

LAKE COUNTY WASTE & RECYCLING GUIDE

CONTENTS

The Waste Hierarchy

Reduce Waste

- [Refuse](#)
- [Choose Reusable](#)
- [Borrow and Share](#)
- [Repair](#)

Recycling

Types of plastic: Plastics (#1-#7 resin code)

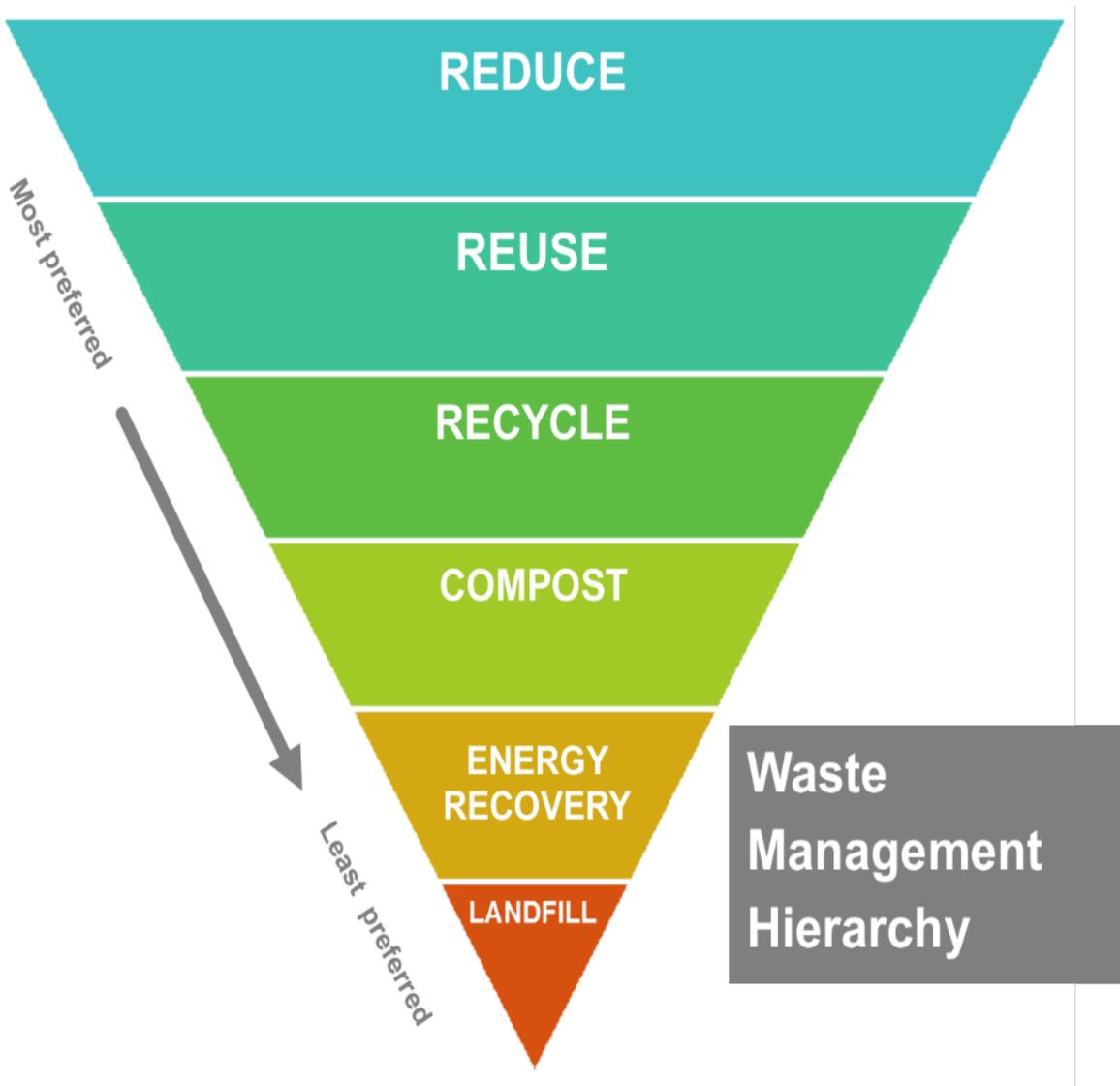
Facilities, Locations, and Hours

Recycling and Disposal Guide

- [Appliances](#)
- [Asbestos](#)
- [Automobiles](#)
- [Batteries](#)
- [Car Seats](#)
- [CDs & DVDs](#)
- [Construction & Demolition Waste](#)
- [Electronics](#)
- [Food Waste](#)
- [Furniture](#)
- [Gasoline](#)
- [Holiday Lights](#)
- [Household Hazardous Waste](#)
- [Light Bulbs](#)
- [Mattresses & Box Springs](#)
- [Medications](#)
- [Motor Oil & Oil Filters](#)
- [Paint](#)
- [Plastic Bags & Film](#)
- [Scrap Metal](#)
- [Sharps](#)
- [Shredded Paper](#)
- [Styrofoam](#)
- [Textiles](#)
- [Tires](#)
- [Toner Cartridges](#)
- [Treated Lumber](#)
- [Yard Waste](#)

THE WASTE HIERARCHY

The Minnesota waste management act defined in statute is designed to promote landfill abatement and encourage more environmentally favorable waste management methods in a manner appropriate to the characteristics of the waste stream. It prioritizes waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and organics recovery above methods that preclude further use of the materials, including waste-to-energy (burning refuse to recover fuel or energy) and land disposal.



REDUCE WASTE

REFUSE

Before buying, ask yourself... “Do I really need this item?”. If the answer is no, go on with your day happy for saving money. If the answer is yes, check out the ways you can borrow and share items instead of buying new.

Due to the current state of the Landfills and Waste Treatment Centers, our best way to maintain a healthy planet is to first REDUCE by REFUSING to buy new products.

CHOOSE REUSABLE

Reusable items make more sense for both the environment and your wallet. Here are a few items that you should consider switching to a multi-use, versus one time.

Reusable items

- Metal straws instead of plastic
- Glass, reusable food containers in place of plastic sandwich bags
- “High tech” cleaning supplies that doesn’t use harsh chemicals or wasteful products
- Cloth rags instead of paper towels
- Carry your own coffee mug or water bottle to reduce plastic and Styrofoam waste
- Get creative! What are ways that you like to reuse?

BORROW AND SHARE

There are many items available for check out at the library beyond books. Instead of purchasing something new to use only a few times, consider checking out the following items from a library.

