St. Croix County Solid Waste and Recycling Survey, 2015

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James Janke

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Executive Summary

One of the hypotheses that structured this study was that the recycling/waste disposal practices of those from rural areas differed from those living in urban areas. With a relatively few exceptions, this hypothesis was not supported by the results of this survey. To a surprising degree the practices and opinions of rural and urban respondents were quite similar. Other demographic factors, especially age and home ownership were much more common features that resulted in different practices and opinions.

The SRC is concerned that there is some non-response bias in both the urban and rural samples with respect to some of the recycling behaviors about which we asked. Non-response bias refers to a situation in which people who do not return a questionnaire have opinions that are systematically different from the opinions of those who return their surveys. For example, if only the most avid recyclers in St. Croix County completed and returned the survey, the results reported would overstate the recycling habits of people in the county. We test for non-response bias by comparing the responses to the first mailing of the survey to responses from those completing a subsequent mailing. In general, Mail 1 respondents appear to be more avid recyclers than those who responded to survey reminders. As such, the results reported herein may slightly overstate the extent of recycling that is happening in St. Croix County. Instances where this is the case will be noted in the text of this report.

Compared to the demographic profile of all adults in St. Croix County, the rural sample contains more men, older respondents, people with at least a 4-year college degree and homeowners than we would expect (Table 1). The urban sample is closer to the overall adult population in the county with respect to all these demographic features except age (which skews slightly older in the urban sample). As you’ll see, the recycling/garbage disposal opinions/practices frequently differ by age, education and homeownership. This also suggests that the rates discussed in this report probably overstate actual behavior in the County.

A very high proportion of St. Croix residents say that they regularly (87%) or most of the time (7%) recycle from their home (Figure 1). About three-quarters said they regularly or most of the time recycle in their workplaces. About half of the respondents said they recycle regularly or most of the time when they are at activities or events, at schools, parks, while shopping and at gas stations. There were few differences in recycling practices of rural and urban respondents, but quite a few statistically significant differences across other demographic variables:

- Those older than 55 were more likely than those under 55 to recycle in their home and at events they attend but less likely to recycle at gas stations, parks, or the schools
- Homeowners, compared to renters, were more likely to recycle in their homes and at their workplace
- Those with more years of formal education were more likely to recycle in their homes, in parks, in their workplaces, and while shopping than those without a 4-year college degree

A majority of respondents (56%) said they faced no barriers to increasing their recycling rates (Figure 2). Perhaps the biggest barrier is the availability of recycling bins (at home, at events, in shopping areas, etc.). Only about 1 in 10 respondents said that lack of a place to store
recyclables, having to load and drive recyclables to a facility, knowing what items can be recycled or having to sort recyclables were barriers to increased recycling. Few respondents were concerned about recycling attracting vermin or unsavory smells.

More than 90% of the respondents said they are recycling cans, glass, cardboard, numbers 1 and 2 plastic, and paper. Eighty percent or more are recycling electronics, appliances, motor oil and tires (Figure 3). Between two-thirds and three quarters are recycling numbers 3 – 7 plastics and furniture. Slightly more than half said they are recycling mattresses, construction materials, garden refuse or brush. Rural residents, homeowners, older residents, and those with at least a bachelor’s degree were significantly more likely to recycle a broad array of products than were their counterparts (urbanites, renters, younger residents, and less formal education).

Roughly two-thirds of all respondents said they recycle paper, cardboard, glass, cans and numbers 1 and 2 plastic curbside and about one-quarter do so at a community facility (Table 2). These questions, in particular, had response patterns suggesting non-response bias, so the rates of recycling these products may overstate actual rates. “Other” means of disposal/recycling were particularly important for tires, oil, and mattresses (often recycled by the vendor of the new/replacement item), garden refuse and brush (often composed, spread on land, or burned), furniture (frequently donated to non-profits), and aluminum cans (often sold to a salvage yard) (Table 3).

Almost all residents have either curbside pick-up (75%) or an on-site dumpster (13%) for their garbage (Figure 4). Urban residents, those under 55 years of age, more formal education, and homeowners are more likely to have curbside pick-up for their garbage removal. Their counterparts (rural, under 55, less formal education, and renters) were more likely to use a residential dumpster for their garbage.

About one-third of the respondents said they had participated in the annual Clean Sweep program within the past three years (Figure 5). The primary reasons reported for not participating in this program is that they didn’t have any hazardous wastes to dispose of (48%) or they didn’t know about it (32%). Homeowners and older respondents were more likely to have participated in Clean Sweep in the past 3 years. Eighty-four percent of respondents said if the Clean Sweep program was offered on more days each year, they would be more likely to participate in the program (Figure 6). Only one-quarter said they would be more likely to participate if Clean Sweep was offered at a different time of the year or stayed open for longer hours.

Most respondents were aware that state and county laws require businesses and households to recycle (70%) and that burn barrels are illegal (77%) (Figure 7). About half of the respondents were opposed to creating a public facility for yard waste (to create compost, mulch, wood chips, etc.), but a solid majority were in favor of a hazardous waste facility (Figure 8). About half of all respondents preferred that such a facility be funded by means of a user fee and only 20% were willing to fund it with a $20/household/year tax.

The results of this survey highlighted some of the challenges the County faces in informing residents about recycling and disposal options. In many instances, respondents said the primary
impediment to more active participation in these activities is a lack of information or uncertainty about recycling or disposal options. The County’s newsletter is an important source of information about recycling and disposal options (Figure 9); about two-thirds of all respondents said that they have used “Your Wasteline,” to access information about disposal and/or recycling options in St. Croix. Half or slightly less have gotten information about these activities from newspaper articles, the County’s website, or public notices. In terms of their most preferred source of information, slightly more than half (57%) identified “Your Wasteline” as their “go to” source. About a quarter more (26%) said the county’s website was their preferred source and 11% selected newspaper articles (Figure 10).

Respondents were given the opportunity to say anything else they felt like with respect to recycling/garbage removal in St. Croix County in an open-ended question. The largest group of comments expressed general support for recycling and the County’s efforts in this area (Table 4). There were roughly equal numbers of comments placed into categories expressing concerns about costs of recycling and the challenges associated with disposing of/recycling specific types of materials (lightbulbs, mattresses, etc.)
Survey Purpose and Process

As part of their effort to update their Solid Waste Management Plan, the office of Community Development and St. Croix County Extension Agent, Eric Biltonen requested the Survey Research Center (SRC) at UW-River Falls to survey rural and urban residents about their recycling habits.

The American Community Survey reports 17,322 municipal households within municipalities and 14,792 households within unincorporated towns. Based on these numbers of households, the SRC sent surveys to random samples of 1,128 urban households and 1,122 rural households. For both populations non-respondents received a postcard reminder approximately two weeks after the initial mailing and a second questionnaire about two weeks after the postcard. The SRC received completed responses from 331 urban residents and 431 rural residents. Given the number of households in each population, the SRC expects estimates in this report to be accurate to within plus/minus 5.3% for the urban population and plus/minus 4.6% for rural residents.

Any survey has to be concerned with “non-response bias.” Non-response bias refers to a situation in which people who do not return a questionnaire have opinions that are systematically different from the opinions of those who return their surveys. For example, if only the most avid recyclers in St. Croix County completed and returned the survey, the results reported would overstate the recycling habits of people in the county. Based on a standard analytical approach, described in Appendix A, the SRC is concerned that there is some non-response bias in both the urban and rural samples with respect to some of the recycling behaviors about which we asked. In general, Mail 1 respondents appear to be more avid recyclers than those who responded to survey reminders. As such, the results reported herein may slightly overstate the extent of recycling that is happening in St. Croix County. Instances where this is the case will be noted in the text of this report.

A summary of all written comments is included in Appendix B. Comments from rural and urban respondents are combined in this appendix.

A summary of numeric responses is included in Appendix C. In this appendix responses are provided for rural and urban respondents separately.
Respondent Demographic Information

The survey asked respondents to provide a limited amount of demographic data to enable us to see if practices differ across demographic categories and to compare the samples profile to data for the county as a whole. The responses of rural and urban respondents and the comparable data from the US Census’ 2009-2013 American Community Survey are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Demographics of the St. Croix Solid Waste Survey Sample, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Town</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lives in:</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>451</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural Sample</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Sample</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Croix County, Adults</td>
<td>62,095</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>18 - 24</th>
<th>25 - 34</th>
<th>35 - 44</th>
<th>45 - 54</th>
<th>55 - 64</th>
<th>65+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural Sample</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Sample</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Croix County, Adults</td>
<td>62,095</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>15%</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>&lt;High School</th>
<th>High School</th>
<th>Some College or Tech</th>
<th>2-Year Degree</th>
<th>BA/BS Degree</th>
<th>Grad or Professional Degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural Sample</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Sample</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Croix County, Adults</td>
<td>56,306</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Own</th>
<th>Rent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural Sample</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Sample</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Croix County</td>
<td>32,114</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>22%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type Housing</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Detached Single</th>
<th>Attached</th>
<th>Apartment</th>
<th>Mobile Home</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural Sample</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Sample</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Croix County</td>
<td>34062</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number in House</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural Sample</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Sample</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As noted above, the response rate from rural portions of St. Croix County was particularly robust – there were more than twice as many residents from townships as there were from cities and about four-times as many as there were from villages. In the analysis to follow, respondents from villages and cities were combined into a single “urban” category.

The gender split of urban respondents is similar to the overall adult population but the rural respondents skew heavily male. Differences in the recycling opinions and practices of men and women will be noted in the report.

Both the rural and urban samples have considerably higher proportions of older respondents (55+) and lower proportions of younger respondents (under 35) than in the overall adult population of St. Croix County. It is not uncommon for survey samples to contain relatively few younger respondents and more older people. In the analysis to follow, we’ve divided the population into two age categories – those under 55 years of age and those older than 55 and will note any statistically significant differences in these groups.

Relative to Wisconsin as a whole, St. Croix County has a well-educated population and the rural and urban samples contain even higher percentages of respondents with at least a 4-year degree. The urban sample more closely aligns with the census data. In the following analysis, we divided the respondents into those with less than a 4-year college degree and those with their bachelor’s or a graduate/professional degree.

In terms of home ownership, the urban sample is fairly similar to the overall County data; rural respondents were overwhelmingly home-owners. Similarly, the type of residence (detached single-family home, attached (condo, duplex), etc.) of the urban sample aligns well with the County data and the rural sample is, almost exclusively, living in a single-family detached home. More than half of both samples live alone or with only one other person.

**Recycling/Waste Disposal Practices**

In the analysis to follow, results across both datasets will be presented. In the discussion, significant differences between the recycling/waste disposal practices of rural versus urban respondents will be noted. In addition, we will compare these practices across demographic factors (gender, age, education, etc.).

**Where County Residents Recycle.** Respondents were asked to indicate the frequency with which they recycle at various places (their home, at work, at gas stations, etc.). The stacked bars in Figure 1 arranges the frequency with which respondents said they recycle at these places. The bottom portion (dark green) shows the percentage of all respondent who say they regularly (weekly or bi-weekly) recycle. The next, lighter (green) portion measures the percent who said they recycle “most of the time” (at least once a month). The middle band (yellow) indicates the proportion who “sometimes” recycle (once every 3 months or so). The fourth band (lighter red) are those who “rarely” recycle (once or twice a year) and the top (dark red) segment are those who said they “don’t recycle” at a given venue.
More than 90% of respondents said they recycle regularly (87%) or most of the time (7%) from their home. Only 2% said rarely and another 2% said they never recycle at home. In short, virtually all St. Croix County residents appear to be fairly active recyclers of items they use in their homes. Further, a large majority (78%) of respondents also reported recycling at their work site regularly (60%) or most of the time (18%). About one third of all respondents said they regularly recycle at all the other venues (events, school, parks, while shopping, and a gas stations).

In terms of demographic differences in recycling practices in the venues shown in Figure 1, the SRC found the following statistically significant differences:

- Home owners (compared to renters), those older than 55 (compared to younger respondents), and those with at least a 4-year college degree (compared to those with less formal education) were more likely to recycle from their home
- In contrast, younger (those under 55 years of age) and those with less than a 4-year degree were more likely to say they recycle at gas stations
- Older respondents and those with less formal education are more likely to rarely or never recycle at a park
• Probably because they are less likely to have children living in the home, those older than 55 and those with only one or two people in the household are less likely to recycle at schools.

• Home owners, those with 3 or more in the household, younger and more highly educated respondents were significantly more likely to recycle at their workplace.

• Those living in urban areas and those with more formal education are slightly more likely to recycle while shopping.

• Older respondents (those 55 or older) were somewhat more likely to report recycling regularly at activities/events they attend.

Interestingly, the recycling rates of those living in attached homes (e.g., duplexes) were higher at gas stations, parks, schools and work than those living in other types of housing (detached, apartments, etc.).

As noted by their infrequent appearance in the preceding bullet points, there are few differences in recycling practices of urban and rural residents of St. Croix County.

**Barriers to Recycling by County Residents.** Respondents were asked to identify any barriers that are preventing them from recycling more of their waste (Figure 2). A majority of the respondents (56%) said they faced no barriers to increasing their recycling activities. Respondents who do face barriers, could check as many as applied to their situation. As suggested by the data in Figure 2, recycling barriers are not all that common for the households in our sample.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Figure 2: Barriers to Increased Recycling, 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No barriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No place to store recyclables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having to drive to facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know what's recyclable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having to sort</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attracting vermin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smell</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The largest category, “Other,” was identified as a barrier by 153 respondents. Of these 58 said the lack of recycling bins at home, events, while shopping and elsewhere limited their recycling. Another 26 said they didn’t know exactly what could be recycled, which limited their participation in this waste management activity. Smaller numbers said variants of they faced no barriers (12), that their recycling pick-up schedule was too infrequent (12), that they didn’t know where they could take some items (10), that the cost of recycling some products (e.g. appliances) reduced their recycling efforts (7), or that they don’t generate enough recyclables to make it worth their while (5). The final 23 were miscellaneous comments that didn’t fit into any particular category.

Only about 1 in 10 respondents said that lack of a place to store recyclables, having to load and drive recyclables to a facility, knowing what items can be recycled or having to sort recyclables were barriers to increased recycling. Few respondents were concerned about recycling attracting vermin or unsavory smells.

