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The Waste Not

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, repurposing and energy recovery

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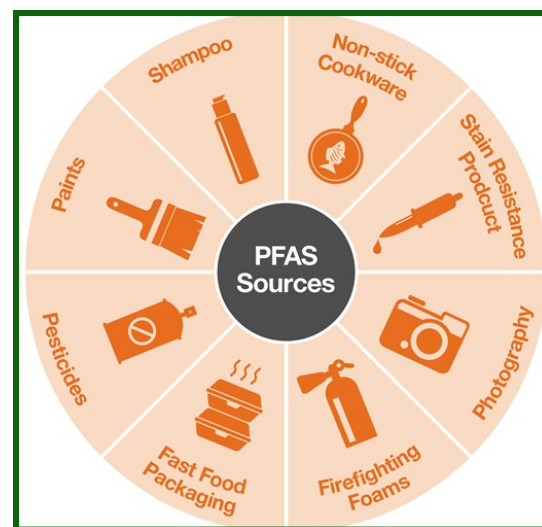
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Waste Professionals to Tackle Sources of PFAS

Solid waste management professionals from around the state are meeting to take on the challenge of PFAS-contaminated wastes entering their facilities. Per- and poly-fluorinated compounds, commonly referred to as PFAS, are a group of over 5,000 compounds created and used by industry since the 1950s. Since that time, PFAS have been used in abundance in household products like Teflon®, Scotchguard®, personal care items such as lotions, hair conditioners and deodorants, waterproof clothing and footwear, stain-free carpets and many other household items. PFAS were also used in food packaging, including wrappers for fast food. In addition, PFAS were used in fire-fighting foams because of their ability to withstand heat and not break down in the presence of water.



Source: MichaelBest.com

"These compounds are everywhere and in every house," said Gerry Neuser, chairperson of the Wisconsin Counties Solid Waste Management Association. In fact, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services has indicated that the number one exposure pathway for children is from household dust. The primary exposure route for adults is food.

As the DNR works to develop test methods and standards for groundwater, surface water and solids, they are also identifying sources of PFAS. Solid waste facilities have been targeted as a source of PFAS. However, waste management leaders see things a bit differently.

"We are not sources of PFAS. Plain and simple...we are receivers of PFAS waste!" says Meleesa Johnson, president of Associated Recyclers of Wisconsin. Johnson adds that unless people change their consumption habits and demand that PFAS are no longer used in their food packaging and clothing, we will continue to be receivers of PFAS.

The waste management industry would like to see true source reduction, not just a patchwork of regulatory standards, non-standardized sampling methods and

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2020 Policy Updates & Rates & Fees

The Brown County Resource Recovery Department would like to remind its customers that beginning a new calendar year brings changes at the Brown County Waste Transfer Station. The following are some minor policy changes and reminders for 2020:



Dirty Shingles

Starting January 1st, 2020, Brown County will no longer accept dirty shingles for recycling but rather will accept them at the gate rate price. Clean shingles will still be accepted for recycling at the rate of \$16/ton.

Frozen Loads

Brown County will initiate a \$25/ frozen box load-dig-out fee. The fee will be added to your monthly invoice. If you choose not to have the box dug out you can go back to the scale and re-weigh.

Tarped Loads

Reminder that all loads coming to the Waste Transfer Station must be tarped.

Electronic Tickets

By January 1st, 2020 all account customers must have received Transfer Station tickets electronically rather than paper copy at the scale. Contact the Sheri McAllister at (920) 492-4951 with an email address to set up electronic ticketing.

Scale Usage

With the addition of another scale at the Waste Transfer Station, please keep in mind that account customers can utilize either scale. Please visit browncountyrecycling.org for further information.

National Battery Day

In this age of technology, everything has some kind of battery. February 18th was National Battery Day and Brown County Resource Recovery reminded residents that knowledge is power when it comes to proper disposal of batteries.