Available at Two Harbors Public Library:

- Bike Locks
- Board Games and Card Games
- Cake Pans
Large selection of custom shapes
- Early Literacy Kits
- STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) Kits
Including a microscope and planetarium
- Electric Usage Monitors
- E-Readers
- Slide Projector

Sell or donate items to charities, friends, through a newspaper or online. There are several outlets to dispose of items such as clothes, furniture, appliances, and electronics that keeps them out of the waste stream. Have you checked your local thrift store for the latest *vintage* trends?

REPAIR

There are many services out there looking to help **you**. Find your local handy-person or look into videos that will foster your DIY skills. Unlike the familiar saying; somethings do brake and deserve to be fixed! Some great resources are the local bike shop, quirky electronic stores that may fix things for cheap, or maybe you want to fit into the “shabby chic” trend and decide to give that old dresser a fresh coat of paint and a quick sand. Whatever it might be for you, try to think repair before I don’t care!

RECYCLING

Lake County Recycling

There are two main locations where residents can take recycling in Lake County. John’s Sanitary, and the Lake County Recycling Center. Each have their own guidelines for what is accepted and how it should be sorted. This information is listed below.

DO RECYCLE at Recycling Center

The Lake County Recycling Center requires you to sort recyclables into the following categories:

Plastic

All plastic with a #1 ♻️ or #2 ♻️ resin code accepted

Remove lids on containers

Empty and rinsed

Examples:

- Laundry detergent bottles
- Milk jugs
- Plastic berry containers
- Peanut butter containers
- Plastic beverage bottles

Newspaper

- Newspaper, *including ads*

White Paper

- White office paper
- White envelopes, *including envelopes with windows*
- Shredded white paper, *must be in paper bag, separate from color shredded paper*

Magazines

- Glossy magazines and catalogues

Color Paper

- Color office paper
- Shredded color paper, *must be in paper bag separate from white shredded paper*
- Junk mail

Cardboard

Dry and flattened

- Corrugated cardboard boxes
- Brown paper bags
- Cardboard hot beverage sleeves

Pasteboard

- Cereal and tissue boxes
- Egg cartons
- Frozen meal boxes
- Toilet paper and paper towel tubes

Books and Phonebooks

- Phonebooks
- Softcover books
- Hardcover books

Glass

All colors accepted

No window glass or dishes

Empty and clean

- Glass bottles
- Glass canning jars

Aluminum

Empty and clean

- Aluminum beverage cans
- Aluminum foil
- Aluminum foil serving pans and pie tins

Tin

Empty and clean

- Tin food cans
- Tin latex paint can (dried out)
- Aerosol cans, empty, did not contain hazardous product, plastic tip removed

DO RECYCLE at John's Sanitary

John's Sanitary requires you to sort recyclables into the following categories:

Plastic

All plastic with a #1 ♻️ or #2 ♻️ resin code accepted

Lids may be left on containers

Empty, clean, labels removed

Examples:

- Laundry detergent bottles
- Milk jugs
- Plastic berry containers
- Peanut butter containers
- Plastic beverage bottles

Paper Products

- Newspaper, *including ads*
- White and color office paper
- White envelopes, *including envelopes with windows*
- Shredded Paper, *must be in a separate bag*
- Glossy magazines and catalogues
- Junk mail
- Brown paper bags
- Pizza boxes
- Pasteboard boxes, such as cereal and tissue boxes
- Frozen meal boxes
- Milk and juice cartons
- Toilet paper and paper towel tubes
- Egg cartons
- Phonebooks
- Books

Cardboard

- Corrugated cardboard boxes, *separate from other paper*

Glass

All colors accepted

No window glass or dishes

Empty, clean, labels removed

- Glass bottles
- Glass jars

Aluminum

Empty and clean

- Aluminum beverage cans

Tin

Empty, clean, labels removed

- Tin food cans
- Tin latex paint can, *dried out*

WHY CAN'T LAKE COUNTY RECYCLE ALL THE PLASTICS?

The number inside chasing arrows is called a resin code. This symbol identifies the type of plastic an item is made from.



Recycled plastic becomes part of a materials market. Different types of plastic sell for different prices. Currently, **plastic #1 and #2 have a high value** and good market in Minnesota. **Low values for plastic #3-#7** make it economically challenging to collect and sell.

WAYS TO CUT DOWN ON PLASTIC

- Buy in bulk and use reusable containers
- Choose products with less packaging
- Choose cardboard over plastic packaging
- Carry your own reusable mug or water bottle



FACILITIES, LOCATIONS, AND HOURS

Facility & Location	Summer Hours	Winter Hours	Recyclables	Garbage	Demolition Waste	Household Hazardous Waste	Used motor and oil filters	Yard waste	Scrap Metal	Appliances	Electronics	Tires	Mattresses and Box springs	Furniture	Carpet
			Lake County Recycling Center 515 Recycle Center Drive • Two Harbors ☎ 218-834-8304	Monday-Friday: 7:30 am-5:30 pm Saturday: 8:00 am-12 pm		✓			✓						
Household Hazardous Waste 515 Recycle Center Dr • Two Harbors ☎ 218-834-8810	May – September Wednesday: 12-5:30 pm	October – April Closed				✓			✓	✓					
Two Harbors Yard Waste Facility Fairgrounds Road • Two Harbors ☎ 218-834-8810 <i>City residents and businesses only</i>	Friday: 9am – 3pm	Closed						✓							
Construction and Demolition Landfill Bunker Hill Rd • Two Harbors ☎ 218-834-8304	Tuesday & Thursday: 12:30 - 3:30 pm First Saturday of the month: 8:30 - 11:30 am				✓*			✓	✓	✓*			✓*		
John's Sanitary Removal 15 Golf Course Road • Silver Bay ☎ 218-220-1212 ✉ information@johnssanitary.com	Monday-Friday: 7:00 am-3:00 pm		✓	✓*	✓*			✓*	✓*		✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*
Fall Lake Transfer Station 303 Kawishiwi Trail • Ely ☎ 218-365-0056 ✉ falllake@lakeconnections.net	May-August Mon, Wed, Sat: 8 am-4 pm	September Wed & Saturday: 8 am-4 pm October-April Saturday: 8 am-4 pm	✓	✓*			✓	✓	✓						

*There is or may be a fee associated with disposal

**Limited types of hazardous waste accepted

RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL GUIDE

APPLIANCES

Reduce

Buy quality, durable appliances when possible, only run clothes and dishwashers when full, maintain appliances so they last as long as possible (there are many good tips online).

Reuse

Sell or donate working appliances to charities, reuse stores, friends, or through the newspaper or online.

Repair

Repair appliances when possible

Different types of appliances have different requirements for disposal:

Large Appliances (White Goods)

It is the law in Minnesota that major appliances must be recycled or reused. It is important to properly recycle your appliances because they contain mercury, PCBs, and CFCs, all of which can damage the environment if not handled properly.