Many of the statistical differences across demographic groups with respect to recycling barriers make intuitive sense:

- Rural respondents were more likely than those from urban areas to say that the need to drive to a recycling facility was a barrier for them and less likely to say they face no barriers
- Renters, compared to home owners, and those with more people living in the home (compared to people living alone or with one other person), were more likely to say they lacked a place to store recyclables

But, other differences have less obvious and intuitive explanations:
- Those with less formal education were more likely to say the need to load and drive to a recycling center is a barrier
- Younger respondents, compared to those over 55 were more likely to say the lack of storage space and uncertainty about what can be recycled are barriers for them
- Men (compared to women), those from one or two member households (compared to larger households), and older (compared to those under 55) respondents were more likely to say they face no barriers to increasing their recycling efforts

**Recycling Practices for Product Categories.** Respondents were asked to identify products they do not currently recycle. Starting at the bottom of Figure 3, more than 90% of those who responded to this question are recycling cans, glass, cardboard, numbers 1 and 2 plastic, and paper. Eighty percent or more are recycling electronics, appliances, motor oil and tires. Between two-thirds and three quarters are recycling numbers 3 – 7 plastics and furniture. Slightly more than half said they are recycling mattresses, construction materials, garden refuse or brush.
There were a large number of demographic differences in terms of who is not recycling products.

- Somewhat surprisingly, St. Croix County’s rural residents appear to be more avid recyclers; significantly lower proportions of rural residents said they don’t recycle cans (2% rural/6% urban), motor oil (16% rural/24% urban), tires (16% rural/27% urban), electronics (9% rural/17% urban), appliances (11% rural/22% urban), construction materials (37% rural/27% urban) and furniture (27% rural/37% urban). Higher proportions of rural residents don’t recycle grass or brush.

- Compared to renters, significantly lower proportions of home owners are not recycling paper (7% owners/15% renters), cardboard (6% owners/13% renters), glass (4% owners/20% renters), numbers 1 and 2 plastics (6% owners/21% renters), motor oil (17% owners/49% renters), tires (16% owners/27% renters), electronics (11% owners/31% renters), appliances (14% owners/38% renters), and mattresses (36% owners/52% renters).

- Compared to those under 55 years of age, older County residents are significantly less likely to say they don’t recycle paper (4% older/10% younger), glass (3% older/7% younger), cans (2% older/5% younger), numbers 1 and 2 plastics (4.5% older/9% younger), and furniture (26% older/35% younger).
- A somewhat surprising result is that women are more likely to say they don’t recycle a number of products than are men: glass (3% men/7% women), numbers 1 & 2 plastic (5% men/9% women), numbers 3 – 7 plastic (22% men/31% women), motor oil (16% men/24% women), and appliances (13% men/19% women).

- Those with at least a bachelor degree, compared to those with less formal education were less likely to say they don’t recycle glass (3% more education/7% less), cans (2% more education/5% less), 1 & 2 plastics (5% more education/9% less), 3 – 7 plastics (21% more education/28% less), and motor oil (16% more education/22% less).

These results suggest that efforts to increase recycling rates should focus on urban residents, renters, those under 55 years of age, women, and those with less formal education.

County residents were also asked to indicate where they are recycling 15 categories of products. In Table 2, if a respondent selected any of the answer options for this question (I don’t recycle, I recycle curbside or in a residential dumpster, I recycle at a community facility or collection program, or I recycle at some other facility), they are included in the count. Respondents could select more than one answer option (e.g. they may usually recycle paper curbside but occasionally take their paper to a community facility). Therefore, the percentages shown in Table 2 do not add up to 100%.

Further, this set of questions is where non-response bias is most likely to be present. Respondents to the second mailing were significantly less likely to report recycling paper, cardboard, glass, cans, and #1 and #2 plastics curbside and mattresses at a community facility than were first mailing responders. So, the rates reported in Table 2 may overstate recycling rates for those items (shown in bold italics).

| Table 2: Where St. Croix County Residents Recycle Product Types, 2015 |
|------------------------|--------|------------------|------------------|--------|
|                        | Count  | Curbside  | Community Facility | Other  |
| Paper                  | 772    | 68%       | 23%               | 3%     |
| Cardboard              | 765    | 68%       | 23%               | 4%     |
| Glass                  | 772    | 71%       | 24%               | 2%     |
| Aluminum/Tin cans      | 760    | 62%       | 28%               | 7%     |
| Plastic 1 & 2          | 752    | 69%       | 24%               | 2%     |
| Plastic 3 - 7          | 717    | 60%       | 15%               | 3%     |
| Garden refuse          | 705    | 10%       | 16%               | 26%    |
| Brush                  | 694    | 10%       | 17%               | 24%    |
| Motor Oil              | 619    |           | 45%               | 34%    |
| Tires                  | 596    |           | 38%               | 40%    |
| Electronics            | 648    |           | 64%               | 24%    |
| Appliances             | 627    |           | 62%               | 22%    |
| Mattresses             | 570    |           | 38%               | 24%    |
| Construction materials | 557    |           | 35%               | 24%    |
| Furniture              | 592    |           | 41%               | 28%    |
Between 60% and 70% of respondents said they recycle their paper, cardboard, glass, cans, and plastics curbside or in their residential dumpster. Relatively few respondents indicated they deal with garden refuse and brush at the curbside. The shaded cells in Table 2 indicate that these products are not supposed to be recycled curbside or in residential dumpsters.

Demographically, 20-30% more urban residents than rural ones, not surprisingly, said they used curbside pick-up for the relevant items in Table 2. Those with at least a 4-year college degree, compared to those with less formal education, utilized curbside pick-up at 10-20% higher rates.

Nearly two-thirds of respondents said they took their electronics and appliances to community facilities. Between one-third and one-half said they take their motor oil, vehicle tires, mattresses, construction materials and furniture to community facilities. Only about one-quarter of respondents take their paper, cardboard, glass, cans or plastics to a community facility.

Urban residents were significantly more likely to report taking garden refuse and brush to a community facility than were rural residents. For most other materials in Table 2 except motor oil, mattresses, and construction materials and furniture, rural residents were more avid users of community facilities. Compared to those younger than 55, older residents of the county were more likely to take paper, cardboard, glass, cans, and all types of plastic to a community facility.

The results summarized in Table 2 indicate that many St. Croix County residents deal with some types of products by means other than their regular curbside pick-up service or taking them to a community facility. Table 3, arranged in descending order of the total number of “other” means of recycling the product noted by respondents, provides more detail regarding these other options. For tires, motor oil, electronics, appliances, and mattresses, the most common means of dealing with these items is by using a business. Most respondents indicated that their tire retailer disposes of their old tires (usually for an additional fee). Similarly, most dispose of appliances and mattresses by having the company from which they purchased their new items take their old ones away. Motor oil, not surprisingly, is usually disposed of by the business that changes their vehicles’ oil. With respect to electronics, numerous respondents identified Best Buy as the place to which they take their old electronic products. Most respondents indicated that they deal with their garden refuse and brush on their own property by means of composting, using these items for mulch, chipping them for ground cover, etc. For brush, a substantial number reported that they disposed of these items by means of burning. Furniture and aluminum cans are unique in that the former are frequently donated to non-profit institutions and the later are frequently sold for their scrap value. The complete list of “other” responses is included in Appendix B.

Demographically, rural residents were more likely to report recycling many of the products in Table 3 via other means (paper, cardboard, glass, cans, all plastics, grass and brush). Compared to renters, home owners were more likely to dispose of tires, mattresses, construction materials and furniture by means other than curbside pick-up or a community facility. Males were more likely to use other means of recycling electronics and appliances. Those with at least a 4-year degree, compared to those without a college degree, were more likely to dispose of grass, brush, tires, mattresses, and furniture by other means.
### Table 3: Other Places Used to Recycle, Re-use, or Compost Materials, St. Croix County, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Business</th>
<th>Burn</th>
<th>Trash service</th>
<th>Take to facility</th>
<th>Sell</th>
<th>Donate</th>
<th>Used on land</th>
<th>Not applicable</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tires</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garden refuse</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Oil</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brush</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronics</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appliances</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mattresses</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction materials</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aluminum/Tin cans</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardboard</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glass</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic 3 - 7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Disposal Practices and Issues.** Figure 4 indicates that nearly 90% of all respondents to the survey either have curbside pick-up of their garbage (75%) or have a residential dumpster (13%). Of the 4% who said they dispose of their garbage in some other fashion, some said they compost it (11 respondents), some use a dumpster at work or have some other sort of garbage pick-up service (10), some take it to a township facility (6), some burn it (7), and the remainder had a variety of other responses (5). Appendix B shows all comments by rural and urban respondents.

There are many demographic differences with respect to how St. Croix County residents dispose of their garbage:

- **Urban residents** (87%) more likely to have curbside pick-up than rural (67%) and less likely (10%) to use a residential dumpster than rural (15%)
- **Younger respondents** are also more likely to have curbside pickup (81% vs. 70%) and less likely to use a residential dumpster (10% vs. 15%) than older respondents
- **Those with more formal education** are more likely to have curbside pick-up (81% vs. 71%) and less likely to use a dumpster (7% vs 17%) than those without a college degree
- **Homeowners** are more likely to have curbside pick-up (77% vs. 52%) and less likely to use a dumpster (10% vs. 36%) than renters.
- **Smaller families** less likely to have curbside service (72% vs. 79%) and more likely to utilize a dumpster (16% vs. 8%)
Clean Sweep Program. St Croix County sponsors an annual “Clean Sweep” program each year to collect hazardous wastes such as pesticides, fertilizers, paints, cleaners, and so on. A relatively high proportion (35%) of respondents said they had participated in the Clean Sweep program at some time during the past three years. The only demographic differences in participation are with respect to age (40% of those over 55 participated vs. 30% of younger residents) and home ownership (36% of homeowners participated vs. 20% of renters).

Those who have not participated in Clean Sweep were asked to indicate what factors prevented them from participating. Of the 536 respondents who identified at least one factor that impeded
their participation, Figure 5 indicates that the primary reasons for non-participation are lack of need because they had no hazardous waste to dispose of (48%) or didn’t know about the event (32%). Fewer than one-fifth of the respondents said the dates selected for the Clean Sweep program were inconvenient and only about one in ten felt the time or location was inconvenient. The message of Figure 5 speaks to the need to raise awareness of the program and the types of products accepted.

There were a number of differences across demographic groups with respect to why they have not participated in the Clean Sweep program in recent years:

- **This was one of the places where there were a number of significant differences between urban and rural respondents.** Rural respondents were more likely to say that the location was inconvenient (12% for rural vs. 7% for urban), had inconvenient times (17% vs. 9%), and fell on an inconvenient date (25% vs. 12%), but rural folks were less likely to claim they had no hazardous wastes to deal with (42% vs. 58%)
- Compared to respondents from 1 or 2-person households, those from larger families were more likely to say they didn’t know about the program (45% for larger families vs. 23% for smaller families), the program was at an inconvenient time (18% vs. 9%), and the program fell on an inconvenient date (24% vs. 16%), but they were less likely to say that they didn’t have any hazardous wastes (36% vs. 58%)
- Compared to respondents over 55 years of age, younger respondents were more likely to say they didn’t know about the program (46% for those under 55 vs. 19% for those over 55) and the time was inconvenient (17% vs. 9%), but fewer said they had no hazardous wastes (37% vs. 55%)
- **Homeowners**, compared to renters, were more likely to cite an inconvenient location (11% of owners vs. 2% of renters), the inconvenient hours (14% vs. 2%), or an inconvenient date (21% vs. 8%), but less likely to say they had no hazardous waste (46% vs. 64%) as reasons for non-participation
- **Those with at least a 4-year college degree** were less likely to say they didn’t participate because they had no hazardous waste (38% vs. 56% of those with less formal education), but more likely to say they didn’t know about the program (39% vs. 27%), it was at an inconvenient time (16% vs. 10%), and was on an inconvenient date (27% vs. 13%)

A total of 561 identified at least one factor that, if implemented, would make it more likely that they would participate in the Clean Sweep program. Figure 6 indicates that the only option that would likely have a significant impact for most St. Croix County residents is offering this program more times per year – 84% said if offered on more days, they would be more likely to participate in the Clean Sweep program. One-quarter of the respondents would be more likely to participate if the program was held on different days (it is usually in May) or if it was open for more hours (in 2015 the program operated from 9:00 a.m. – noon by appointment for farms and businesses, and on May 15 and 1 – 5 p.m. May 15 and 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. May 16 for households).
Respondents were invited to suggest additional locations for a Clean Sweep program. Of the 64 people who provided input on this question, nearly half suggested things other than an additional location (better information (17% of comments), lower/no cost (11%), no changes (11%) or random other responses (8%)). The only specific additional location identified by more than two respondents was Hudson (7 respondents/11% of total). The complete set of responses provided are included in Appendix B.

Significant differences across demographic groups in terms of what changes to the Clean Sweep program might induce them to increase their participation included:

- Those from larger families were more likely to say that adding days would increase their participation (89% of those from households with 3 or more members vs. 79% for 1-2 member households) as would holding the event during other parts of the year (32% vs. 20%)
- Those under 55 years of age prefer longer hours (28% vs. 21% for those over 55) but older residents prefer different locations (10% for those under 55 vs. 17%)
- Those with at least a 4-year degree are more likely to prefer adding days (87% vs. 80% for those with less formal education), but those with less than a college degree would opt for a different location (17% vs. 10% for those with a 4-year degree)

Policy Knowledge and Program Option Preferences. Survey participants were asked to indicate whether or not they were aware that state and county law require households to recycle and that it is illegal to use burn barrels to dispose of garbage and most recyclables. Figure 7 indicates that there is a relatively high level of awareness that households are required to recycle
(70% said they were aware of this) and that burn barrels are illegal for most recyclables (77% aware).

![Figure 7: Awareness of Public Policies, 2015](image_url)

Awareness of the recycling requirement is lower in households with 3 or more members (65% vs. 74% in 1-2 member households), younger respondents (61% vs. 78% for those older than 55), and those with more formal education (65% vs. 74% for those without a four-year degree).

Awareness of the illegality of burn barrels is also lower among households with 3+ members (72% versus 80% in smaller families) and among those under 55 years of age (70% vs. 84% for those 55 or over).

Respondents were asked if they were in favor of creating a yard waste facility to create compost and mulch and a waste exchange facility for hazardous wastes including paint, herbicides, cleaners and other products. They were told that each facility would cost in the neighborhood of $600,000 per year to operate. Answer options were: no (I don’t support the creation of the facility – shown in red on the bottom of Figure 8), yes and pay for it with a county tax of about $20/household/year (shown in light green in the middle), or yes and fund it with a user fee (in dark green on top).