"Devices that use rechargeable lithium ion batteries, such as laptops, power tools, and tablets have a high risk of starting fires if they are mishandled or damaged," explains Chris Blan, Resource Recovery Technician. "If your device should break, remove the battery before disposing of the device. If the battery cannot be safely removed, handle the whole device as you would a battery. If you put it in your garbage, it could combust and start a fire in your home, the garbage truck or in the landfill." Remember that in Wisconsin, it is against the law to put electronics in the trash.

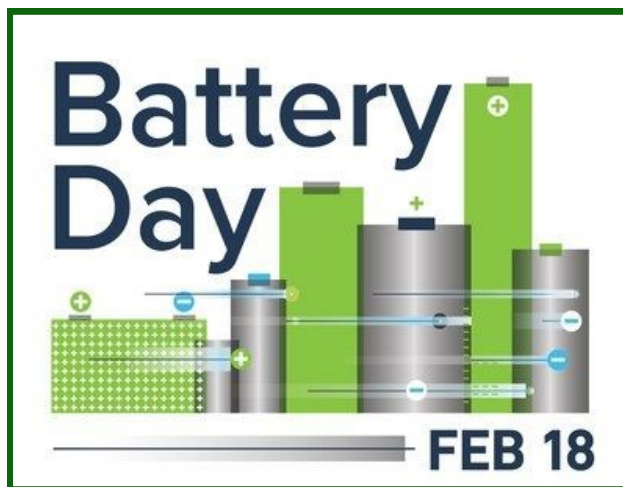
Rechargeable batteries should be brought to the Brown County Hazardous Material Recovery (HMR) facility instead of being placed in your garbage.

National Battery Day cont.

When bringing your batteries to the HMR facility, make sure they are properly prepared for disposal:

- Put each rechargeable battery in an individual, clear plastic bag to prevent overheating or short circuiting. Single use alkaline batteries need not be taped and can be stored and/or transported together.
- Store batteries in a non-metal, leak-proof container, such as a plastic container or bucket with a lid.
- Store swollen or damaged batteries in sand or kitty litter.

By choosing to Recycle Right, residents can keep their homes, families, waste management workers and the environment safe. ALL types of batteries can be brought to the Hazardous Material Recovery facility for safe recycling, with a minimal recycling fee. For more information on how to Recycle Right in Brown County, please visit browncountyrecycling.org.



Source: Yahoo Finance

Improved Business Appointment Scheduling

The Hazardous Material Recovery Facility has improved the way it schedules its business appointments! Now, all appointments are made online by completing the Appointment Request Form and returning the form directly to the Hazardous Material department via email or fax.

This new scheduling system will allow you to review your material to get an accurate count of the waste you are bringing in, ensure proper handling of bulbs and batteries, determine your method of payment ahead of time and choose your preferred appointment time(s) — all at your fingertips.

If you are a business, farm or non-profit organization and would like to make an appointment:

1. Visit our website at browncountyrecycling.org and click the **red button** on the home page.
2. Fill out the form, save a copy for your files then return a copy to us.
3. One of our team members will then contact you with your reserved appointment time.

Hazardous Material Recycling

Residential Drop-Off

Thurs. noon - 6:00 pm

Sat. 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Product Exchange Room

Thurs. 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Sat. 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

****Businesses by Appointment Only**

Click Here to Make a Business Appointment

Sources of PFAs cont.

requirements for unproven filtration systems. True source reduction is the elimination of the use of these compounds, not just in the United States, but globally.

While the older generation of PFAS, in particular PFOA and PFOS, have been banned in the United States since the early 2000s, these compounds are still produced and used overseas. This means that products made in Asian countries and sold online or at retail locations may very well contain the legacy forms of PFAS.

John Welch, president of the Solid Waste Association of North America-Badger Chapter, says that the waste management industry supports regulating these chemicals and sees protection of human health and the environment as a top priority. "We want to make sure that money invested in managing health and environmental risks associated with PFAS will actually net positive outcomes, not just perpetually cycle PFAS from one receiving source to the next."

Local waste management professionals in Wisconsin — including Brown County's very own Chad Doverspike — have formed a PFAS advisory work group and look forward to helping regulators and legislators tackle the true sources of PFAS. For more information on PFAS visit the WDNR website at <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/contaminants/PFAS.html>.

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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