This includes

Clothes washers and dryers, dishwashers, ovens, refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers, humidifiers, gas ranges, electric ranges, residential furnaces, water heaters, microwave ovens, air conditioners, trash compactors, garbage disposals, etc.

Recycle

Recycle within Lake County

- **Construction and Demolition Landfill** • W Castle Danger Road (CO 106) • Silver Creek Township
Additional directions: Turn left on 106 and travel about .7 miles, and then turn right on Bunker Hill Road. The facility shop is about 1 mile ahead on the right
Open year-round: Tuesday-Saturday 12:30-3:00 pm & first Saturday of each month 8:30 am-11:30 am
Fees: Residential appliances: \$10.00/each
Commercial appliances: \$23.00/each
- **John's Sanitary Removal** • 15 Golf Course Road • Silver Bay
Open year-round: Monday-Friday 7:00 am-3:00 pm
218-226-3418

You may also ask your local garbage hauler if they accept or will pick up appliances for you

Recycle outside Lake County

St. Louis County

- **Northwoods Transfer Station** • 9384 Hwy 21 N • Ely
Open April 15-September 30: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 12:00 pm-6:00 pm
Open October 1-April 14: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 11:00 am-5:00 pm
Fees: Yes. For more information call 218.365.3895
- **Regional Landfill** • 5341 Regional Landfill Road • Virginia
Open year-round: Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm & Saturday 8:00 am-3:30 pm
Fees: Yes. For more information call 218.741.8207
*In St. Louis County, **doors must be removed** from refrigerators and freezers*

Other appliance retailers may also accept your appliances when you purchase a new one

Small Appliances

This includes

Toasters, microwaves, blenders, coffee makers, electric tea kettles and hair dryers etc.

Recycle

Small appliances are items that often have very high recyclable content but need to be taken to a specialist. If these appliances are in working condition, they can be donated at a local thrift store or Goodwill. It is preferred that these items are cleaned at arrival. To recycle the metals parts of appliances, ask around in your local community if anyone is utilizing these scraps.

ASBESTOS

What is asbestos?

Asbestos is fibrous, silicate minerals that are resistant to heat, electricity, and chemical corrosion. This made asbestos useful and common element in construction materials. However, asbestos is highly toxic. When it enters the body it never leaves, and [it can cause inflammation and damage to cells](#) over time.

Disposal

Dispose within Lake County

County residents who have small quantities of asbestos or materials that contain asbestos (less than 3 cubic feet) may dispose of the materials at the Lake County Household Hazardous Waste Facility. Call the Solid Waste Officer for packaging instructions at 218-834-8304.

Dispose outside of Lake County

St. Louis County

- **Regional Landfill** • 5341 Regional Landfill Road • Virginia
Open year-round: Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm & Saturday 8:00 am-3:30 pm
You must call 218-741-8207 at least 24 hours in advance of disposal
Disposal fees in place. CASH NOT ACCEPTED

Duluth

- **Vonco V** • 1100 West Gary Street • Duluth
For more information call 218.336.5100

[Information on asbestos in demolition and renovations](#)

[Information on asbestos in the home](#)

AUTOMOBILES

When your car is no longer roadworthy, don't let it sit: get it out of your space by donating or recycling.

Donate

Consider donating your car to charitable organization. Pickup is often free and you can earn a tax deduction. Acceptable vehicle conditions may vary. Before donating, take a glance this guide to vehicle donation: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p4303.pdf>

Organizations to donate to

- **Kars 4 Kids**
www.kars4kids.org
1-888-691-8415
Accepts: cars, boats, RVs, motorcycles
Cost: FREE Pickup
- **Wheels for Wishes**
minnesota.wheelsforwishes.org
1-866-686-5947
Accepts: cars, boats, RVs, motorcycles
Cost: Free Pickup
- **Vehicles for Veterans**
www.vehiclesforveterans.org/minnesota/
1-844-234-2328
Accepts: cars, boats, RVs, motorcycles
Cost: Free Pickup
- **Cars for Veterans**
www.carsforveterans.org
1-800-807-8604
Accepts: cars, boats, RVs, motorcycles
Cost: Free Pickup
- **Susan G. Komen**
www.komenminnesota.org/Make_a_Donation/Car_Donation.htm
1-855-566-3622
Accepts: cars, boats, RVs, motorcycles
Cost: Free Pickup
- **Breast Cancer Car Donations**
www.cardonations4cancer.org/about-us/locations/minnesota/
866-540-5069
Accepts: cars, boats, RVs, motorcycles, vans, buses
Cost: Free Pickup
- **Habitat for Humanity**
www.habitat.org/support/donate-a-car
1-877-277-4344
Accepts: cars, boats, RVs, motorcycles, vans, buses, snowmobiles, farm equipment, construction equipment, airplanes
Cost: Free Pickup
- **Goodwill**
www.goodwillcardonation.org/goodwill-easter-seals-minnesota/
866-551-8992
Accepts: cars, boats, RVs, motorcycles
Cost: Free Pickup

There may be other organizations that also accept car donations

Recycle or Sell Scrap

Some parts of the car may be salvageable. Also, old autos can be valuable scrap metal. Get them out of your space and you may even get compensated for some parts.

- **Woods Auto Salvage** • 1469 Cardinal Rd • Two Harbors
218-834-4139
- **Chesney Auto Salvage** • 6250 Beaver River Rd • Duluth
www.chesneyautosalvage.com
218-721-4874
- **Bayside Recycling** • 22 S 39th Ave • Duluth
www.baysiderecycling.com
218-628-3109

*Contact before dropping off your scrap metals
There may be other auto salvage and recyclers not listed*

BATTERIES

Reduce

Use rechargeable batteries when possible

Hazardous Battery Handling Tips

- Store batteries in a vented plastic bucket or sturdy cardboard box. Do not place an airtight lid on the container. Gases that vent from batteries may be trapped and become dangerous
- Wash your hands with soap and water after handling batteries, or use gloves
- If storing batteries together, place non-conducting (electrical) tape over terminals or place individual batteries in plastic bags to prevent short-circuiting
- Do not attempt to discharge a battery by short-circuiting the terminals
- Older batteries may rust and leak after long periods of storage. If a battery appears to be dirty or have a white, film-like substance around the terminals, use caution when handling the battery, and do not touch the dirty area. Place it in a bag for recycling or disposal.

[MPCA battery webpage](#)

Different types of batteries have different requirements for disposal:

Lead-Acid Automotive Batteries: Hazardous

Motor vehicle batteries contain about 18 pounds of lead and about one gallon of corrosive, lead-contaminated sulfuric acid that can damage the environment if landfilled or incinerated. It is illegal to put lead acid batteries in the trash. Vehicle battery retailers must accept lead-acid batteries for free regardless of where the batteries were purchased (up to five).