About half the respondents were opposed to creating a yard-waste facility. About twice as many of those favoring such a facility would rather it be paid for with a user fee rather than a $20/year tax on each County household. With respect to the hazardous waste facility, a solid majority favor such a facility and nearly half of all respondents would prefer that it be funded by a user-fee.

It is probably not surprising that rural residents are significantly less supportive of a yard waste facility than are their urban counterparts. Rural residents tend to have more land available on which to spread/compost such waste than urban residents. More than half (52%) of rural residents oppose the creation/funding of a yard waste facility compared to only 37% of urbanites.
Rural residents are also substantially less supportive of a $20/household/year tax to cover the cost of operating such a facility (13% of rural respondents favor this option vs. 23% of urban respondents).

Those with more formal education are significantly more supportive of both the yard waste and hazardous waste facilities. With respect to the yard waste facility, a majority of those without at least a bachelor's degree (51%) oppose such a facility compared to only 40% of those with a 4-year degree or more. With respect to the hazardous waste facility, 39% of those without a college oppose its creation vs. only 23% of those with a degree.

![Figure 8: County Resident Opinions about Yard-Waste and Hazardous Waste Facilities, 2015](image)

**Information Sources and Preferences**

The results of this survey have already suggested some of the challenges the County faces in informing residents about recycling and disposal options. In many instances, respondents said the primary impediment to more active participation in these activities is a lack of information or uncertainty about recycling or disposal options. Therefore it is important to know the sources of information about recycling/waste disposal that County residents currently access and which are their preferred sources.

Pretty clearly, the County’s newsletter is an important source of information about recycling and disposal options (Figure 9). Approximately two-thirds of all respondents said that they have used the County’s newsletter, “Your Wasteline,” to access information about disposal and/or recycling options in St. Croix. Half or slightly less have gotten information about these activities
from newspaper articles, the County’s website, or public notices. A small percentage (5% or 24 people) said that they had used the County’s Facebook page for information about recycling or trash disposal.

There are a number of statistically significant differences across demographic groups with respect to information sources they claim to have used over the past three years:

- Those with more formal education reported using the County’s website at significantly higher rates (49%) than those with fewer degrees (40%), but public notices were more frequently cited by those with lower levels of formal education (45% vs. 34% for those with at least a 4-year degree)
- Homeowners, compared to renters, have accessed information from the website (46% vs. 29%) and the newsletter (74% vs. 60%) at higher rates
- Older residents, compared to those less than 55 years of age, access a number of information sources more frequently, including the newsletter (86% vs. 59%), newspaper articles (65% vs. 39%), and public notices (50% vs. 31%)

In terms of their most preferred source of information, slightly more than half (57%) identified the County’s newsletter (Your Wasteline) as their “go to” source. About a quarter more (26%) said the county’s website was their preferred source and 11% selected newspaper articles (Figure 10).
We have noted that younger respondents (those under 55 years of age) and renters are significantly less likely to recycle a number of products and to participate in the County’s Clean Sweep program. The information sources used/preferred by these groups are, therefore, particularly important/interesting. We noted above, that both these groups tend to access information about recycling and waste disposal less frequently than their counterparts (older respondents and homeowners). The relatively good news is that their preferred information sources align with those shown in Figure 10:

- 53% of renters and 45% of those under 55, said their preferred information source was The Wasteline
- 28% of renters and 38% of younger respondents identified the County’s website as their preferred source

So, the information channels likely to be most effective with the overall adult population of St. Croix County are also going to be the best way to reach these two important sub-populations. However, both Your Wasteline and the County’s website are likely to be less effective in reaching these audiences than they are for older residents and homeowners. In short, these two sources represent the best game in town but that game isn’t quite up to a standard we would like.

Open-Ended Comments

Respondents were given the opportunity to say anything else they felt like with respect to recycling/garbage removal in St. Croix County in an open-ended question. A total of 245 people provided a response to this open-ended question. Some comments included multiple ideas and these were copied into multiple categories of responses, resulting in a total of 259 comments. The SRC sorted the comments into the 16 categories shown in Table 4.

The largest number of comments were placed in a category indicating general support for recycling and the County’s efforts in this area. Typical comments in this section include:
I think it's great! We are pleased that you are now accepting more types of plastic. A yard waste facility would be wonderful!

Recycling is critically important.

There were roughly equal numbers of comments placed into groups expressing concerns about costs, challenges associated with disposing of/recycling specific types of materials and a set of miscellaneous comments that didn’t seem to fit any particular category. Examples of statements expressing concerns about costs and disposing of specific types of products include:

Fees/Regulations discourage recycling, regulation in electronic waste and trash in ditches, appliances in remote locations, liquid wastes dumped into the environment or trash. The cost people expect to face for discarding illegally is less than what they know they were for legal handling; therefore there is not sufficient incentive for most to recycle appropriately.

We are already paying for recycling on our taxes. Since I do not have yard waste, or hazardous waste, I do not to pay for that too

It is inconvenient to store items such as fluorescent bulbs for several months waiting for the clean sweep weekend. Then if that weekend doesn't work due to schedule conflicts, one must wait another 6 months

Where do we take furniture oil, batteries?

| Table 4: Open-Ended Comments by Category, St. Croix County, 2015 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Category | Comments | Category | Comments |
| Support recycling/Positive comments | 33 | More frequent Clean Sweep | 14 |
| Cost concerns | 28 | Pick-up frequency issues | 12 |
| Bulbs, mattresses, other | 27 | No-N/A | 11 |
| Miscellaneous | 25 | Other municipal services | 10 |
| Support yard waste facility | 19 | Hauler issues | 8 |
| Better info | 19 | Container issues | 7 |
| Convenience concerns | 18 | Burning issues | 6 |
| Plastic recycling issues | 17 | Improper dumping issues | 5 |

Support for a yard or hazardous waste facility, comments about the need for better information, about convenience factors and plastic recycling problems were also fairly common comments and an example of each is given below.

A facility to dump yard waste would be nice. $20/year is a lot. It does not have to be manned.

I am definitely in support of improving our recycling efforts. I think the biggest barrier toward recycle for our family is not knowing what and where to recycle things than cannot be done curbside.
It is not made easy or convenient. I would like to recycle on my time not your time!

Why not recycle plastic #3 through #7? Other countries do. Ex. Germany.

A complete list of the open-ended comments to Question 20 are available in Appendix B.

Conclusions

There appears to be a relatively high rate of participation in recycling, at least at home and in the workplace, among St. Croix County residents, regardless of where they live. There were relatively few differences of opinion about recycling across the rural-urban divide, though garbage disposal options (curbside vs. residential dumpster) were different across these blocks of residents. If anything, rural residents of the County seem more avid recyclers than their urban counterparts, which is a somewhat surprising result.

The primary impediments to increased participation in recycling and disposal of hazardous wastes, as reported by these samples, were a lack of or confusion about recycling information (who takes what sort of products and on what days) and the fact that the Clean Sweep program generally is offered only once a year.

The demographic groups that might be a target for efforts to increase recycling in St. Croix County include those under 55 year of age, renters and those with less than a four-year college degree. This group is, unfortunately, less likely to report using the two primary information conduits – Your Wasteline and the County’s website. But, though used at significantly lower rates, these were the most preferred informational sources for these harder-to-reach groups.

There are moderately high levels of awareness of current recycling (required of businesses and households) and waste disposal (burn barrels are prohibited for most recyclables) policies among St. Croix County households. Support for a County-run yard-waste facility is moderate but a solid majority favor the creation of a hazardous waste disposal facility. The funding mechanism for a hazardous waste facility is somewhat divisive (49% favor a user fee, 20% favor a $20/household/year tax, and the remaining 31% oppose the creation of such a facility).
Appendix A – Non-Response Bias Test

Any survey has to be concerned with “non-response bias.” Non-response bias refers to a situation in which people who do not return a questionnaire have opinions that are systematically different from the opinions of those who return their surveys. For example, if only the most avid recyclers in St. Croix County completed and returned the survey, the results reported would overstate the recycling habits of people in the county.

A standard way to test for non-response bias is to compare the responses of those who responded to the first invitation to take the questionnaire to those who responded to subsequent invitations. Those who respond to subsequent invitations are, in effect, samples of non-respondents (to the first invitation), and we assume that they are representative of that group. In this survey, there are two samples – one focused on rural residents and one focused on those living in cities and villages.

Rural Respondents. For the rural population, 333 people responded to a first invitation and 98 responded to subsequent invitations. We tested 157 variables and found 14 with statistically significant differences between the mean responses of these two groups of respondents. These differences are summarized in the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Sig Level</th>
<th>Mean Mail 1</th>
<th>Mean Mail 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q8a Frequency recycle at home</td>
<td>.041</td>
<td>1.19</td>
<td>1.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q10a Recycle paper curbside</td>
<td>.012</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q10b Recycle cardboard curbside</td>
<td>.006</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q10c Recycle glass curbside</td>
<td>.021</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q10d Recycle aluminum curbside</td>
<td>.017</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q10e Recycle plastics 1 &amp; 2 curbside</td>
<td>.017</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q10c Recycle mattresses community facility</td>
<td>.037</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q10f Deal with plastics 3 – 7 any</td>
<td>.038</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q10i Deal with motor oil any</td>
<td>.022</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q10j Deal with vehicle tires any</td>
<td>.013</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q12d Difficulty with mattress any</td>
<td>.049</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q12a Medication disposal – cost difficulties</td>
<td>.024</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q12c Appliance disposal – cost difficulties</td>
<td>.038</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q19b Facebook preferred info source</td>
<td>.045</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There appears to be some systematic differences in the recycling behavior of rural mail 1 and mail 2 respondents. Mail 1 respondents are significantly more likely to recycle regularly at home (Q8a) and to recycle paper, cardboard, glass, aluminum and plastics at the curbside (Q10a – Q10e). Similarly, they are more likely to recycle mattresses at a community facility than were mail 2 respondents. Mail 1 respondents were more likely to indicate how they deal with plastics in the 3 – 7 range, motor oil, and vehicle tires than were Mail 2 respondents. Mail 1 respondents were less likely to report difficulties recycling mattresses (though high proportions of both mail 1 and 2 found this difficult). Mail 1 respondents were more likely to say that the cost of recycling
is a challenge for them in terms of recycling medications and appliances. Though few identified the County Facebook page as their preferred source of information about waste disposal and recycling in St. Croix County, significantly more mail 1 respondents identified this source than mail 2 respondents.

**The Survey Research Center (SRC) concludes that, at least with respect to recycling behavior, there may be non-response bias present and those results may overstate rural residents actual recycling behaviors.**

**Urban Respondents.** Two hundred and fifty people living in cities or villages in St. Croix County responded to the first mailing and 81 to the second. Again, 157 variables were tested for statistically significant differences in the responses of these two groups and we found 11 with such differences (Table A2).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Sig Level</th>
<th>Mean Mail 1</th>
<th>Mean Mail 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q8a Frequency recycle at home</td>
<td>.018</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>1.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q9e Fear of attracting vermin</td>
<td>.001</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q10c Don’t recycle glass</td>
<td>.006</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q10d Don’t recycle aluminum</td>
<td>.004</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q10e Don’t recycle plastics 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>.004</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q10f Don’t recycle plastics 3 – 7</td>
<td>.048</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q10e Recycle plastics 1 &amp; 2, curbside</td>
<td>.035</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q10d Recycle cardboard, community facility</td>
<td>.014</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q10d Recycle aluminum, community facility</td>
<td>.001</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q12h Difficulty with lightbulbs, any</td>
<td>.043</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q12a Medication disposal – cost difficulties</td>
<td>.044</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As with rural respondents, there appear to be some systematic differences in the recycling behavior of urban mail 1 and mail 2 respondents. Mail 1 respondents, compared to mail 2 respondents, were more likely to recycle at home regularly, to recycle numbers 1 and 2 plastics curbside, and cardboard and aluminum at a community facility. Mail 2 respondents were more likely to say they don’t recycle glass, aluminum, or any sort of plastic.

**The Survey Research Center (SRC) concludes that, at least with respect to recycling behavior, there may be non-response bias present and those results may overstate urban residents actual recycling behaviors.**
Appendix B – Responses to Open-Ended Questions

Urban and Rural Samples

Q1. I live in: Name of your city/village/town. (309 Urban Responses)

- Hudson (90x)
- New Richmond (59x)
- North Hudson (31x)
- Baldwin (22x)
- River Falls (21x)
- Hammond (13x)
- Roberts (13x)
- Woodville (12x)
- Glenwood (10x)
- Somerset (9x)
- Richmond (5x)
- Star Prairie (5x)
- Stanton (4x)
- Deer Park (3x)
- Cylon (2x)
- Troy (2x)
- Warren (2x)
- Clifton
- Rush River Township
- St. Croix
- St. Joseph
- Township Springfield
- Village of Somerset

Q1. I live in: Name of your city/village/town. (417 Rural Responses)

- Hudson (94x)
- Somerset (38x)
- Troy (38x)
- St. Joseph (32x)
- Kinnickinnic (19x)
- Star Prairie (19x)
- Warren (18x)
- Hammond (17x)
- River Falls (15x)
- Baldwin (12x)
- Eau Galle (12x)
- Springfield (11x)
- Erin Prairie (10x)
- Richmond (10x)
- Cylon (9x)
- Glenwood (7x)
- New Richmond (7x)
- Cady (6x)
- Pleasant Valley (6x)
- Emerald (5x)
- Houlton (4x)
- Stanton (4x)
- Forest (3x)
- Roberts (3x)
- Rush River (3x)
- Woodville (2x)
- Alden
- Clifton Township
- Deer Park
- Hudson/Kinnickinnic
- New Richmond/Star Prairie
- North Force St.
- North Hudson
- Roberts, Warren Township
- Somerset, Star Prairie Township
- St Croix
- St. Croix City, St. Joseph Township
- St. Joseph Township Hudson
- Wilson

Q2. My home is a (24 Urban + Rural Responses):

- Condo (9x)
- Town House (3x)
- Hobby Farm/Farm Home (3x)
- Twin home (2x)
- Home/Home with garage (2x)
- Trailer Home (2x)
- Cottage
- Triplex
- Was an apt
Q9. Which of the following are keeping you from recycling or recycling more? (153 Urban + Rural Responses)

Lack recycling receptacles (58 Responses)

