTTLES</b>	Food and beverage cartons	Do not include the following items: • Propane tanks • Plastic bags • Needles/ sharps • Hazards • Trash

Contact Us