This includes: vehicle batteries found in boats, snowmobiles, golf carts, motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, wheelchairs, etc.

Disposal

- **Any vehicle battery retailer** – call ahead

Dispose within Lake County

- **Lake County Household Hazardous Waste** • 515 Recycle Center Drive • Two Harbors
Open mid-May -mid-September: Wednesday 12:00 pm-5:30 pm

Dispose outside Lake County

- **WLSSD Household Hazardous Waste Facility** • 27th Ave W & Courtland St • Duluth
Open: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm, year-round
- **Northwoods Transfer Station** • 9384 Hwy 21 N • Ely

Open April 15-September 30: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 12:00 pm-6:00 pm

Open October 1-April 14: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 11:00 am-5:00 pm

- **Regional Landfill** • 5341 Regional Landfill Road • Virginia
Open year-round: Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm & Saturday 8:00 am-3:30 pm

Rechargeable Batteries: Hazardous

It is [illegal](#) to put rechargeable batteries in the trash

This includes

- **Nickel cadmium (Ni-Cd):** Found in cordless power tools, cordless phones, video cameras, two-way radios
- **Lithium ion (Li-ion):** Found in cellphones, cordless power tools, cordless phones, digital cameras, two-way radios, laptops, tablets and e-readers
- **Nickel metal hydride (Ni-MH):** Found in cellphones, cordless power tools, digital cameras, two-way radios
- **Nickel Zinc (Ni-Zn):** Found in digital cameras, wireless keyboards, small electronics
- **Small sealed lead acid (Pb):** Commonly found in mobility scooters, fire emergency devices, UPS systems, emergency lighting

Disposal

Dispose within Lake County

- **Lake County Household Hazardous Waste** • 515 Recycle Center Drive • Two Harbors
Open mid-May -mid-September: Wednesday 12:00 pm-5:30 pm

Dispose outside Lake County

- **WLSSD Household Hazardous Waste Facility** • 27th Ave W & Courtland St • Duluth
Open: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm, year-round

Single-use Batteries: Hazardous

This includes

- **Lithium (non-rechargeable):** Found in cameras, computer memory backup, watches, remote controls, hand-held games
- **Button batteries:** Found in watches, car keyless entry remotes, hearing aids, medical devices, calculators
- **Alkaline batteries purchased in 1993 or earlier**

Preparing for disposal

- Lithium batteries may be reactive. Place in separate plastic bags or put non-conductive (electrical) tape over the battery terminals

- Place tape around each button battery

Disposal

Dispose within Lake County

- **Lake County Household Hazardous Waste** • 515 Recycle Center Drive • Two Harbors
Open mid-May -mid-September: Wednesday 12:00 pm-5:30 pm

Dispose outside Lake County

- **WLSSD Household Hazardous Waste Facility** • 27th Ave W & Courtland St • Duluth
Open: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm, year-round

Single-use Batteries: Safe for Trash

This includes

- **Alkaline (after 1993):** Found in alarm clocks, calculators, flashlights, TV remote controls, remote control toys, radios
- **Carbon-zinc:** Found in remote controls, flashlights, clocks

Disposal

Place in trash

DISPOSE OF BATTERIES THE RIGHT WAY

Place in Trash



ALKALINE BATTERIES

CARBON-ZINC BATTERIES



Bring to Household
Hazardous Waste



LEAD-ACID AUTO BATTERIES

RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES



BUTTON BATTERIES

CAR SEATS

If the car seat has been in a traffic accident, contact your insurance company. Some insurance companies will reimburse you to replace child car seats when a vehicle has been in an accident.

Recycle

Sometimes, Target pairs up with Waste Management in spring to collect and recycle car seats

Dispose

Often, car seats must be disposed of with regular garbage:

- Dismantle car seat and place components in trash
- Contact your hauler about pickup
- Take to a disposal site for a fee

CDs and DVDs

As you transition your music and movie library to digital and online formats, you may find yourself with CDs and DVDs you no longer need. Unfortunately, the recycling market for these products is limited. CDs and DVDs also cannot be put in with regular recycling. Even though they are made of plastic, it is not the same kind of plastic found in food and beverage containers. They are also not made of just one type of plastic, but a mixture.

Donate

If your CDs and DVDs are in good condition, consider donating them to a music reseller, a local thrift store, or to WLSSD's Reuse Area at the Materials Recovery Center.

Recycle

There are some mail-in options for recycling old CDs and DVDs that can be found online

Dispose

If the CD or DVD is not in good condition and you are unable to donate or recycle it, place the disc in the trash.

CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION (C&D) WASTE

This includes

- Bituminous material: pavement/blacktop
- Built-in cabinetry
- Burned structures (only recognizable parts of structure. All ash must go to a lined landfill)
- Ceramic fixtures: commodes, sinks, tubs, drain tile
- Duct work (asbestos insulation removed)
- Fencing materials
- Glass from structures (no auto glass)
- Insulation: cellulose, fiberglass, mineral wool, newspaper, polystyrene, vermiculite
- Linoleum/tiles
- Metal
- Molded fiberglass
- Pipe/conduit
- Plastic building products
- Roofing materials
- Rubber building products
- Sheathing: OSB, wafer board, ply board
- Sheetrock
- Siding: aluminum, Masonite, slate, steel, vinyl, wood
- Tile
- Untreated wood: lumber, logs, tree stumps
- Wiring
- Non-contaminated concrete: blocks, bricks, stucco, plaster

This does not include

- Asbestos-containing material ■
- Animal carcasses
- Ash from incinerators
- Auto glass
- Cardboard *
- Carpet/carpet pad
- Caulking tubes
- Empty paint cans
- Empty pesticide containers ●
- Free liquids
- Fire brick
- Fluorescent lamp tubes
- Furniture
- Hazardous waste ●
- Household garbage
- Infectious waste ●
- Lead acid batteries ●
- Empty paint cans *
- Paint dust ●
- Paint filters
- Paint residue
- Pail & buckets
- Petroleum contaminated soil
- Railroad ties
- Sludge
- Sewer sludge
- Radioactive waste
- Industrial sludge
- Green treated wood
- Waste oil ●

* *Recyclable*

- *Accepted at Household Hazardous Waste facility in Two Harbors*
- *County residents with less than 3 cubic feet of materials containing asbestos may dispose of materials through the HHW facility in Two Harbors. Contact the solid waste office for packaging instructions: 218-834-8304*

Reduce

Consider using recyclable, low-waste, and reclaimed materials in projects.

See Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center's dormitory that uses [Living Building Challenge](#) principles

Reuse and Recycle

- Some demolition sites in the St. Louis County Solid Waste Management Area have reuse sheds. Bring sorted items such as cabinets, windows, and doors to be reused by others. These items can be picked up by others free of charge.

Disposal

Dispose within Lake County

- **Construction and Demolition Landfill** • W Castle Danger Road (CO 106) • Silver Creek Township
Additional directions: Turn left on 106 and travel about .7 miles, and then turn right on Bunker Hill Road. The facility shop is about 1 mile ahead on the right
Open year-round: Tuesday-Saturday 12:30-3:00 pm & first Saturday of each month 8:30 am-11:30 am
Disposal Fees:
Landfill use requires an initial pass purchase to gain access, then users pay for each yard

Use Passes

- “Minimum Use Pass”: (1 standard pickup truck load): \$14.00
You may purchase 2/year, not to exceed 4 cubic yards total
- Annual “Demolition Pass”: \$25.00
Jan 1 through Dec 31, NOT prorated

Price per cubic yard (includes solid waste tax)

Minimum charge of 2 cubic yards

Demolition waste originating within Lake County: \$8.60/cubic yard

Demolition waste originating outside Lake County: \$27.60/cubic yard

- **John’s Sanitary Removal** • 15 Golf Course Road • Silver Bay
Open year-round: Monday-Friday 7:00 am-3:00 pm
 For more information call 218-226-3418

All licensed trash haulers in Lake County have demolition permits

The Lake County Demolition Landfill is for the disposal of non-asbestos-containing materials resulting from the alteration, construction, destruction, rehabilitation, or repair of all manmade structures

Dispose outside of Lake County

St. Louis County

- **Northwoods Transfer Station** • 9384 Hwy 21 N • Ely
Open April 15-September 30: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 12:00 pm-6:00 pm
Open October 1-April 14: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 11:00 am-5:00 pm
Fees: Yes. For more information please call 218.365.3895
CASH NOT ACCEPTED

WLSSD

- **WLSSD Materials Recovery Center** • 4587 Ridgeview Rd • Duluth
Open year-round: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm
Fees: Yes. For more information call 218.722.3336

ELECTRONICS

This includes

TVs, computer monitors, cell phones, tablets, computer, DVD and VCR players, printers, digital clocks, calculators, etc.

Why recycle

Electronic waste, or E-waste, is a concern these days – with good reason. The e-waste stream is [growing faster](#) than any other type of waste. Also, e-waste makes up just 2 percent of the total volume in American landfills, but more than two-thirds of the heavy metals found in landfills. In Minnesota, [e-waste must be recycled](#).

Reduce

Follow these tips to minimize the amount of e-waste you create

- **Re-evaluate:** Do you really need that extra gadget? Try finding one device with multiple functions
- **Extend the life of your electronics:** Buy a case, keep your device clean, and avoid overcharging the battery.
- **Buy environmentally friendly electronics:** Look for products labeled Energy Star or certified by the Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT)
- **Repair electronics** when possible: Check out [ifixit](#) to learn how to repair almost anything
- **Purchase refurbished** electronics

Recycle

Please follow [best practices to protect your data](#). Clear your devices of personal data prior to recycling at one of the following locations.

Dispose within Lake County

- **Lake County Household Hazardous Waste** • 515 Recycle Center Drive • Two Harbors
Open mid-May -mid-September: Wednesday 12:00 pm-5:30 pm
Fees: \$0.25/lb

Dispose outside Lake County

- **WLSSD Materials Recovery Center** • 4587 Ridgeview Rd • Duluth
Open year-round: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm
Fees: Yes. For more information call 218.722.3336
- **Northwoods Transfer Station** • 9384 Hwy 21 N • Ely

Open April 15-September 30: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 12:00 pm-6:00 pm

Open October 1-April 14: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 11:00 am-5:00 pm

Fees: Yes. For more information call 218.365.3895

- **St. Louis County Regional Landfill** • 5341 Regional Landfill Road • Virginia
Open year-round: Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm & Saturday 8:00 am-3:30 pm
Fees: Yes. For more information please call 218.365.3895

- **Best Buy** • 5105 Burning Tree Rd • Duluth
Fees: some items free, some priced
[Full list of accepted items](#)

- **Afterlife Electronics Graveyard** • 915 John Ave • Superior, WI
Contact: 218-940-9274
Fees: some electronics free, some priced

- **AT&T**
Various locations:
 - 224 East Central Entrance • Duluth
 - 1600 Miller Trunk Hwy Space F03D • Duluth
 - 910 Woodland Ave • Duluth
 - 8582 Rock Ridge Dr • Mountain Iron*Accepts only wireless phones, batteries, and accessories*

- **Cell Phones for Soldiers**
Consider donating your old phone, smartphone, or tablet to [Cell Phones for Soldiers](#)
Drop your used phone off at one of the following locations:
 - **American Legion Post 109** • 614 1st Avenue • Two Harbors
 - **Wells Fargo** • 401 Chestnut Street • Virginia

FOOD WASTE

Up to 30% of household waste is food scraps and yard waste. Compost food waste to save money and reduce the amount of waste going into landfills. Because food waste is organic material, when it decomposes in landfills, methane, a potent greenhouse gas, is produced. You are also able to create a natural, valuable soil amendment when you compost your own food waste in the backyard.

This includes

- Egg shells
- Coffee grounds and filters
- Tea bags
- Fruits
- Vegetables
- Peels and pits
- Spoiled/moldy food
- Bread
- Pasta
- Rice
- Old pet food
- Shredded Newspaper
- Hay and straw
- Paper
- Lint
- Wood ash

This does not include

- Pet waste
- Kitty litter
- Diapers
- Liquids
- Aluminum foil
- Plastic wrap
- Regular plastic bags and containers (certified compostable bags only)
- Dirt
- Rocks
- Charcoal ash
- Meat
- Dairy
- Fats
- Bones

Reduce

Reduce food waste at home when possible. Here are some ideas how:

- Take advantage of your freezer and extend the life of much of your food, including cheese, bread, pasta sauce, and some produce
- Purchase from bulk bins so you can bring your own containers and only purchase the quantity of food you need
- Make a grocery list and stick to it
- Revive wilted vegetables by soaking them in ice water

Find more ways to reduce food waste at savethefood.com

Compost at home

One way to manage your food waste (and yard waste) is to compost it in your backyard. There are no State or County laws or ordinance that prohibit property owners from having their own compost area on their property.

Four main steps to starting a compost pile:

1. Make or purchase a compost bin
2. Throw in yard waste and mix in kitchen scraps
3. Add water as needed

4. Mix it occasionally with a shovel or pitchfork

Learn more about starting a compost pile and winterizing a compost pile [here](#)

DO NOT put animal products in a backyard compost pile. Small compost piles do not get hot enough to kill of harmful bacteria like E. coli.