- Lack of public receptacle (8x)
- Lack of recycling bins (8x)
- At home would be nice if bins were supplied
- Bins not readily available at certain locations.
- Convenient receptacle
- Lack of Containers in many places
- Lack of public container's, every other week pickup.
- Lack of receptacles at gas stations and in public places.
- Lack of recycling receptacles in public places, e.g., Main Street, parks...
- Lack of recycling receptacles in public places and at events.
- Lack of recycling receptacles at those locations
- Lack of recycling containers outside of home.
- Most places don't have recycling containers.
- Not all places with recycling bins
- Not always containers in public places where they should be
- New in area - don't have info or a recycle bin
- Provide free containers for recycling and pick up on curbside
- Public areas often don't offer
- Receptacles not available outside of home when available I recycle
- Recycling bins are not available in all locations
- Recycle bins not available at parks, shopping, etc.
- School events after do not have recycling bins
- Some places don't offer recycling
- Station don't have recycle bins
- The stores I go to don't recycle
- There are no bins I always recycle if there are bins
- When not at home there are not always recycling receptacles
- When out there are not always recycling handy
- When receptacles available I will
- Would like trash hauler to provide blue recycling boxed
- As written above, many public places do not make recycling an option.
- Gas stations and other locations such as stores do not always have recycling OR these would all be marked "regularly."
- If places don't have it/gas station, park, etc.
- If they don't offer.
- No recycling at places other than my home.
- No recycling options while out and about
- Not always recycling options when away from home
- Not enough recyclable containers in public spaces
- Facilities away from home
- Limited opportunities/marked recycling containers outside of own home.
- No option to recycle
- Not offered at a lot of places
- Places without recycling facilities
- Need bigger recycling cart

Limits on what can be recycled (26 Responses)

- #5 Plastic
- Can't find locations that will take some items
- Can't recycle plastic numbers 3-7
- Certain plastics can't be recycled here
- Confused about what exactly can be recycled i.e. plastics (in CA everything is recycled)
- Don't take plastic bags
• Limitations on plastics only 1 or 2 allowed right now
• Materials not recyclable
• No place to take them - things that are other numbers besides 1 and 2. Plastics and electronics like old TVs that we don't have to pay for
• Nobody takes batteries florescent bulbs, microwave paint...
• Not clear on container items if they are recyclable or not like furniture, mattress, etc.
• Other than plastic or paper not sure what can be recycled
• Plastics beyond #1 and #2 can't be recycled
• Plastics not marked well. Can we only recycle 2 + 3’s?
• Recycle place does not take # 3 and plastic
• Recycling for certain plastics not available

Miscellaneous (23 responses)

• Building requirement for card board
• Chemicals are difficult to dispose of timing
• Children mistakenly throw recyclables in trash
• Disposal
• Don't go to school
• For Smoke elect
• have to carry to curbside
• It all goes in the same compartment in our truck
• Lack of availability
• My age and health are a hindrance
• No Compost
• Not sure it is what it is advertised to be
• One collection bin
• Our parks need recycling
• Poor marking

No barriers (12 Responses)

• Always recycle (2x)
• None (2x)
• I recycle at home
• I recycle every chance I can
• I recycle everything that can be recycled!

• The ability to recycle certain plastics like #5 for example
• There is no place to recycle solid waste like scrap sheet rock. W.M. in River Falls no longer will take drive in waste. I have to go to Roberts, WI.
• What to do w/small battery?
• Wish you would accept other recycle numbers in addition to 1+2
• Electronics and space heaters.
• In regard to #8/#9, if public recycling is offered at above, do recycle
• I would like to recycle all paper and all plastics (1-7) and computers/printer/monitors
• Lack of items that can be recycled only certain number can be recycled
• Lack of resources and facilities to take some items
• Only electronics are hard

• Retired
• See comment on back
• Shortage of paper recycle
• Visually impaired
• We have a terrible paper recycling facility. It needs to be opened all the time and a convenient place to put it. We go through a lot of paper and our recycle place is only open 2 times a day. Very limited space for paper plus they are very crabby - glass, plastic, tin is fine I don't go through it as much
• We recycle at the River Falls site
• We should have more recycling and ban plastic bags like SF and Mylar balloons.
• Wish more people recycled
Pick-up too infrequent (12 Responses)

- Access at parks/events. Size of container-have large but it fills up too fast-pick up is every two weeks.
- Bin pick up more often would help
- Containers too small for the biweekly pick up
- One Saturday a month.
- only picked up every 2 weeks at home - it's always more than our garbage
- Recycle bin fills before pick up
- recycling comes bi-weekly and on different days than normal garbage
- Recycling is only 1 day a month in Cylon Township
- They do not come every week.
- We could recycle so much more if it were picked up weekly. We throw away lots of recyclables because of this
- Limited disposal times
- Scheduled dates and times for pick at home

Convenience/Location issues (10 Responses)

- Availability of different locations
- Convenience
- Don't know where to go to recycle and when they are open to collect items.
- Electronics - hard to drive to recycle 15+ miles
- Has to be convenient
- Lack of information on where to recycle curtain items
- Limited locations or options
- No place to take paper and cardboard or plastic bottles close to my home.
- not sure even how or where to in my town
- Recycling oil is inconvenient

Cost factors (7 Responses)

- Cost
- Cost for recycling wastes
- Cost, inconvenience for large items like TV, refrigerator paint.
- Fees to recycle things
- Increasing cost
- Recycling costs more than it's worth except for aluminum and steel
- Won't pay extra

Don’t generate enough recyclables (5 Responses)

- Do not have enough
- Do not have much to recycle
- Have nothing more to recycle
- Have reduced purchase of bottles cans that need recycling
- I have very little that needs recycling
Q10. In the table below is a list of materials that are usually recyclable, reusable or compostable. Please indicate which of these items you recycle, and where you do so. Other Responses (1,714 Urban and Rural Responses)

a. Paper (e.g. newspaper, magazines, mail, etc.) (32 Responses)

- Burn (4x)
- WI Business (3x)
- At work (3x)
- 3M
- Business
- Cardboard compactor at work
- I work for Republic services in the cities and bring all recycling and trash to work
- My parents own a MN garbage company
- Burn at cabin
- Burn in woodstove
- Dumpster
- Dumpster on farm
- Waste Management
- WI

b. Cardboard (33 Responses)

- WI Business (4x)
- Burn (3x)
- At work (3x)
- 3M
- Business
- Business/work
- Cardboard compactor at work
- I work for Republic services in the cities and bring all recycling and trash to work
- Take to work
- Burn in woodstove
- dumpster on farm
- Home dumpster
- Veolia Roberts
- Waste Management

- Osceola
- Richmond town hall
- We take ourselves to River Falls
- Charity
- Compost
- Farm
- Organic Farm
- Used in garden
- Don't have
- N/A
- House in country
- School or whoever collects recycling

- Richmond town hall
- Township recycle center
- We take ourselves to River Falls
- Osceola
- Used in garden
- Along township road
- Don't have
- MN Garbage company
- No longer available
- School or whoever collects recycling
- Wi
- Same as above
- We use to have a dumpster available at middle school we would love it back.
c. Glass Bottles and jars (20 Responses)

- WI Business (3x)
- At work (2x)
- 3M
- business
- I work for Republic services in the cities and bring all recycling and trash to work
- Dumpster
- MN Garbage Company
- Waste Management
- Richmond town hall
- We take ourselves to River Falls
- Osceola
- Boardman
- Don't buy
- Gas stations
- I Reuse
- Nowhere close enough
- Wi

d. Aluminum and tin cans (66 Responses)

- Sell/Sell for cash/Sell for scrap (10x)
- WI Business (8x)
- Business (4x)
- Scrap dealer/yard (4x)
- Gary's scrap metals (3x)
- Work (3x)
- 3M
- I work for Republic services in the cities and bring all recycling and trash to work
- MN Garbage Company
- Waste Management
- We take ourselves to River Falls
- Dump
- Osceola
- Recycle myself
- Recycling plant
- Recycling center
- Al. Save and $ 
- Bring in for cash
- Cash
- I take them to be recycled to get money
- Jerry's Metal
- Northern Metal St. Paul
- Recycling center for cash
- Save + cash
- Saving to sell
- Scrap Co. who pays for cans
- Sell aluminum, copper
- To private business
- Wi Business, Aluminum
- Bring to U Con in Menomonie. aluminum only
- I save the cans
- Save ourselves
- Donate aluminum for charity
- Donate or turn in for $ 
- New Richmond Hockey
- Save alum. cans to give to orgs. to raise money
- Boardman
- Gas Stations
- Kadnges
- Wi

e. Plastic containers labeled #1 and #2 (15 Responses)

- WI Business (2x)
- Work (2x)
- 3M
- Business
- I work for Republic services in the cities and bring all recycling and trash to work
- Waste Management
- Osceola
- We take ourselves to River Falls
- Boardman
- Don't know about 1+2
- MN Garbage Company
- Never checked
- WI
f. Plastic containers labeled #3 through #7 (20 Responses)

- At work (3x)
- 3M
- At work (#4, 5, 6 only) my collector won't take these.
- I work for Republic services in the cities and bring all recycling and trash to work
- WI Business
- Waste management
- MN whole foods
- Osceola
- We take to Stillwater River Market
- Burned
- Compost at home
- Don't Know
- Don't know about 3-7
- MN Garbage Company
- Never checked
- Very Complicated
- WI
- Won't take


g. Grass, leaves, garden refuse (219 Responses)

- Compost (95x)
- Farm/Field (18x)
- Home (12x)
- Burn (9x)
- On our property/land/yard (10x)
- Garden (9x)
- Mulch/Mulch into yard/garden (6x)
- N/A or Don’t have any (5x)
- Use in yard (4x)
- Self/Myself (4x)
- Village dump (2x)
- Backyard (2x)
- I work for Republic services in the cities and bring all recycling and trash to work
- We have yard service
- Burn or compost at our cabin
- MN Garbage Company
- Landfill/NR site
- NR compost site
- City Dump/Garden
- Town refuge area
- At our farm
- Back in little garden
- Community/home compost
- Compost or burn
- Compost/Garden
- Composted or burned
- Dump on my land
- Farmers
- Mulching Lawn Mover
- On site
- Organic farm
- Own mulch pile
- Plowed under
- Put in garden
- Recycle on homestead
- Use at home
- Used for fertilizer
- We use
- At residence
- Back of lot
- In our woods
- My Brush pile
- Wooded lot
- Woods next to house
- Yard waste container
- Newly built house no grass yet. Will mulch then.
- Did this at my old location, now do not have a convenient option, so I am not recycling these. :(
- Friend's
- No compost pile
- Not offered in Hudson Township
- Not sure how this is taken care of
- Isn’t sure-haven't lived here for a summer yet
- Village pick up
- Woodbury
h. Brush (202 Responses)

- Compost (44x)
- Burn (39x)
- Burn or Compost (18x)
- Farm (13x)
- Home (12x)
- N/A-Don’t have any (9x)
- Burn or chip (4x)
- Mulch (3x)
- Use in yard (3x)
- Self (2x)
- Village dump (2x)
- Backyard (2x)
- Business
- I work for Republic services in the cities and bring all recycling and trash to work
- We have yard service
- Special request of garbage hauler
- MN Garbage Company
- City compost site
- City Dump
- Garden
- Gardening
- In brush piles
- In own yard
- In the woods
- My brush pile
- My yard
- Myself
- On our property/garden
- On property
- On Site
- Own Land
- Own property
- Put in woods
- Recycle in yard
- Recycle myself
- Recycle on homestead
- Recycling property
- Self-shred
- Use at home
- Used for fertilizer
- We use in our gardens
- Bring to farm/Pile in woods
- Friend's
- Not offered in Hudson Township
- Not sure how this is taken care of
- Not sure-haven't lived here for a summer yet
- St. Croix Tagg
- Take to friends
- Village Pick Up
- Woodbury

i. Motor Oil (216 Responses)

- Business/WI Business (38x)
- Auto dealership (27x)
- Service/Gas station (24x)
- Auto repair shop/Mechanic (21x)
- Oil change business (11x)
- Municipal collection site (11x)
- Burn/Oil Furnace (10x)
- N/A-None (10x)
- Work (6x)
- Farm (5x)
- Auto Store (4x)
- Advanced Auto
- At car care place
- At Cox Motors
- At Shops
- At the oil store
- Auto Service Stations
- Bob and Steve
- Business-ford garage
- Car (Bernard's)
- Changed at business
- Chazer Mfg.
- Gas Station or car repair shop
- Get oil change at facility
- Have done
- Hilltop services, Hudson
- Hired out
- I work for Republic services in the cities and bring all recycling and trash to work
- Jacobson’s Inc.
- Jahnson motors
- Lube shop
- Mike’s Standard
- Miller Bros
- Oil changed by professional
- O’Reilly
- Place I take into
- Serviced regular recycle
- T/A Truckstop
- Though business
- Walmart
- When I get oil changed
- I pay to have my oil changed.
- Retail locations
- MN Garbage Company
- City wide pickup
- The dump
- Junkyard
- Donate to friend
- Don't have. Change oil at a garage.
- Co Use
- Friends
- Husband recycles
- In Chippewa Lake, WI
- Need to have a spot for mixed motor oil and anti-freeze, big problem
- Ob’s
- Parts city parks store
- RMF
- Roberts Velma Facility
- Rock elm picker
- Unsure where to take it
- Use in Chain saw

j. Vehicle tires (227 Responses)

- Business/WI Business (50x)
- Tire store/ship (40x)
- Dealership (24x)
- Gas/Service station (16x)
- Auto repair/Garage (17x)
- N/A-None (11x)
- Place I buy tires (9x)
- Noble’s Tire (3x)
- Work (3x)
- Discount Tire (2x)
- Wal-Mart(2x)
- Auto repair dealer
- Auto Service Stations
- Auto store in MN
- Automotive Business
- Autoshop
- Both of these items at his work
- Business that puts on tires.
- Business-ford garage
- By others for store
- Company takes them
- Dan’s Auto
- Dave’s auto

- Fleet Farm Hudson
- Fleet farm store
- Get changes at shop
- Have done
- Have tire change dealer
- I work for Republic services in the cities and bring all recycling and trash to work
- Mike's Standard
- Miller Bros
- Pay fee when tires replaced
- Pay for disposal at Roberts Waste
- Pay to dispose of when I buy new tires
- Pay when replaced
- Place where changed is fleet farm
- Recycled at Auto Dealer
- Recycled at tire shop
- Retail locations
- Retail tire store
- River Falls Tire
- Seller
- Service centers
- Service provider
- Service regular recycle
- Subaru dealer in White Bear Lake, MN
- The Retailer
- Vendor/auto dealer
- When traded/dealer
- When we buy new River Falls five takes them
- WI Business and Tire Retail
- Private collector
- MN Garbage Company
- County

