



The Waste Not

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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, and energy recovery

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South Landfill Progress

Construction at the new South Landfill is well underway. So far, more than 900,000 cubic yards of material have been excavated from the landfill cell. The excavation of remaining material to landfill sub-base began in April of 2021 and is ongoing.

In addition to the near completion of the excavation, many other construction projects are underway in order to bring you the best landfill service possible:

- Installation of the groundwater gradient control layer is nearing completion.
- Installation of the clay liner began towards the end of May on top of the installed groundwater gradient control layer.
- Synthetic liner installation began in July and is ongoing.
- A 158,000 gallon leachate storage tank is being constructed and tested.
- Foundations for the scale house, maintenance and storage buildings have been poured.
- Equipment including a compactor, dozers, trucks and other are operational equipment is being vetted and purchased.
- An Equipment Operator employee eligibility list is being developed based on an initial round of interviews.
- The Scale House structure is being constructed.



Scale House construction continues

We are looking forward to seeing the project completed so we can begin providing services to the community!



Main South Landfill excavated cell

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Sage Advice to Cut Down on Waste

When it comes to keeping materials out of our landfills, we need to think beyond the typical materials like plastic and paper. Food and yard waste are two things that we often don't think much about but can easily keep out of our landfills.

Every year, about 40 million tons of food is wasted in the U.S., which ultimately ends up in our landfills. Additionally, there are about 35 million tons of yard waste collected from residential homes. More than 25 percent of the material that ends up in landfills is organic and food waste. Composting is a great way to reuse food scraps, grass clippings and twigs that would normally be discarded and forgotten.

When we compost, we are taking organic material (food and yard waste) and converting it into rich nutrient soil that is great for gardens and lawns. The art of composting can be done on a large or small scale depending on the amount of waste accumulated and your household size. For many residents, having a small composting bin makes composting easy and accessible; benefiting both your home and the environment. All a composting bin needs to work effectively are dry and wet materials.



The dry materials are carbon-rich and are referred to as "brown" elements. These can be small brush and twigs, cardboard, egg cartons, newspaper, sawdust, straw and even wood chips. Mixed into the dry materials of your compost will be the

wet or "green" materials. Coffee grounds and used filters, eggshells, grass clippings, fruit and vegetable scraps or yard plants. For a healthy composting ratio, it's best to add three parts of brown materials to one part green. However, avoid adding dairy, meat or pieces of bread to your bin because they don't compost well and can attract unwanted backyard animals or pests.

If composting is not a feasible option for you, there are still great alternatives to repurpose food and yard waste. For example, citrus peels are great for cleaning and have natural antibacterial properties. Lemon peels can be used in your kitchen and bathroom as an all-purpose cleaner and orange peels can be used as a deodorizer for your garbage disposal. With grilling season in full swing, you can use potatoes as a non-stick solution for your grill or an onion for cleaning; both will add flavor while repurposing food items past their prime.

As for the brown materials, tree stumps and branches are perfect for DIY crafts for any time of the year, so check out our Pinterest page for ideas. Cut-up logs can be used for garden edging or stakes to mark your herbs and vegetables. Instead of bagging your grass clippings, you can leave them on your lawn to decompose naturally and bring nutrients back into your grass and soil.

It doesn't take a lot of effort to keep food and dry materials out of our landfills, it just takes a little bit of planning ahead of time to decide what you can do. Get the entire family involved and you'll feel good knowing you're not wasting items while you're helping the environment.

Bags to Benches: Plastic Bag Collection in Green Bay

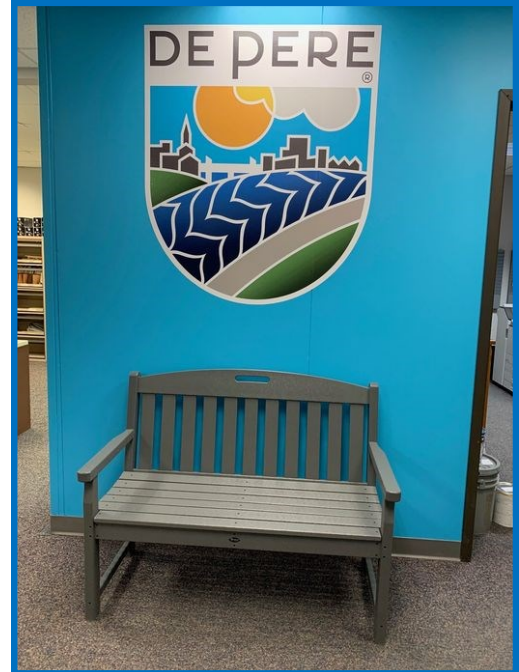
Contrary to popular belief, plastic bags, Ziplock bags, and other films do not belong in your curbside bin. When they end up in our recycling stream, they get entwined around our sorting equipment, costing time and money to remove them. As a state, we are unable to ban plastic bags or films, so it is important that we are disposing of these materials correctly. Green Bay is offering a resource for residents to safely recycle their plastic bags.

Starting June 1st, the City of Green Bay has taken on the Nex-Trex plastic film challenge with the Trex Company in order to collect 500 lbs of plastic film by December 1st to receive a donated composite bench. The City of De Pere has already earned two benches through the Trex program.

The goal of this challenge is to reduce the amount of plastic film in our landfills and environment. Trex Company collects plastic film to create eco-friendly building materials.

Items that can be recycled through the NexTrex program:

- Ziplock storage bags
- Produce bags
- Dry cleaning bags
- Bubble wrap
- Air pillows
- Plastic shipping envelopes
- Product wrap
- Retail and grocery bags



Credit: <https://www.facebook.com/CityofDePere>

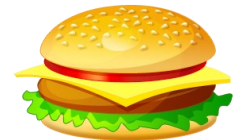
Customer Appreciation Day 2021

Customer Appreciation Days

All customers are invited!



Waste Transfer Station - 3734 W. Mason St.
 Tuesday, **September 14, 2021**
 10:00 am - 2:00 pm



Recycling Transfer Station - 2561 S. Broadway
 Wednesday, **September 15, 2021**
 10:00 am—2:00 pm



We appreciate your business! Thank you!

It's Not Too Late! *Washed Ashore* Exhibit

It's the debut of *Washed Ashore: Art to Save the Sea* at the Green Bay Botanical Gardens! Guests of all ages can see and touch eight stunning sea animal sculptures made from trash and debris found in bodies of water while learning more about the effects of plastic pollution. You'll discover the connections between plastic waste, the wellbeing of marine life and learn everyday actions that we can all take to make a difference for the Great Lakes and beyond. *Washed Ashore* has traveled to botanical gardens, aquariums, zoos and museums across North America.



Picture credit; <https://gbbg.org/washed-ashore/>

The Garden is the first and only venue in Wisconsin to host this traveling exhibit. Keep an eye out for the educational signs detailing facts about each animal, how plastic affects their environment and wellbeing, and everyday actions people can take to make a difference. Other signs throughout the Garden will highlight the *Washed Ashore* exhibit, how the sculptures are created from marine debris, discover issues related to plastic pollution and how we can help as plastic consumers. For more information about the exhibit, visit gbbg.org/washed-ashore

Follow Us

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

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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