Compost and drop sites

Compost within Lake County

- **Yard Waste at C&D Landfill** • W Castle Danger Road (CO 106) • Silver Creek Township
Additional directions: Turn left on 106 and travel about .7 miles, and then turn right on Bunker Hill Road. The facility shop is about 1 mile ahead on the right
Open: 24/7
Fees: none

Compost outside Lake County

- **WLSSD Yard Waste Compost Site** • 27th Ave W & Courtland St • Duluth
Located past the Household Hazardous Waste Facility
Open: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 9:00 am-4:00 pm, seasonally
Fees: none
- **WLSSD Materials Recovery Center** • 4587 Ridgeview Rd • Duluth
Brush only
Open: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm, year-round
Fees: none
- **WLSSD Household Hazardous Waste Facility** • 27th Ave W & Courtland St • Duluth
Open: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm, year-round
Fees: none
- **WLSSD also has several other drop sites for food waste compost**
 - Marshall Hardware (parking lot behind store) • 4415 E. Superior St. • Duluth
 - Willard Munger Inn (parking lot) • 7408 Grand Avenue • Duluth
 - Chester Creek Café (parking lot) • 1902 E. 8th St • Duluth
 - Lake Superior College (w-building parking lot, near loading dock) • 2101 Trinity Rd • Duluth

Meat, bones, and dairy products accepted at all WLSSD sites and drop sites

How to prepare your compost to bring to WLSSD

- Put your food waste in a **certified compostable bag** (must have Biodegradable Products Institute logo). Bags can be picked up for free from the WLSSD-staffed drop sites or bags can be purchased at Duluth area businesses including Marshall Hardware, Ace Hardware, Whole Foods Co-op, and Twin Ports Paper & Supply.
- Make sure bag is tied shut securely. Twist-ties are ok.

Tips for collecting food waste in the kitchen

- Utilize the refrigerator and/or freezer to store food waste if you can't get to a drop site before it becomes a nuisance
- Use a covered container that still allows for air flow, such as an ice cream bucket with loose fitting top or air holes punched in the cover. Many companies make nice-looking, functional compost collectors that sit on the countertop with style

FURNITURE

Why Recycle

- Your trash is someone else's treasure
- Help those in need
- Make some money

Reduce

Buy durable, quality furniture that will last and remain in style when possible. Update old furniture by refinishing or reupholstering.

Repair & Reupholster

Keep your favorite pieces of furniture around longer: have furniture repaired and reupholstered instead of buying new. Find a friend or expert to help or find how-to videos online.

Reuse

- Donate and purchase furniture through a used furniture store or thrift store
- Sell and buy your old furniture through garage sales
- Sell and buy old furniture through want ads in newspapers and online marketplaces

Locations & Websites

For donating, selling, and purchasing used furniture

- **Goodwill** • 702 7th Ave • Two Harbors
Open: Sunday 11:00 am-5:00 pm & Monday-Saturday 10:00 am-6:00 pm
- **Neighbor to Neighbor Thrift Store** • 508 7th St • Two Harbors
Open: Monday-Saturday 10:00 am-5:00 pm
- **Architectural Antiques** • 224 7th St • Two Harbors
Open: Thursday-Monday 10:00 am-5:00 pm
- **Habitat for Humanity ReStore** • 1621 Broadway St • Superior
Open: Wednesday-Friday 10:00 am-5:00 pm & Saturday 10:00 am-4:00 pm
- **WLSSD Materials Recovery Center Reuse Area** • 4587 Ridgeview Rd • Duluth
Open: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm
- **Once Loved Furniture** • 208 W Superior St • Duluth
Open: Monday-Saturday 10:00 am-5:00 pm

Online

- **Craigslist** • www.craigslist.org
- **Facebook Marketplace** • www.facebook.com/fbmarketplace

Other thrift stores and websites not mentioned here may also purchase and sell used furniture

Disposal

If furniture is unusable and must be disposed of, you may:

- Dismantle and place components in trash
- Contact your hauler about bulky item pickup
- Take to a disposal site for a fee:

Dispose within Lake County

- **John's Sanitary Removal** • 15 Golf Course Road • Silver Bay
Open year-round: Monday-Friday 7:00 am-3:00 pm
218-226-3418

Dispose outside Lake County

- **WLSSD Materials Recovery Center Reuse Area** • 4587 Ridgeview Rd • Duluth
Open: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm
Fees: Yes. For more information call 218.722.3336

GASOLINE

Dispose

Take to a [Household Hazardous Waste](#) facility

Holiday Lights

Reuse

Sick of those tangled old lights in taking up space in storage? Then it is time to do a holiday clean out! If you are simply interested in updating your lights, first consider donating old ones to local thrift stores or friends that may be interested. There may even a spot inside your home that could use a little jazzing up.

Dispose

If the lights are no longer in working condition, they can be disposed of at several locations around MN. Talk to your local hardware store to see if they could be of use there, otherwise check out RecycleYourHolidays.org. This organization seeks to help rid those pesky old lights, with a provided list of both year-round and seasonal disposal sites.



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW)

This includes

Garage and Workshop

- Acetone
- Adhesive, solvent-based
- Artist's paint
- Autobody repair products
- [Battery acid](#)
- Brake fluid
- [Car batteries](#)
- Car wax, solvent-based
- Concrete cleaner
- Contact cement
- Driveway sealer
- Fiberglass epoxy
- Flares/Fuses
- Gasoline and other fuels
- Glue, solvent-based
- Lighter fluid
- [Motor oil](#)
- [Oil filters](#)
- Other oils
- [Paint](#), all types
- Paint thinner
- Paint stripper
- Parts cleaner, degreaser
- Photo chemicals

- Roof/foundation coating
- Rust remover
- Shellac
- Stain
- Transmission fluid
- Turpentine
- Varnish
- Windshield washer solution
- Wood filler
- Wood preservative

Kitchen and Bathroom

- Alcohol-based lotions (perfume, aftershave)
- Cleaners, solvent-based
- Floor care products
- Hair remover
- Nail polish
- Nail polish remover
- Oven cleaner
- Window cleaner

Home and Garden

- Aerosol cans, full
- Ammunition
- [Batteries](#), rechargeable and button
- Charcoal lighter fluid
- Dry cleaning solvent
- Fertilizer containing weed killer
- [Lightbulbs](#), fluorescent/CFL
- [Lightbulbs](#), LED
- Mercury compounds
- Mercury thermometers
- Mercury thermostats
- Metal polish, solvent-based
- Mothballs
- Pesticide
- Pool chemicals
- Rat poison
- [Sharps**](#)
- Shoe polish
- Spot remover
- Stump remover
- Toner cartridges*
- Weed killer (herbicide)