- Junkyard
- Use on bunker
- Don't have. When I buy tires, dealer takes the old ones.
- Not sure what to do with it
- Roberts Velma Facility
- Same as above
- Save as whole
- Too expensive to get rid of

k. Electronics (computer, printer, TV, etc.) (148 Responses)

- Best Buy (50x)
- Business-WI/MN Businesses (23x)
- Electric co-op (8x)
- Don't have (7x)
- At work (3x)
- Habitat/Restore (2x)
- E Cycling St. Croix Valley
- E-Cycle in Hudson
- Electronic recycling in Hudson by fleet farm
- Electronics store
- Hudson Electronic Recycler
- I work for Republic services in the cities and bring all recycling and trash to work
- MN business: Staples
- Nelsons scape metal
- Other- WI business
- Pay service to recycle
- Pay WI Business
- Private party
- Private vendor
- Retail drop off
- St. Croix (unreadable)
- Store recycle
- Stores
- Waterman's Recycling
- Where we buy, they recycle
- Workplace Dumpster Program
- Call embase (?) co for them to collect curbside
- Veolia
- MN Garbage Company
- City recycle
- Clean sweep?
1. **Appliances (freezers, washer, microwave, etc.)** (133 Responses)

   - Business (22x)
   - Dealer/Place of purchase (23x)
   - N/A - Don't have (11x)
   - Scrap dealers (8x)
   - Dump site (4x)
   - Sears (3x)
   - Appliance (next word illegible)
   - Appliance store
   - Donate or new appliance people take it
   - Ellsworth or St. Croix Elec
   - Give back to store
   - I work for Republic services in the cities and bring all recycling and trash to work
   - Larson's Appliance
   - Lowes
   - Make them take it at place by new one
   - Pay store to remove
   - Pay to have removed
   - Pay to have store take them
   - Pay WI business
   - Private Recycler
   - Private vendor
   - Recycled at store
   - Retail pick up
   - Return
   - Sell at toys
   - Store/work
   - Warner stallion
   - Waterman's recycling
   - Work
   - Boardman
   - Nelsons scrap metal
   - Through excel power
   - Advanced disposal
   - Veolia
   - MN Garbage Company
   - City recycle
   - Clean sweep?
   - Clean-up drop
   - County
   - County Program
   - Junk yard
   - Pierce County
   - Pierce County
   - Polk County
   - Recycling plant
   - Re-sell
   - River falls recycling center
   - Special event
   - Special Programs
   - To the dump
   - Town of RF Recycling Center
   - Town recycle center
   - Troy dump
   - Haul to Downing
   - Goodwill
   - Restore
   - They all still work
   - Don't throw away
   - I don't know where to take it
   - MN
   - Neighbor or relative who junks
   - Not sure what to do with it
   - Other
   - Pick up
   - Roberts Vema Facility
   - Scheduled places
   - Too costly

m. **Mattresses** (124 Responses)

   - Dealer/Place of purchase (39x)
   - N/A - Don't have (20x)
   - Business-WI/MN Businesses (14x)
   - Dump/Landfill (6x)
   - Burned (4x)
   - Pay for removal (3x)
   - Advanced disposal
   - At husband's work
   - At mattress store
   - Furniture Store
   - Give back to store
   - I work for Republic services in the cities and bring all recycling and trash to work
   - Mattress Company
   - Private vendor
   - Recycle program at store
• Retail pick up
• Return to store
• Seller
• Slumberland/Amery
• Boardman
• Burned and metal coils recycled
• Special request of hauler
• Veolia waste handler
• Waste management, Amery
• Curbside Extra Cost
• Dumpster
• MN Garbage Company
• Order Dumpster
• Clean sweep?
• Collection site

• County (expensive)
• Haul to waste refuge in Roberts, WI
• Junk yard
• Township Recycle
• Donate to Charity
• Donated
• Still use it
• As above
• Have taken away
• Local sanitation
• Not sure what to do with it
• Roberts Vema Facility
• Scheduled places
• Trinity Lutheran

n. Construction/Remodeling materials (117 Responses)

• N/A - Don't have (22x)
• Dumpster (22x)
• Builder/Contractor (11x)
• Business-WI/MN Businesses (11x)
• Burn (8x)
• Dump/Landfill (7x)
• Habitat/Restore (5x)
• Advanced disposal
• At husband's work
• Construction waste collection business.
• I work for Republic services in the cities and bring all recycling and trash to work
• Store recycle
• Vendor service from new purchase
• With contract
• Work
• Boardman
• Keep it or burn it
• Sell or Burn
• We burn extra scrap wood
• Haul to waste refuge in Roberts, WI
• Junk yard

• Veolia
• Veolia or Waste Management
• Waste management pickup
• MN Garbage Company
• Or roll off
• Red/Veolia
• Pierce County
• Transfer Station
• Roberts waste/ Business park
• Reuse as able, donate
• Try to give away
• Compost
• ?
• Home
• It is hard to get rid of shingles and paint cans because the collection company will only take small amounts
• Not sure what to do with it
• On site Storage
• Personal
• Roberts Vema Facility
• Special Programs
0. Furniture (157 Responses)

- Donate/Give away (27x)
- Goodwill (15x)
- N/A - Don't have (14x)
- Dealer/Place of purchase (5x)
- Business-WI/MN Businesses (9x)
- Habitat/Restore (8x)
- Dump/Landfill (8x)
- Sell (5x)
- Burn (5x)
- Sell or give away (4x)
- Thrift store (3x)
- At husband's work
- Call garbage co for curbside pickup
- Give back to store
- Have taken away
- I work for Republic services in the cities and bring all recycling and trash to work
- Pay store to remove
- Private vendor
- Retail pick up
- Store recycle
- Boardman
- On change
- Burned and metal parts recycled
- Collection site
- Dumpster
- MN garbage company
- Pay for special pickup
- Veolia
- Drive to Veolia in Roberts
- Haul to waste refuge in Roberts, Wi
- Junk yard
- Local sanitation
- Or haul away
- Pierce County
- Town of Troy
- Garage sale
- Repurpose/sell
- Resale
- Sell at Domatt
- 2nd chance River Falls
- 2nd hand store
- Church
- Donated/garage sale
- Donation to goodwill.
- Donation/garage sale
- End of driveway people take it
- Goodwill or garage sale
- Goodwill/family
- Habitat for humanity when possible, veterans
- Habitat for others
- Leave with "free" sign (unreadable)
- Nonprofit
- Put out by the road w/ "free" sign
- Reuse as able, donate
- Salvation army
- The barn, reuse store
- Treasures from the heart
- Usually sell or give to someone else
- Never/seldom have furniture to recycle
- Bring to cabin
- Heritage circle
- Looking for place to recycle
- MN
- Not sure what to do with it
- Pickup
- Roberts Velma facility
Q11. How do you dispose of your garbage? Other: specify-TEXT (37 Responses)

- Compost (9x)
- Burn (4x)
- Compost or burn (2x)
- Olson Sanitation (2x)
- Garden
- 96 gallon tank picked up every other week
- Construction dumpster
- Dumpster at work
- Dumpster on farm
- Recycle garbage/curb
- Renters dumpster
- Weekly pickup
- Waste management dumpster

Q12. Please indicate if it is difficult for you to dispose of the following types of materials. If an item is difficult for you to dispose of, please indicate why. Other: specify-TEXT (242 Responses)

a. Medications (62 Responses)

- Don't know where (29x)
- N/A - Don't have (22x)
- Police department (4x)
- Cost
- Don't know when to
- Drop off sights
- I don't know how
- Local drop off
- Not many places
- Regular garbage
- Unable to haul
- Where liquid kids

b. Electronic items (59 Responses)

- Don't know where (19x)
- N/A - Don't have (11x)
- Cost (7x)
- Best Buy (2x)
- All times that can't be regularly are difficult in that they require that they require research of where/how/when and restrictions on disposing.
- Batteries
- Clean up day
- County
- Dealer
- Donation
- Don't know how
- Heavy to transpose myself
- Lack of knowledge
- Not many places
- Not often enough
- Not sure what to do with it
- Recycle
- Rest goes to recycled
- Richmond Town hall
- St. Croix County does not recycle Hg.
- Town of Troy dump does not accept
- Unable to haul
- Weight, bulk and transportation
- Where and cost
c. Appliances (54 Responses)

- Don't know where (14x)
- N/A - Don't have (13x)
- Cost (2x)
- 2xyear
- Big, hard to transport
- County
- Dealer
- Dealer recycle
- Donation
- Don't know how
- Haul yearly
- Large size
- Local clean-up day
- Neighbor who junk
- Nobody takes it
- Not many places
- Not often enough
- Not sure what to do with it
- Restores
- Richmond town hall
- They are heavy
- Trade in
- Transportation
- Unable to haul
- Waterman’s
- Weight/bulk and transportation
- Where and When
- Will have vendor of new purchase take away old items and offers this service

d. Mattresses (71 Responses)

- Don't know where (22x)
- N/A - Don't have (17x)
- Cost (2x)
- Didn't know I could recycle these (3x)
- Size (3x)
- Hauling is a problem (2x)
- 2x year
- Clean up day
- Dealer Recycle
- Did not recycle these options
- Do not discard
- Donation
- Don't know how
- Garbage man
- If company won't take it
- If not buying a new one
- Location??
- Not often enough
- Not sure what to do with it
- Own sleep number bed
- Richmond Town hall
- Sanitation
- They are heavy
- Unknown Facility
- Unsure
- Waterman’s
- We don't know how
- Will have know how
- Will have vendor of new purchase take away old items and offers this service

56
e. Carpet (60 Responses)
- Don't know where (22x)
- N/A - Don't have (17x)
- Cost
- Didn't know I could recycle these (2x)
- Dealer recycle (4x)
- 2x year
- Burn it
- Clean up day
- Did not recycle these options
- Do not discard
- Do not know how
- Don't know when to
- Garbage man
- Hauling
- Kept
- Min. Sq. Ft required by disposal company
- Not sure what to do with it
- Richmond Town hall
- Sanitation
- Size
- Unable to haul
- Unknown Facility
- Unsure
- Very Over Priced

f. Automotive waste (50 Responses)
- Don't know where (18x)
- N/A - Don't have (17x)
- Cost (3x)
- At dealer who services (3x)
- Clean up day
- G.h
- Hard to dispose or anything
- Hudson
- Not sure what to do with it
- Richmond town hall
- Scrap metal like brakes and wheel hubs are not taken curbside and amount of metal is too small to justify stop at auto recycles.
- Transmission and brake fluids
- Use internally

g. Furniture (61 Responses)
- Don't know where (15x)
- N/A - Don't have (15x)
- Cost (3x)
- Donate/Goodwill/Restore (9x)
- City collection place
- Clean up day
- Did not recycle these options
- Didn't know someone would take these. Who?
- Difficult to transport
- Don't know how
- Haul yearly
- Hauling
- Large size
- Location??
- No Idea who takes them
- Not sure what to do with it
- Richmond town hall
- Sanitation
- Sell or give away
- Silhansport
- Transportation for Large items
- Unknown facility
- Unknown location
- Unsure
h. Fluorescent lights (81 Responses)

- Don’t know where (35x)
- N/A - Don’t have (12x)
- All items are easily done, just not free.
- Breakage
- CF easy tubes not
- CFL light
- Clean up day
- Collect on site
- Community Collection
- Didn’t know someone would take these. Who?
- Do recycle them but need to find place to accept then.
- Don’t know where and when
- From store
- Haul yearly
- Home Depot
- Lack of knowledge
- Location
- More often
- No convenient locations
- Nobody takes
- None of these
- Not often enough
- Not sure what to do with it
- Not taken
- Prefer incandescent too!
- Recycle
- Richmond town hall
- Shouldn’t have to wait for 2X year events
- St. Croix
- St. Croix Electric in New Richmond
- Storage prior to recycling
- Take to Home Depot or St. Croix Electric Co-op
- They won’t take them at recycling centers
- Too far away
- Transporting
- Unsure

Q15. Which options would make you more likely to participate in Clean Sweep programs?
Other: specify-TEXT (64 Responses)

- Better advertisements/notifications (8x)
- Cost (6x)
- Hudson location (6x)
- N/A – No change (6x)
- New Richmond (2x)
- Star Prairie (2x)
- River Falls (2x)
- Somerset (2x)
- Somerset or New Richmond (2x)
- At Roberts waste facility
- At village
- Awareness of items dates and locations
- Baldwin area
- Center of St. Croix county
- Clean sweep - Hudson OK
- Clean, survey should include more items
- Closer location
- Closer, more often
- Didn’t know where
- Glenwood City
- Have not participated
- I am fine going where I go
- Location in eastern part of county
- More centralized location
- More information when and where
- More often
- Near Roberts
- No changes for the electronics
- North Hudson
- School parking lot
- Somerset town hall
- St. Joseph fire hall
- Township collection place
- Troy town dump
- Village Clean 2X per year
- We have village collection clean up days x 2 per year
- Woodville
Q19. Please indicate if, over the past three years, you have accessed information about recycling or disposal of hazardous waste in St. Croix County via the following sources. In the final column, please indicate your preferred source for County information about recycling and hazardous waste disposal. F. Other: specify-TEXT (13 Responses)

- Email (5x)
- Word of mouth (3x)
- Flyer in mail
- mailings
- Alicia Miller
- Call to waste management
- Called recycling #
- disposal contractor
- friends
- Glen
- Libraries
- Martha Sanitation Website
- No -
- Not use web
- Notice at bank
- Phone call
- Town Hall Recycling
- Town of Troy website
- visually impaired
- waste service newsletter

Q20. Do you have anything else you’d like to say about recycling/garbage removal in St. Croix County? (245 Responses)

Positive comments/Support recycling (33 comments)

- Enforce the recycling laws, everything made should be recyclable.
- Great idea, please continue
- I have no issues at all!
- I need to do a better job recycling since you made me feel guilty now
- I really believe recycling is one of the most important things we as Americans "Have to do!" to all up to us as individuals it must be done!
- I think that St.Croix County does a good job in relation to recycling. Thank you.
- I was out of town until 17 March 2015, Sorry for this being late, but I felt it was important enough to complete and send it back
- I will recycle anything that the county will take!
- I wish everyone would stop and realize that throwing away that one pop can does have an impact just like voting. I am concerned that all the things I put in the recycling bin is actually recycled. Do we have sufficient facilities for this?
- It's a good thing!!
- Just that it is very necessary to recycle
- Keep recycling!!
- Keep up the good work
- Mostly well satisfied with county remove for recycling
- Our thanks to St. Croix Col for recycling. I would like to know where it all goes. Into Products? Where? Hopefully not into a landfill
- Pierce Co., City of River Falls, and Troy Township do a great job.
- Recycling is critically important
- Satisfied-town of Baldwin
Thank you for supporting recycling!
Thank you for this survey. Recycling is an important issue and needs public attention. Schools can help spread the concept!

