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## OUR VISION

To provide Brown County municipal commercial and industrial customers cost-effective and sustainable solid waste management systems with the focus on resource recovery primarily through recycling, d and energy recovery

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# The Waste Not

# Six-Month Snapshot of the South Landfill

Brown County's South Landfill, having just completed its second quarter of operation, continues to offer Northeast Wisconsin residents a place to properly dispose of solid waste.

Filling of the landfill began on January 3rd, 2022 with an initial "fluff" layer. This layer was designed to create a barrier on the floor of the cell using select waste from industrial operations. The fluff layer was placed to a minimum of four feet above the drainage layer on the floor and ten feet up the sideslopes. Incoming waste began to be placed and compacted on the fluff layer creating the first "lift".

A recent aerial survey conducted by Foth Engineers estimated that the airspace utilized as of July 7, 2022 was estimated at 299,605 cubic yards. Based on scale records, the total weight of waste placed into the cell was 172,088.7 tons. Therefore, the density of waste placed at the South Landfill since January 2022 is estimated to be 1,149 pounds per cubic yard.

At the current rate of filling, it is estimated that the initial fluff layer will be completed in August 2022, and the first lift will be completed in September 2022.

"The South Landfill has seen tremendous growth in the first six months of operation." said Resource Recovery Assistant Director, Chad Doverspike. "Currently the Port & Resource Recovery department is evaluating a direct haul tipping fee for commercial and municipal hauling companies. This will encourage trucks to haul solid waste directly to landfill, reducing wait times and hauling from the Waste Transfer Station in Hobart."



Aerial view of the South Landfill cell (May 2022). Photo Credit: Brown County Land Conservation Department

# Handle With Care, Plastic Bags are (Unfortunately) Everywhere

They are everywhere. They find their way into your homes, in your closets and kitchen cabinets. You will find them in any store you enter. Even if you escape into the outdoors, they are in the streets and up in the trees. This isn't some type of monster haunting your every step. It's plastic bags and they are everywhere.

Plastic bags, films, and wraps are the #1 contaminant in the Tri-County Recycling system. Bags, along with plastic wraps and films are not recyclable material in the Tri-County system (Brown, Outagamie, and Winnebago counties), and create production issues such as machine

clogging and contamination. Your household recycling should be placed loosely in your recycling receptacles; any bagged recyclable material needs to be emptied and the plastic bag kept out of the recycling bin.

First and foremost, start to refuse the plastic bags and switch to a re-usable alternative. Many retailers and grocery stores offer their company-branded reusable bags at a minimal cost. You can feel good about plopping your bag full of bags on the checkout conveyor belt, and some stores even offer a discount if you



BYOB (bring-your-own-bag). It is also not Photo Credit: www.bbc.com uncommon to receive free reusable bags

at local farmers' markets, festivals, or events with vendors.

Next, reduce the number of purchases that have unnecessary plastic film. While some small produce items like grapes or Brussels sprouts need a container, consider purchasing larger produce such as apples and lemons without the bag or in reusable mesh produce bags.

Plastic bags happen. We forget our reusable bags or have to make a last minute stop at the store and are in a rush. Do not be too harsh on yourself. Use up those plastic bags that are fill-



Photo Credit: Bag and Film Recycling

ing your shelves and drawers by using them to pick up pet waste or for household garbage (NEVER RECYCLE). Many grocery, retail and department stores have designated drop-offs to recycle clean plastic bags and film. As a final option, if you have no drop-offs in your area and want to purge your space of plastic film, condense the materials together into one bag, tie it, and throw it in your garbage. Densifying the materials helps prevent the light plastics from floating away in the wind.

To find your nearest drop-off location for clean plastic bags, films and wraps, visit <u>www.bagandfilmrecycling.org</u>.

## Waste Transfer Station Tip Floor Replacement

The Brown County Waste Transfer Station will be having its concrete tip floor replaced in October 2022. The floor will be replaced due to the normal wear that occurs as material is pushed across it before being compacted and transported to the landfill.

Because the building will be partially closing to complete the project, and in an effort to alleviate congestion, all customers are encouraged to head to the South Landfill located at 1258 Mill Road in Greenleaf to dispose of their waste. The same tipping fees rates will apply.



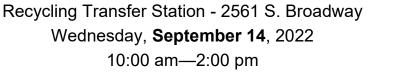
## **Customer Appreciation Day 2022**

## **Customer Appreciation Days**

## All customers are invited!

Waste Transfer Station - 3734 W. Mason St. Tuesday, **September 13**, 2022 10:00 am - 2:00 pm







We appreciate your business! Thank you!

# Hazardous Material Recovery Facility Reduces Residential Drop-Off Days Due To Staff Shortages

Starting the week of July 25, 2022 the Hazardous Material Recovery Facility ceased regular Saturday collection due to ongoing staff shortages. The drop-off center will continue to receive residential household hazardous materials on Tuesdays (9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.) and Thursdays (noon – 6:00 p.m.). The Tuesday hours will now be yearround, not seasonal as it has been.

"We are always looking at ways to be more effective and increase efficiency with the resources available and this is a step in that direction," said Mark Walter, business development manager for Brown County Resource Recovery. "Our busiest public collection day is Thursday and we see a lot of activity right up to our closing time at 6:00 p.m. on Thursdays. We want to be sure we continue that availability for the residents and businesses we serve."

The HMR facility collects hazardous materials that are disposed of in a safe environmental manner. Acceptable materials include paint, cleaners, chemicals, pesticides, fluorescent bulbs and electronics. Fees may apply for some materials. Please visit <u>www.browncountyrecycling.org</u> for more details.

### Follow Us

For facts, general information and ideas on how to reduce waste, follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest! <u>We post information you want to know several times a week.</u>

If you are interested in reading more about a resource recovery topic online or in our newsletter let us know! We would love to hear from you.

## Brown County Port & Resource Recovery Department

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