This does NOT include

Garage and Workshop

- Glue, water-based
- Joint compound
- Latex [paint](#) cans, empty

Kitchen and Bathroom

- Bleach
- Cleaners, ammonia-based
- [Medicine](#)
- Skin cream

Home and Garden

- Aerosol cans that did not contain hazardous product, empty
- [Batteries](#), alkaline
- Fertilizer
- [Lightbulbs](#), halogen/incandescent
- Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, batteries removed

*Accepted at HHW in Lake County only

**Accepted at HHW in Lake County and WLSSD only

Disposal

HHW facility within Lake County

- **Lake County Household Hazardous Waste** • 515 Recycle Center Drive • Two Harbors
Open mid-May -mid-September: Wednesday 12:00 pm-5:30 pm

HHW facilities outside of Lake County

St. Louis County

- **HHW at Regional Landfill** • 5341 Regional Landfill Road • Virginia
Open year-round: Tuesday & Saturday 8:00 am-1:00 pm

Out of solid waste management area hazardous waste accepted by St. Louis County limited to:

- Fluorescent bulbs
- Motor oil
- Oil filters
- Automobile batteries
- Video display devices

Fees may be applied. For more information call 218.722.3336

Western Lake Superior Sanitary District

- **WLSSD Household Hazardous Waste Facility** • 27th Ave W & Courtland St • Duluth
Open year-round: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm



LIGHT BULBS

Read about and compare types of lightbulbs [here](#)

Reduce

Purchase longer-lasting and less hazardous light bulbs when possible.

- Fluorescent bulbs are more energy efficient and longer-lasting than traditional incandescent bulbs
- LEDs bulbs are even more efficient. They can cut energy use by more than 80 percent. The bulbs can last much longer than CFLs, with an average life of about 22 years

Some lightbulbs are safe to place in trash, others must be taken to a household hazardous waste facility:

Hazardous

Fluorescent and HID bulbs are illegal to place in the trash because they contain mercury. LED bulbs contain heavy metals.

This includes

- **Fluorescent Bulbs (CFL)**
- **High intensity discharge bulbs (HID)**
- **LED bulbs**

Prep for disposal

- Remove bulb from fixture
- Place bulb in original packaging or cushion to prevent breaking
- Do not tape bulbs together

Disposal

Disposal within Lake County

- **Lake County Household Hazardous Waste** • 515 Recycle Center Drive • Two Harbors
Open mid-May -mid-September: Wednesday 12:00 pm-5:30 pm

Disposal outside Lake County

- **WLSSD Household Hazardous Waste Facility** • 27th Ave W & Courtland St • Duluth
Open year-round: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm
- **Northwoods Transfer Station** • 9384 Hwy 21 N • Ely
Open April 15-September 30: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 12:00 pm-6:00 pm
Open October 1-April 14: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 11:00 am-5:00 pm
Fees: Yes. For more information call 218.365.3895
- **Regional Landfill** • 5341 Regional Landfill Road • Virginia

Open year-round: Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm & Saturday 8:00 am-3:30 pm
Fees: Yes. For more information call 218.741.8207

What to do if a fluorescent bulb breaks
see [MPCA fluorescent bulb fact sheet](#)

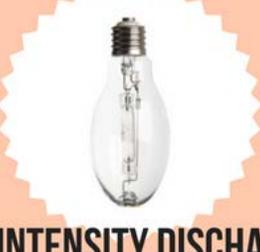
Safe for Trash

This includes

- Incandescent bulbs
- Halogen bulbs

NEVER PLACE LIGHTBULBS IN WITH RECYCLING

DISPOSE OF LIGHT BULBS THE RIGHT WAY

Place in Trash	Bring to Household Hazardous Waste
 <p>INCANDESCENT BULBS</p>	 <p>LED BULBS</p>
 <p>HALOGEN BULBS</p>	 <p>FLUORESCENT & CFL BULBS</p>  <p>HIGH INTENSITY DISCHARGE (HID) BULBS</p>

MATTRESSES & BOX SPRINGS

Why Recycle

Over 80% of a mattress can be recycled. They also are a challenge for landfills because they take up so much space. All mattresses recycled in the region are taken to [Goodwill in Duluth](#) where they are deconstructed and made into new products:

- Steel springs are compacted and shipped directly to a foundry in Gary New Duluth for re-manufacturing on location
- The wool, cotton, and foam are remade into insulation, carpet pads, and noise abatement products
- Wood is chipped and made into mulch or burned as fuel

About [1,300 mattresses are recycled](#) at the Goodwill facility in Duluth each month, saving landfill space, creating jobs, and returning valuable materials into the economy.

Recycle

Recycle within Lake County

- **Construction and Demolition Landfill** • W Castle Danger Road (CO 106) • Silver Creek Township
Additional directions: Turn left on 106 and travel about .7 miles, and then turn right on Bunker Hill Road. The facility shop is about 1 mile ahead on the right
Open year-round: Tuesday-Saturday 12:30-3:00 pm & first Saturday of each month 8:30 am-11:30 am
Fees: Dry: \$10.00/ea
Wet: \$20.00/ea
- **John's Sanitary Removal** • 15 Golf Course Road • Silver Bay
Open year-round: Monday-Friday 7:00 am-3:00 pm
218.226.3418

You may also ask your local garbage hauler if they accept or will pick up tires for you

Recycle outside of Lake County

St. Louis County

- **Northwoods Transfer Station** • 9384 Hwy 21 N • Ely
Open April 15-September 30: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 12:00 pm-6:00 pm
Open October 1-April 14: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 11:00 am-5:00 pm
Fees: Yes. For more information call 218.365.3895

Regional Landfill • 5341 Regional Landfill Road • Virginia

Open year-round: Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm & Saturday 8:00 am-3:30 pm
Fees: Yes. For more information call 218.741.8207
CASH NOT ACCEPTED

This includes

Medicines that can be dropped off include all expired, unwanted, or unusable prescriptions or over-the-counter medications used by family members or pets.