Thank you!

The yard waste site by the bus garage the times and location is great
We are a very recycle conscious group and make every effort to recycle daily!
We do try to recycle on much as we can, I feel the system we know in our township is quite adequate. Thank you

We need to be better at recycling!
We really like to recycle and do it with everything we can
You always been helpful when we call. We would love to receive info about clean sweep program. Thank you.

We would in yard waste facility. Particularly having a source of wood mulch. Email or text updates would suffice as opposed to mailer. The mailer is a great reminder that we keep handy all season.

We recycle everything we can and have called junk dealers to pick up metal, we would like to see St. Croix County take much more plastics other that 1 & 2, mattresses, electronics, and no fee, etc.
The more products we can recycle the better. So anything that makes recycling easier (more available) is worthwhile

New to the area. Would like info on these programs when sitting up garbage pick-up. We used everything mentioned here when living in Dane County, WI. It's important to us to be responsible recyclers.

Cost Concerns (28 comments)

#16 is N/A for us because we live in country and mostly spread in fields or pasture or used in flower beds and garden. B. Sounds like a good possibility in some form but not at the cash stated. Don't know enough about it to be able to give opinion

Carpet cost very, very over-priced. I've set out cardboard broke down boxes trash company ignores. Leaf collection time consuming, complicated, costly

Cost too much
Cylon has it very good garbage and recycling program at a reasonable cost I see no need for an additional expensive county program

Don't do anything that increases taxes. Cut some waste out of some other area to pay for any changes

Electronic recycling especially is too high a cost

Fees/Regulations discourage recycling, regulation in electronic waster and trash in ditches, appliances in remote locations, liquid wastes dumped into the environment or trash. The cost people expect to face for discarding illegally is less than what they know they were for legal handling; therefore there is not sufficient incentive for most to recycle appropriately.

I am interested in electronic recycling but the cost is too prohibitive. Need a less expensive/free alternative as I have a large amount I have been trying to prevent it from going into landfills!

I appreciate the effort in putting this survey together. A user fee basis would discourage others form using recycling efforts

I feel operating a yard waste facility or waste exchange facility at a cost of 600,000.00 is rather extreme

I pay over $5,200 a year on taxes, so I personally don't want to pay more - would be nice to be able to recycle without extra pay. And I believe more would recycle

In the village of Woodville we have a yard waste facility. I don't want to PAY for a county yard work facility.
• Need a more convenient and less expensive way to dispose of electronics and appliances
• Need to charge less for TVs that's why the end up in ditched should be charged the same as appliances not a very good programs these have lead in them not good mixed oil and antifreeze nowhere to go with these items
• Needs to be easier and at minimal cost
• Paying to recycle electronics, appliances, mattresses, furniture encourages many people to use roadsides. I live near 195th St. in Star Prairie Township, it's terrible, and something new dumped every week.
• Recycling of electronics is very expensive. It would be helpful if the city/county had a more economical way for residents to recycle TV's, computers, and other electronics.
• The cost factor would be great. Can ALL families afford this - even though I can
• We are already paying for recycling on our taxes. Since I do not have yard waste, or hazardous waste, I do not to pay for that too
• Would like to see free disposal/recycling of furniture and electronics. The cost deters us from participating and has led others to dump these items in the ditches and the side of the road near our home.
• A facility to dump yard waste would be nice. $20/year is a lot. It does not have to be manned
• Expanding current clean sweep program would be preferred rather than creating new facilities and their associated annual operating costs
• I live in an apartment for senior citizens we barely make enough to recycle most of us do not have cars to get to your centers. Because you charge an outrageous price per item. Why can't you come to these apartments at certain times for our convenience and lower your price for seniors? Some of us do have a way to get to the centers.
• Is there someone who will come to residences and haul away big old CRT TV's? Either free or reasonable fee?
• There are private businesses that do this already. Don't spend tax dollars duplicating service
• User fees would be better pay for services but would be expensive until its up and running
• We recycle everything we can and have called junk dealers to pick up metal, we would like to see St. Croix County take much more plastics other that 1 & 2, mattresses, electronics, and no fee, etc.
• Needs to be easier and at minimal cost

Disposing of light bulbs, mattresses and other items (27 comments)

• #10 materials. When I buy a new mattress, they agree to take old one, contractor removes old materials (as roofing-siding) furniture is sold, or donated to "treasures or habitat"
• Although our household doesn't create a lot of waste (use it up-wear it out) I believe in recycling.
• Dispose of vacuum cleaners, chainsaws, shop tools, etc.
• How to recycle pianos, mandate elimination of outdoor wood boilers in all subdivisions, educate communities with condo and duplexes to allow gardens and create compost sites, mandate lawn care companies and compost grass clippings on site!
• It is inconvenient to store items such as fluorescent bulbs for several months waiting for the clean sweep weekend. Then if that weekend doesn't work due to schedule conflicts, one must wait another 6 months.
• It would be nice to have a more convenient location for large disposables such as furniture. We also don't know how to recycle batteries or mercury light bulbs, which collect quickly.
• My electronics are piling up - where can I take them? How do I dispose of them?
• Need a fluorescent bulb recycling center
• Need a place to dispose of latex paint
• Need a place to recycle florescent bulbs more often.
• Old paint and stain-clean sweep wouldn't take them where and when we took them.
• Sharps for diabetics - need a public place to drop off also more information on where it can be disposed of. Plastic shopping bags - other than stores - where to dispose of.
• Small batteries, drop off points. Light bulbs. Drug drop off points. Off hours.
• The CFL recycling is unrealistic! Where do we recycle florescent light bulbs? One a year for paint we do need a local recycling, waste exchange facility
• Unable to recycle used motor oil. Cannot find place.
• Where do we take furniture oil. batteries?
• Where should we go to do away with old meds?
• Where to take florescent bulbs I thought that the places that sell these should provide recycling.
• Why is it so hard to get rid of appliances? Refrigerators, water heater, etc.
• Would like to see a pick up program for appliances and electronics
• Would like to see more options for recycling large and unusual items
• Would like to see more Styrofoam recycling. Better access to biodegradable garbage bags, such as plant based garbage bags, more access to recycle construction material.
• Yes. Would like to be able to recycle more, such as aluminum foil, egg cartons, etc. Currently, I bring these items in to work to recycle them. St. Paul has more comprehensive recycling. Also, are caps recyclable? I.e. Coke bottle caps (plastic), beer bottle caps (steel), glass jar
• Need a more convenient and less expensive way to dispose of electronics and appliances
• Make it easier for dispose of household items that are larger. Maybe had a once a year program closer cities picture TVs. large items for disposal part of taxes
• Pierce County has a place that you can always get rid of electronics and appliances. St. Croix needs something like that. I have an old TV. but you haven't had any place for us to dispose of it in the last year.
• Tire retailers should be required to take old tires at no cost

Miscellaneous (25 Comments)

• All area schools are poor/fair at recycling at sporting events. I think the custodians need to be enlightened. Superintendents tool
• Farm recycle - recycle after mid July
• Have only lived in St. Croix for a little over a year.
• How do you receive a yard waste unit?
• I am a hazardous waste specialist for my job and would like to have input on some items not listed
• I do not believe a yard waste facility is needed. I do not believe a waste exchange would work
• I just bought this house. No I don't want a waste facility in our community.
• If business is not part of life cycle of hazardous waste then it is in the best interest of everyone that recycling is easy and free to individuals, fee to business
• If Walker cut funder for recycling will the county still recycle?
• I'm all for it but it seems like it should be able to pay for itself why isn't it?
• Living in Glenwood City management does not have recycle program if they did you would need what you empty
• Just that recycling paper in Somerset has to change. We use to have a semitrailer parked at St. Anne School that worked great but it wasn’t managed very well and was pulled away.
• Keep recycling closer to River Falls
• Most seniors don't use computers (too Costly)
• Nope, I bring all my stuff to work in the cities and get it processed
- Re: Q#8 "How often" answers vary because I don't frequent several of those locations.
- Some of these don't apply since I am in a condo area. Your waste is taken care of by a person the association hires.
- Something close to Washington County MN Program
- There needs to be a "free store" where you can drop off your good building materials, tools, totes, vehicle parts, etc., and pickup anything you need for other projects. E.g., I have extra new 2x4's but need used tired for my trailer
- This was a useless survey, you should check address before sending. I live in senior housing and we have guidelines as to what we put in garbage. I can't get rid of furniture or appliances because I don't own them
- We are moving out of the county in a few months anyway
- We lived in MN 63 years and only moved to Hudson 8 months ago. We were willing to drive if we had to and don't feel more centers are necessary
- Yard waste and twigs/brush are natural and can just rot in my yard...Mother Nature uses the same process since time began.
- Yard waste is natural...it should be left in nature. I leave my grass, sticks, and leaves in my yard and they go back to nature
- Yes, In reference to number 17 most or a high percent of businesses do not recycle. It goes in the dumpsters, it's not a public problem. Put pressure on the companies

Supportive of waste/yard waste exchange (19 comments)
- A facility to dump yard waste would be nice. $20/year is a lot. It does not have to be manned
- A yard/leaf/brush site is greatly needed - compost to return to the homeowner. (River Falls has/had a great program)
- Definitely would favor a yard waste facility for St. Croix County, and more dates for hazardous waste disposal
- I think it's great! We are pleased that you are now accepting more types of plastic. A yard waste facility would be wonderful!
- I would like to know where I can recycle grass clippings and brush.
- I would like to see a location in the area to drop off leaves Bruch, preferably a compost site. And also more places to have documents shredded! (Personal documents)
- It is so important to have a yard waste drop off site that is easy to set to and convenient
- We need a yard waste facility in Hudson area.
- We would in yard waste facility. Particularly having a source of wood mulch. Email or text updates would suffice as opposed to mailer. The mailer is a great reminder that we keep handy all season.
- Would like to have yard waste program
- Would prefer this to be an email survey, not mail. Would LOVE a yard waste dump site like St. Paul
- Definitely would favor a yard waste facility for St. Croix County, and more dates for hazardous waste disposal
- I think it's great! We are pleased that you are now accepting more types of plastic. A yard waste facility would be wonderful!
- I do support it + have done so in past + would like some info how I can do so again when I live now. Thank you
- If you create a yard waste facility, county citizens should get first option to buy back the mulch created.
- Town of troy dump needs to accept #2 3-6 for recycling plastics, as well as electronics. Waste exchange facility is a good idea.
• It would be great to have a waste exchange facility.
• If regularly opened offices could serve as year-round recycling centers, the amount of recycling would increase. Exchanges are a good idea. Costs should be kept low both to make it affordable and to keep cheaters from using regular garbage to get rid of wastes especially hazardous waste.
• Just a note- #16: I checked both county tax and user fee as I believe the importance of reusing/exchanging resources verifies us all even if we don't need it. #8: Since it refers to both frequency and consistency although they do not always coincide, and checked 'regularly'- I always recycle but my needs are not as often as yours as I am only one person as opposed to a family. Or, I don't go to parks that often or need to recycle, but I always do if the need is there- for however that will fit your recording.

Need for more/better information (19 comments)

• A more clear listing of recyclables that are piled up at the curbside every other week would be helpful also, residents who recycle incorrect things should get a "friendly reminder" about what is able to be recycled and what isn't
• A summary how much is recycled vs. Garbage is desired
• Advertising where and how to recycle items is the biggest problem for me
• Can the clean sweep program take tires? Old plastic barrels or metal barrels?
• Glad to be able to access info in a hardcopy - not everyone has internet!
• I am definitely in support of improving our recycling efforts. I think the biggest barrier toward recycle for our family is not knowing what and where to recycle things than cannot be done curbside.
• I am not aware of recycling requirements. If you have rules to follow you should educate on them.
• I would like more information on recycling small and large appliances
• I would love to see an article in Star-Observer about most frequent questions asked about what is acceptable to recycle in curb pickup – (unreadable comment). Packing material? Batteries?
• Need more information about clean sweep! Does it include, e.g., CFL and batteries?
• Need more notice sooner and various days as people are busy and cannot do in short notice. At least a month ahead of time and not a week as fall and spring clean-up only gives a few days once it hits paper!!
• Offer the clean sweep collection multiple times per year. I don't recall if this is free to county residents or if there is a fee based on what is being recycled. I would prefer free; but also understand there are costs associated with disposal.
• The current plan through waste management is too confusing on pickup dates
• Who do I call if I have something to recycle and can't find out where to take it? Is there a recycling answer person?
• I didn't know the county had programs, I was focused too locally
• Please make people aware of requirements- some neighbors never bring up green recycle bin/cart... why not? Not hard, so good for all!
• I did not receive a copy of your Wasteline in 2014
• I like receiving the newsletter to get program updates of reminders of times to recycle during clean sweep collections
• We don't have a computer no regulation on the "Your Wasteline" we always post the new one - thank you
Convenience Concerns (18 comments)

- At my business there is no room on Main Street or at our business to recycle cardboard. No place for a dumpster. We have a lot of it each week.
- I wish they had pick up.
- I would like to recycle as much as possible if made easier
- I would love it if recycling was picked up with garbage (curbside).
- If Stephens Sanitation had a recycling program, we would recycle more. If they collect garbage in the county they should have a recycling program too.
- If you need to recycle make it easy!
- It appears the services are in place for our use and it is my responsibility to use them even if it is not always convenient.
- It is not made easy or convenient. I would like to recycle on my time not your time!
- It's getting harder and harder to recycle cardboard
- More people need to be made aware. So many people don't recycle at all! We live in Star Prairie Township and I believe rural people are less likely to recycle because of the inconvenience of taking it into NR on a Saturday
- Part of my problem is transportation to recycling places, my health also causes problems with lifting and moving of items
- We need a more convenient place to dispose of batteries and fluorescent bulbs. Many businesses do not recycle at all, around here, there could be both more education and enforcement on this. Great Survey!
- We need an area for cardboard recycling. In our area there are several people that need it. We use to have a place at Hudson middle school.
- Why don’t you have a centered place that is available to county taxpayers to take and dispose of everything that be recycled that is figured in on property taxes
- Wish some things were easier
- Would like to have a facility that pays for aluminum cans closer to Erin Prairie or at the Richmond Facility
- Living in an apartment building doesn't make it easy, but I'm glad they have a designated corner for everyone to drop their bags off
- In Hudson it would be very helpful if they picked up yard waste, without requiring those pain in the butt brown paper bags, like some other communities do. Also, the biggest issue with recycling bulky items is usually transportation. An annual pick up of appliances, mattresses, etc. would be great

Plastic Recycling Concerns (17 comments)

- 1. Need more to recycle plastic (polychlorine) bags, 2. Outlawed spiral florescent light bulbs mfg outside US and only allow incandescent and LED+BT1BT91:BT107 (?)
- Do we still have to sort and separate and can we recycle 3-7 plastics?
- I definitely believe the more we are able to recycle the better. We need to be able to recycle all plastics.
- I wish we could recycle #5 plastic containers
- Make all plastics recyclable at Kinnickinnic Facility
- More businesses need to recycle plastic bags, batteries, light bulbs and other high - use/frequent - use items if we can't recycle it curbside or each city should have a "look return" bin that would only allow appropriate sizes or shops or materials to be dropped off day or night 24/7
• More information on which plastics are recyclable would be nice
• Need a place to recycle #5 plastic
• Need convenient way to recycle household batteries + rechargeable batteries as well as CFL's and fluorescent bulbs. Have very few of these, but don't know where to get rid of them. Also seems to be conflicting into on recycling #3-#7 plastics and can they be recycled curbside with other plastics or not.
• Plastic bags and film packaging is being recycled in Dunn Co Do we recycle these items (bread bags, etc.)?
• Some plastic bottles have written on them recycle, others write nothing, which ones can be recycled? Don't use the telephone for info from elderly...they usually can't hear.
• Town of troy dump needs to accept #2 3-6 for recycling plastics, as well as electronics. Waste exchange facility is a good idea.
• We need to start to recycle 3 and 7 plastic
• Why not recycle plastic #3 through #7? Other countries do. Ex. Germany
• More businesses need to recycle plastic bags, batteries, light bulbs and other high - use/frequent - use items if we can't recycle it curbside or each city should have a "look return" bin that would only allow appropriate sizes or shops or materials to be dropped off day or night 24/7
• I believe all gas stations/convenience stores should be required to have recycling receptacles for plastic bottles and/or cans.

More frequent hazardous waste/Clean-up days (14 comments)

• #15 need more clean sweep days
• Add more days for hazardous waste and a wider range of items that can be recycled (like plastic)
• Clean sweep programs always end up on Sat's that I work- Different dates would help.
• Definitely would favor a yard waste facility for St. Croix County, and more dates for hazardous waste disposal.
• For farmers winter months would be better to get recyclables to pick up. The dates and current times inhibit people to get recyclables to pick up site. Evening dates and times might be helpful.
• Have more than one weekend for getting rid of Hazardous waste sometimes were gone that weekend
• I think townships should have 2 times a year for everyone's junk. It's a long time to hold from May to May
• In my opinion St. Croix is significantly behind Minneapolis/St. Paul suburbs in recycling of electronics, hazardous waste, etc. Very inconvenient to have once per year - waiting in line often extensive, etc. As a result, I thing many people are still throwing these items in the trash.
• It is ridiculous that we can only recycle 2 Saturdays a month. WE have a large household and there 7s NO WAY we can keep 2-3 weeks of recyclables in our garbage or house. We NEED weekly curbside recycling! Immediately!
• Like mandatory Garbage pickup for taxes in Lylen Township wish for more refuse days (currently 2 time per years)
• Make times more convenient to recycle and weekly! Drop off days
• NR has a yard waste area and it is excellent. Need more. "Clean-sweep" type areas and more often. "If you make it hard - people won't do it!"
• Recycling is pretty easy with waste management. More days of clean sweep (2-3 x year) Would be nice
• When I lived in Bloomington, MN I was able to dispose of all item at my curb side twice a year. It was convenient, efficient, and cost effective. Every year I always have something and it seemed as every neighbor did as well.
Pick-up Frequency Concerns (12 comments)

- Bi-weekly is ridiculous! Would prefer weekly pick-up. 2 weeks of garbage in the summer heat is horrible! Happy to pay for weekly pick-up
- I would like to see a weekly pickup of curbside recycling. My cart is often very full or I have on occasion thrown recyclables in the trash can due to lack of space in recycle cart.
- I would prefer weekly recycling curbside pickup due to more items that we are recycling
- Just to reiterate - we could recycle 2x-3x more than we do if it were picked up weekly instead of bi-weekly
- Our recycler picks up only every two weeks. We would recycle more if it was mandated pick-up every week.
- Recycling pickup is 2 times per month. Often times, we need pick up sooner because our container gets too full. Over full containers allow objects to blow around the neighborhood
- Should have more often
- We need our recycle bin picked up weekly. We end up with more recyclable material than garbage.
- We should have places to collect plastic bags. I moved into area about a year ago + where I was from multiple stores collected clean used bags. I try to bring my own bags but still end up with some.
- We should have recycling pick up weekly. Not Bi-weekly
- Weekly residential pickup or larger containers would be good easy, accessible waste exchange would be good.
- Would like it picked up weekly and no biweekly

No-N/A (11 comments)

- No (7x)
- No comments
- No I Don't
- None
- not at this time

Other Municipal Services (10 comments)

- Do you know the village of Baldwin has a yard waste facility? “Your Wasteline” needs to be published more regularly
- Don’t hear a lot about it and utilize Troy Township. However, I had some gasoline to recycle and troy does not accept so went to county website but found I have to go to Rice Lake which is too far. Would be nice to have closer to Hudson and more convenient dates.
- Drop off container such as Barron County? As long as they are maintained/emptied
- Glenwood City has a very nice recycle center. Best part, it is free!
- I have the benefit of recycling at my workplace. I haven't followed any issues of my county. I do use the yard waste facility near New Richmond and benefit from it. Especially because it is free
- I think that Town of Troy dump - Troy Township has a very good program recycling center. I like the punch card and I like the recycling shed. Saves on our landfill.
- I use the Barron County incinerator for some of my stuff especially confidential or large
- Just moved here two years ago from Twin Cities MN. They have a transfer station in Maple Grove where you can drop paint etc. Off for free but pay for some larger items I also think some smaller items are free.
- Please take a look at the Town of Troy collection facility. We have been using it for 20 years and it would be a great place for you to study. They could use more room at this site.
- RF has a yard waste facility

**Hauler Issues (8 comments)**

- I have been told over the years that I use sanitation. Somerset, doesn't even really recycle most of what we put out.
- I/we do recycle but it sure looks like they put the garbage with the recycling.
- Keep the Garbage services private enterprises. Olson Sanitation, Stephen's Sanitation...
- Most people think the garbage service mixes all recycling and garbage together.
- Our waste management company does not require us to recycle/separate our garbage maybe they should.
- When we signed up with Waste Management for trash disposal in Oct. We were told they no longer supplied recycling for our area. Prior to that, we recycled everything possible without curbside pick-up provider bi weekly.
- Where is the trash being sorted for the households that don't recycle? All the garbage cans in my area are full of recyclable materials.
- Who checks up on the garbage haulers? All our trash goes in one bin, all recycling in another bin, but both bins apparently be dumped in to the same hopper. We recycle because we want to believe in it (AND IT'S THE LAW). Is it the law that the garbage haulers have to recycle too?

**Container Issues (7 comments)**

- Advanced disposal only offers a plastic box/bin and the space or container is not big enough it is not a closed container to keep bees, flies, ants from getting in. I like Murtha sanitation in Baldwin because they offer recycling containers that are large, has lid and is on wheels.
- Bigger recycling containers would be nice and cheaper fees that are more affordable.
- Garbage pick-up on curbside does not provide specific container for recyclables - appears that pickup is putting everything in same storage container on "pickup" thanks!
- Generally, if I don't see a recycling bin, I bring my recyclables home to recycle. I'd prefer to recycle more in public places. Containers need to be clearly labeled, specifically about what they hold. In Robert, I'd like larger recycle can or a collection. We have more recycling than trash.
- I would like similar waste containers for yard debris like the city of Hudson has. I am very interested in having local site for leaves and brush, too.
- It would be nice if waste haulers could provide separate any bins for recycling glass, aluminum, etc.
- We need bigger bins without paying more. We shouldn't be "penalized" for recycling more. We need an electronics recycle/dump location at least once a year. Probably twice.

**Issues with Burning (6 comments)**

- Do not like people using burn barrels for burning garbage.
- Make curbside pickup mandatory in rural areas. Don't issue burn permits unless proof of garbage pickup is provided.
- More attention to stop dumping along roads residential lawns.
- Re: Question 18. There are several families in Warren Township that continue to burn garbage in burn barrels. I attempted to bring this to the attention of the Warren Town Board. I was told that people have always burned garbage and that the law cannot be enforced. If you could do anything to help with this it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!
- The only comment I have in regards to burning items – brush, trees, etc. Town requires only an annual permit so residents burn at any time. What checks balance over there to determine what is actually being burned? Seems on occasion, more than brush, weeds, etc. Are burned
- When I need to get a burning permit for burning brush, I have trouble finding the right person on the phone

Improper Dumping Practices (5 comments)

- I’d be willing to pay $20/yr. if it prevented people from dumping their "Stuff" and dead dressed out deer on my roads, esp. around my house! Why aren't they prosecuted?
- Paying to recycle electronics, appliances, mattresses, furniture encourages many people to use road sides. I live near 195th St. in Star Prairie Township, it's terrible, and something new dumped every week.
- Recently in our neighborhood; an entire trampoline apparatus (springs, metal tubing, etc.) was dumped in a vacant lot. Hard to believe this occurs. People don't know what to do with it? I am cleaning it up in spring but I'm not even sure where to recycle it. I walk by this frequently let this day run in the area.) And though not near to my home, it is an eye sore and in scale for people and animals.
- The harder we make it for people to dispose of material, the more they end up in the ditch. We have to clean this up anyway and in the end they end up where they are supposed to be at the cost of the tax payers not sure if that makes sense.
- Would like to see free disposal/recycling of furniture and electronics. The cost deters us from participating and has led others to dump these items in the ditches and the side of the road near our home.
Q15. Additional locations that would make it more likely you would participate in the Clean Sweep program?

- Cost (2x)
- All free
- At no cost
- Costly
- Lower cost/free
- No charges for the electronics
- Awareness of items dates and locations
- Better advertisement of day
- Better advertisements
- Better notifications
- Didn't know where
- Knowing about it
- Let me know
- Let us know about it.
- More info
- More information when and where
- Need to know about it
- Hudson (4x)

- Clean sweep - Hudson ok
- Closer to Hudson
- Closer to Hudson
- N/A (4x)
- Nothing
- Ok as is
- River Falls (2x)
- Star Prairie (2x)
- Somerset (2x)
- New Richmond (2x)
- Somerset or New Richmond (2x)
- At Roberts waste facility
- Near Roberts
- Center of St. Croix county
- More centralized location
- At village
- Baldwin area
- Clean, survey should include more items

- Closer location
- Closer, more often
- Glenwood city
- Have not participated
- I am fine going where I do
- Location in eastern part of county
- More often
- North Hudson
- School parking lot
- Somerset town hall
- St. Joseph fire hall
- Township collection place
- Troy town dump
- Village clean 2x per year
- We have village collection clean up days x 2 per year
- Woodville
**Appendix C – Frequency of Responses by Question**

**Village/City Sample**

1. I live in a (mark one)  
   - City: 199  
   - Village: 115  
   - Town: 14  
   See Appendix B

2. My home is a  
   - Detached single-family home: 69%  
   - Attached home (e.g. duplex-fourplex): 19%  
   - Apartment: 7%  
   - Mobile home: 2%  
   - Other (specify): 3%  
   See Appendix B

3. With respect to your home, do you:  
   - Own: 84%  
   - Rent: 16%

4. What is your gender?  
   - Male: 54%  
   - Female: 46%

5. Including yourself, how many people live in your household?  
   - 1: 22%  
   - 2: 42%  
   - 3: 15%  
   - 4: 13%  
   - 5+: 8%

6. What is your age?  
   - 18-24 yrs.: 1%  
   - 25-34 yrs.: 13%  
   - 35-44 yrs.: 14%  
   - 45-54 yrs.: 17%  
   - 55-64 yrs.: 24%  
   - 65+ yrs.: 31%

7. What is your highest level of formal education?  
   - Less than high school: 1%  
   - High school diploma: 21%  
   - Some college/tech graduate: 23%  
   - Tech/2-Yr graduate: 14%  
   - Bachelor’s degree: 26%  
   - Grad/Professional deg: 15%

**Please tell us about your recycling/waste disposal practices.**

8. Which of the following best describes where and how often you recycle:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Regularly (weekly or bi-weekly)</th>
<th>Most of the time (at least once/month)</th>
<th>Sometimes (once every 3 months or so)</th>
<th>Rarely (once or twice a year)</th>
<th>I don’t recycle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. At my home</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. At gas stations</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. At parks</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. At school</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. At work</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. While shopping</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. At activities/events</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. Which of the following are keeping you from recycling or recycling more? *(mark all that apply)*

| % | a. Have to sort | 4% | e. Concerned about attracting vermin |
| % | b. Have to load/drive to a recycling facility | 11% | f. Don’t know what can be recycled |
| % | c. Lack a place to store recyclables | 60% | g. I don’t face any barriers to recycling more |
| % | d. Concerned about smell | 17% | h. Other (specify) See Appendix B |

67
10. In the table below is a list of materials that are usually recyclable, reusable or compostable. Please indicate *which* of these items you recycle, and *where* you do so. (*mark all that apply*).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Materials</th>
<th>Not recycled</th>
<th>Residential Curbside/Dumpster</th>
<th>Community Facility/Collection program</th>
<th>Other, (MN/WI business, org, farm, etc.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Paper (e.g. newspapers, magazines, mail, etc.)</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>1% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Cardboard</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>2% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Glass bottles and jars</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>1% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Aluminum and tin cans</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>5% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Plastic containers labeled #1 and #2</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>0% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Plastic containers labeled #3 through #7</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>1% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Grass, leaves, garden refuse</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>16% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Brush</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>13% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Motor oil</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>33% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Vehicle tires</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>42% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Electronics (computer, printer, TV, etc.)</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>26% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l. Appliances (freezers, washer, microwave, etc.)</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>24% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m. Mattresses</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>24% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n. Construction/Remodeling materials</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>23% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o. Furniture</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>27% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. How do you dispose of your garbage? 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Curbside</th>
<th>Residential Dumpster</th>
<th>Municipal Drop-off</th>
<th>Other (Specify)</th>
<th>See Appendix B</th>
<th>None/Not Applicable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>87%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Please indicate if it is difficult for you to *dispose* of the following types of materials. If an item is difficult for you to dispose of, please indicate why.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Difficult</th>
<th>Why</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Inconvenient Location</th>
<th>Inconvenient Times</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Medications</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td></td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Electronic items</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td></td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Appliances</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td></td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Mattresses</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td></td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Carpet</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td></td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Automotive waste</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td></td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Furniture</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td></td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Fluorescent lights</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td></td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
13. St. Croix County sponsors an annual Clean Sweep program, usually in May, to collect hazardous wastes, including pesticides, fertilizers, paint, household chemicals, etc. During the past 3 years, have you participated in the annual Clean Sweep program?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. If you have not participated in the Clean Sweep program in the past three years, which of the following have kept you from using this program? (mark all that apply)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Take to other hazardous waste disposal sites</th>
<th>Didn’t know about it</th>
<th>Inconvenient location</th>
<th>Inconvenient time</th>
<th>Inconvenient dates</th>
<th>Didn’t have any hazardous waste</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15. Which options would make you more likely to participate in Clean Sweep programs? (mark all that apply)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>More collection days</th>
<th>Longer collection hours</th>
<th>Different days of the year</th>
<th>Different location</th>
<th>Additional location (specify)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>82%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16. The County would like your feedback about creating 1) a yard waste facility to compost grass, leaves, etc. and turn brush into mulch and 2) a waste exchange facility for hazardous wastes (e.g. paint, herbicides, cleaners, etc.) in containers that are in good shape; these products would be available to other residents. Each facility could cost $600,000 annually to operate. Please tell us whether or not you would support these projects.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a. Yard waste facility</th>
<th>Yes, via county tax of about $20 per household</th>
<th>Yes, on a user-fee basis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>37%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>b. Waste exchange facility</th>
<th>Yes, via county tax of about $20 per household</th>
<th>Yes, on a user-fee basis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

17. Are you aware the County and State law both require households to recycle?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>72%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

18. Are you aware that burn barrels for garbage and most recyclables are illegal?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>80%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

19. Please indicate if, over the past three years, you have accessed information about recycling or disposal of hazardous waste in St. Croix County via the following sources. In the final column, please indicate your preferred source for County information about recycling and hazardous waste disposal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information Source</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Preferred info source (mark one only)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. County website</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. County Facebook page</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. County recycling newsletter (Your Wasteline)</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Newspaper articles</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Public notices</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Other See Appendix B</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

20. Do you have anything else you’d like to say about recycling/garbage removal in St. Croix County?  

See Appendix B
Rural Sample

1. I live in a (mark one)
   - City
   - Village
   - Town
   Name of your city/village/town
   See Appendix B

2. My home is a
   - Detached single-family home
   - Attached home (e.g. duplex-fourplex)
   - Apartment
   - Mobile home
   Other (specify)
   See Appendix B

3. With respect to your home, do you:
   - Own
   - Rent

4. What is your gender?
   - Male
   - Female

5. Including yourself, how many people live in your household?
   - 1
   - 2
   - 3
   - 4
   - 5+

6. What is your age?
   - 18-24 yrs.
   - 25-34 yrs.
   - 35-44 yrs.
   - 45-54 yrs.
   - 55-64 yrs.
   - 65+ yrs.

7. What is your highest level of formal education?
   - Less than high school
   - High school diploma
   - Some college/tech
   - Tech/2-Yr graduate
   - Bachelor’s degree
   - Grad/Professional deg

Please tell us about your recycling/waste disposal practices.

8. Which of the following best describes where and how often you recycle:
   - Regularly (weekly or bi-weekly)
   - Most of the time (at least once/month)
   - Sometimes (once every 3 months or so)
   - Rarely (once or twice a year)
   - I don’t recycle

   a. At my home
      - Regularly: 87%
      - Most of the time: 7%
      - Sometimes: 2%
      - Rarely: 1%
      - I don’t recycle: 2%

   b. At gas stations
      - Regularly: 27%
      - Most of the time: 23%
      - Sometimes: 14%
      - Rarely: 17%
      - I don’t recycle: 19%

   c. At parks
      - Regularly: 29%
      - Most of the time: 23%
      - Sometimes: 16%
      - Rarely: 20%
      - I don’t recycle: 12%

   d. At school
      - Regularly: 30%
      - Most of the time: 21%
      - Sometimes: 9%
      - Rarely: 15%
      - I don’t recycle: 25%

   e. At work
      - Regularly: 61%
      - Most of the time: 18%
      - Sometimes: 3%
      - Rarely: 5%
      - I don’t recycle: 13%

   f. While shopping
      - Regularly: 30%
      - Most of the time: 30%
      - Sometimes: 17%
      - Rarely: 11%
      - I don’t recycle: 13%

   g. At activities/events
      - Regularly: 32%
      - Most of the time: 32%
      - Sometimes: 16%
      - Rarely: 10%
      - I don’t recycle: 9%

9. Which of the following are keeping you from recycling or recycling more? (mark all that apply)
   - 8% a. Have to sort
   - 16% b. Have to load/drive to a recycling facility
   - 12% c. Lack a place to store recyclables
   - 2% d. Concerned about smell
   - 3% e. Concerned about attracting vermin
   - 9% f. Don’t know what can be recycled
   - 53% g. I don’t face any barriers to recycling more
   - 22% h. Other (specify)
   See Appendix B
10. In the table below is a list of materials that are usually recyclable, reusable or compostable. Please indicate which of these items you recycle, and where you do so. (mark all that apply).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Materials</th>
<th>Not recycled</th>
<th>Residential Curbside/ Dumpster</th>
<th>Community Facility/Collection program</th>
<th>Other, (MN/WI business, org, farm, etc.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Paper (e.g. newspapers, magazines, mail, etc.)</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>5% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Cardboard</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>5% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Glass bottles and jars</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>4% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Aluminum and tin cans</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>9% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Plastic containers labeled #1 and #2</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>3% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Plastic containers labeled #3 through #7</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>4% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Grass, leaves, garden refuse</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>33% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Brush</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>31% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Motor oil</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>35% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Vehicle tires</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>38% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Electronics (computer, printer, TV, etc.)</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>23% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l. Appliances (freezers, washer, microwave, etc.)</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>20% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m. Mattresses</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>24% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n. Construction/Remodeling materials</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>24% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o. Furniture</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>28% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. How do you dispose of your garbage?  
   - Curbside: 67%  
   - Residential Dumpster: 15%  
   - Municipal Drop-off: 13%  
   - Other (Specify): See Appendix B  
   - None/Not Applicable: 1%

12. Please indicate if it is difficult for you to dispose of the following types of materials. If an item is difficult for you to dispose of, please indicate why.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Difficult</th>
<th>Why</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Inconvenient Location</th>
<th>Inconvenient Times</th>
<th>Other (specify)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Medications</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td></td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Electronic items</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td></td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Appliances</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td></td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Mattresses</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td></td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Carpet</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td></td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Automotive waste</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td></td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Furniture</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td></td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Fluorescent lights</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td></td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
13. St. Croix County sponsors an annual Clean Sweep program, usually in May, to collect hazardous wastes, including pesticides, fertilizers, paint, household chemicals, etc. During the past 3 years, have you participated in the annual Clean Sweep program? Yes 36% No 64%

14. If you have not participated in the Clean Sweep program in the past three years, which of the following have kept you from using this program? (mark all that apply)

- Take to other hazardous waste disposal sites: 10%
- Didn’t know about it: 30%
- Inconvenient location: 12%
- Inconvenient time: 17%
- Inconvenient dates: 25%
- Didn’t have any hazardous waste: 42%

15. Which options would make you more likely to participate in Clean Sweep programs? (mark all that apply)

- More collection days: 85%
- Longer collection hours: 27%
- Different days of the year: 28%
- Different location: 16%
- Additional location (specify): See Appendix B

16. The County would like your feedback about creating 1) a yard waste facility to compost grass, leaves, etc. and turn brush into mulch and 2) a waste exchange facility for hazardous wastes (e.g. paint, herbicides, cleaners, etc.) in containers that are in good shape; these products would be available to other residents. Each facility could cost $600,000 annually to operate. Please tell us whether or not you would support these projects.

- c. Yard waste facility: No 52% Yes 48%
- d. Waste exchange facility: No 31% Yes 69%

- Yes, via county tax of about $20 per household: Yes 34% No 66%
- Yes, on a user-fee basis: Yes 48% No 52%

17. Are you aware the County and State law both require households to recycle? Yes 68% No 32%

18. Are you aware that burn barrels for garbage and most recyclables are illegal? Yes 74% No 26%

19. Please indicate if, over the past three years, you have accessed information about recycling or disposal of hazardous waste in St. Croix County via the following sources. In the final column, please indicate your preferred source for County information about recycling and hazardous waste disposal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information Source</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Preferred info source (mark one only)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>g. County website</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. County Facebook page</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. County recycling newsletter (Your Wasteline)</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Newspaper articles</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Public notices</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l. Other See Appendix B</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

20. Do you have anything else you’d like to say about recycling/garbage removal in St. Croix County?

See Appendix B
Rural + City/Village Sample

1. I live in a (mark one)  
   City 250  Village 81  Town 448  Name of your city/village/town  
   See Appendix B

2. My home is a  
   Detached single-family home 85%  Attached home (e.g. duplex-fourplex) 9%  Apartment 3%  Mobile home 2%  Other (specify) 2%  
   See Appendix B

3. With respect to your home, do you:  
   Own 92%  Rent 8%

4. What is your gender?  
   Male 60%  Female 40%

5. Including yourself, how many people live in your household?  
   1 14%  2 44%  3 16%  4 17%  5+ 9%

6. What is your age?  
   18-24 yrs. 0%  25-34 yrs. 8%  35-44 yrs. 14%  45-54 yrs. 24%  55-64 yrs. 26%  65+ yrs. 28%

7. What is your highest level of formal education?  
   Less than high school 1%  High school diploma 19%  Some college/tech 21%  Tech/2-Yr graduate 14%  Bachelor’s degree 29%  Grad/Professional deg 16%

Please tell us about your recycling/waste disposal practices.

8. Which of the following best describes where and how often you recycle:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Regularly (weekly or bi-weekly)</th>
<th>Most of the time (at least once/month)</th>
<th>Sometimes (once every 3 months or so)</th>
<th>Rarely (once or twice a year)</th>
<th>I don’t recycle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. At my home</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. At gas stations</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. At parks</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. At school</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. At work</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. While shopping</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. At activities/events</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. Which of the following are keeping you from recycling or recycling more? (mark all that apply)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>8%</th>
<th>3%</th>
<th>12%</th>
<th>10%</th>
<th>13%</th>
<th>56%</th>
<th>3%</th>
<th>20%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Have to sort</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Have to load/drive to a recycling facility</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Lack a place to store recyclables</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Concerned about smell</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Concerned about attracting vermin</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Don’t know what can be recycled</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. I don’t face any barriers to recycling more</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Other (specify)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See Appendix B
10. In the table below is a list of materials that are usually recyclable, reusable or compostable. Please indicate which of these items you recycle, and where you do so. (mark all that apply).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Materials</th>
<th>Not recycled</th>
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<th>Other, (MN/WI business, org, farm, etc.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Paper (e.g. newspapers, magazines, mail, etc.)</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>3% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Cardboard</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>4% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Glass bottles and jars</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>2% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Aluminum and tin cans</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>7% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Plastic containers labeled #1 and #2</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>24%</td>
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<tr>
<td>f. Plastic containers labeled #3 through #7</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>3% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Grass, leaves, garden refuse</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>26% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Brush</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>17%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Motor oil</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>34% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Vehicle tires</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>40% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Electronics (computer, printer, TV, etc.)</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>24% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l. Appliances (freezers, washer, microwave, etc.)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>22% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m. Mattresses</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>24% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n. Construction/Remodeling materials</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>24% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o. Furniture</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>28% See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. How do you dispose of your garbage? Curbside | Residential Dumpster | Municipal Drop-off | Other (Specify) | None/ Not Applicable
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>75%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Please indicate if it is difficult for you to dispose of the following types of materials. If an item is difficult for you to dispose of, please indicate why.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Difficult</th>
<th>Why</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Inconvenient Location</th>
<th>Inconvenient Times</th>
<th>Other (specify)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Medications</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td></td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Electronic items</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td></td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Appliances</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td></td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Mattresses</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td></td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Carpet</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td></td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Automotive waste</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td></td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Furniture</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td></td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Fluorescent lights</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td></td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>See Appendix B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
13. St. Croix County sponsors an annual Clean Sweep program, usually in May, to collect hazardous wastes, including pesticides, fertilizers, paint, household chemicals, etc. During the past 3 years, have you participated in the annual Clean Sweep program? Yes No

14. If you have not participated in the Clean Sweep program in the past three years, which of the following have kept you from using this program? (mark all that apply)

Take to other hazardous waste disposal sites Didn’t know about it Inconvenient location Inconvenient time Inconvenient dates Didn’t have any hazardous waste

9% 32% 10% 13% 19% 48%

15. Which options would make you more likely to participate in Clean Sweep programs? (mark all that apply)

More collection days Longer collection hours Different days of the year Different location Additional location (specify) See Appendix B

84% 25% 25% 14% 12%

16. The County would like your feedback about creating 1) a yard waste facility to compost grass, leaves, etc. and turn brush into mulch and 2) a waste exchange facility for hazardous wastes (e.g. paint, herbicides, cleaners, etc.) in containers that are in good shape; these products would be available to other residents. Each facility could cost $600,000 annually to operate. Please tell us whether or not you would support these projects. Yes, via county tax of about $20 per household Yes, on a user-fee basis

a. Yard waste facility No Yes 46% 18% 37%

b. Waste exchange facility No Yes 32% 20% 49%

17. Are you aware the County and State law both require households to recycle? Yes No 70% 30%

18. Are you aware that burn barrels for garbage and most recyclables are illegal? Yes No 77% 23%

19. Please indicate if, over the past three years, you have accessed information about recycling or disposal of hazardous waste in St. Croix County via the following sources. In the final column, please indicate your preferred source for County information about recycling and hazardous waste disposal.

Information Source Yes No Preferred info source (mark one only)

a. County website 45% 55% 26%

b. County Facebook page 5% 95% 1%

c. County recycling newsletter (Your Wasteline) 73% 27% 57%

d. Newspaper articles 52% 48% 11%

e. Public notices 40% 60% 7%

f. Other See Appendix B 14% 86% 3%

20. Do you have anything else you’d like to say about recycling/garbage removal in St. Croix County?

See Appendix B