- Pills and capsules
- Blister packs
- Creams & gels
- Inhalers
- IV bags
- Liquids
- Non-prescription drugs
- Patches
- Powders
- Sprays
- Vials

This does not include

- Needles
- Syringes
- Lancets
- Thermometers

No medications from businesses

How to prepare for drop off

- Keep medications in original container and place in a sealed, clear plastic bag
- Use a marker to cross out your name on the container. Drop off in anonymous and no ID is required.
- If you don't have the original container, place in a clear plastic bag and write the name of the medication on the bag

Disposal

Retail pharmacies are not allowed to take back any medications, the only exception is if they have a take-back kiosk

Dispose within Lake County

- **Lake County Service Center** • 99 Edison Blvd • Silver Bay
Open: Monday-Friday 8:00 am -4:00 pm
- **Law Enforcement Center** • 613 3rd Ave • Two Harbors
Open: 24/7
Directly inside entrance
- **Essentia Health Pharmacy** • 802 11th St • Two Harbors
Open: Monday-Saturday 8:30 am- 6:30 pm
You don't have to be an Essentia patient to use this service

Dispose outside Lake County

- **Ely Police Department** • 209 E Chapman St • Ely
Open: Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:00 pm
St. Louis County residents only

- **Virginia Sheriff's Department** • 300 S 5th Ave • Virginia
Open: Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm
- **Essentia Health Pharmacy** • 1101 9th St N • Virginia
Open: Monday-Friday 8:00 am-6:00 pm & Saturday 9:00 am-1:00 pm
You don't have to be an Essentia patient to use this service

If you cannot get to a drop off site

- DO NOT flush old or unwanted prescriptions or over-the-counter medications down the toilet or drain
- Purchase a mail-back envelope from your pharmacy if that is an option
- Store medications until safe disposal
- Put carefully in garbage if needed*

*How to prepare to throw in garbage if needed

- Keep the medication in its original container
- Leave the content information clearly visible but scratch out or cover the patient's name with permanent marker
- Modify the medications to discourage consumption
 - **For solid medications** (pills or capsules): add a small amount of water to at least partially dissolve them
 - **For liquid medications:** add enough table salt, charcoal, dirt, cat litter, flour, or powdered spice to make an unsightly mixture that discourages consumption
 - **For blister packs:** wrap the blister packages containing pills in multiple layers of duct or other opaque tape
- Seal and conceal. Tape the medication container lid shut with packaging or duct tape, place it inside a non-transparent bag or container such as an empty yogurt tub to ensure that the contents cannot be seen. Do not conceal medicines in food products because they could be inadvertently consumed by wildlife or pets.

NEVER RECYCLE MEDICATION

MOTOR OIL & OIL FILTERS

Why recycle

It is illegal to dispose of waste oil in by placing it in the trash or on the ground. And it is illegal to put oil filters in the trash. It is important to dispose of used motor oil properly because used oil from one oil change can contaminate one million gallons of fresh water.

Also, motor oil is completely recyclable: **it doesn't wear out, it just gets dirty**. Recycled used motor oil can be re-refined into new motor oil, be burned in furnaces to heat homes and businesses, and be used as raw material for the petroleum industry. Oil filters contain scrap metal that is also reusable. More information on using and recycling motor oil can be found [here](#).

Recycle within Lake County

- **Lake County Household Hazardous Waste** • 515 Recycle Center Drive • Two Harbors
Motor oil drum open 24/7 under surveillance
- **Fall Lake Transfer Station** • 303 Kawishiwi Trail • Fall Lake Township
Open: May-August: Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday 8:00 am-4:00 pm
September: Wednesday and Saturday 8:00 am-4:00 pm
October-April: Saturday 8:00 am-4:00 pm
- **J&H Auto Repair and Towing** • 91 Outer Drive • Silver Bay
218.226.4447

Recycle outside of Lake County

St. Louis County

- **Northwoods Transfer Station** • 9384 Hwy 21 N • Ely
Open April 15-September 30: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 12:00 pm-6:00 pm
Open October 1-April 14: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 11:00 am-5:00 pm
Fees: Yes. For more information call 218.365.3895
- **Regional Landfill** • 5341 Regional Landfill Road • Virginia
Open year-round: Tuesday & Saturday 8:00 am-1:00 pm
Fees: Yes. For more information call 218.741.8207

Western Lake Superior Sanitary District

- **WLSSD Household Hazardous Waste Facility** • 27th Ave W & Courtland St • Duluth
Open year-round: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Oil filter recycling may also be available at other locations, including motor oil retailers, service stations, or oil change servicers

PAINT

As of 2013, Minnesota has in place a [paint stewardship program](#) that is meant to increase reuse and recycling of architectural paint. [PaintCare](#), a nonprofit, is responsible for carrying out the stewardship program. This includes setting up collection and transporting paint. PaintCare drop-off locations include household hazardous waste facilities as well as some hardware stores and paint retailers. Lake County participates in the paint care program at the household hazardous waste facility in Two Harbors. PaintCare works to put paint to another use and recycle paint containers when possible. Learn more about how PaintCare handles paint [here](#).

This includes

- Interior and exterior architectural paints: latex, acrylic, water-based, alkyd, oil-based, enamel (including textured coatings)
- Deck coatings, floor paints (including elastomeric)
- Primers, sealers, under coats
- Stains
- Shellacs, lacquers, varnishes, urethanes (single component)
- Waterproofing concrete/masonry/wood sealers and repellents (not tar or bitumen based)
- Metal coatings, rust preventatives
- Field and lawn paints

Other paints, while not in the PaintCare program, are also accepted at household hazardous waste facilities

Reduce

- **Buy the right amount of paint**, then there will not be any paint left over to deal with when the job is done. Use a [paint calculator](#) to estimate the amount needed.
- Consider purchasing [less toxic paint](#)

Reuse

Using up paint products reduces waste. Choose to use up, donate, and browse reuse facilities before purchasing paint for a small project.

Reuse

- Use lighter shades as primer for a new project
- Give [a new look](#) to an old piece of furniture

Give away

- Give to family, neighbors, or friends
- Set out at a garage sale
- Donate to a community group or a local artist

Donate to a reuse center

Reuse centers are sometimes run in conjunction with household hazardous waste facilities. At the center, you can donate paint and take others' leftover paint products for free.

Reuse Centers

Within Lake County

- **Lake County Household Hazardous Waste** • 515 Recycle Center Drive • Two Harbors
Open mid-May -mid-September: Wednesday 12:00 pm-5:30 pm

Outside Lake County

- **FREEstore at Regional Landfill** • 5341 Regional Landfill Road • Virginia
Open year-round: Tuesday & Saturday 8:00 am-1:00 pm
- **WLSSD Household Hazardous Waste Facility** • 27th Ave W & Courtland St • Duluth
Open: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm, year-round

Storage Tips

If well-sealed and stored in a suitable location, paint can last for years.

Here are some tips for best storage of leftover paint:

- **Keep the rim clean:** put tape around the rim before pouring out or strap a rubber band around the top to wipe your brush on instead of using the rim
- **Don't dent the rim:** use a mallet to reseal the lid or if using a hammer, put a small towel over the lid to absorb the impact
- **Seal it in:** cover the paint can opening with plastic wrap before placing the lid on top
- **Mark the can:** put a dot of paint on the lid of the can and write down the date opened, color, and brand
- **Prevent freezing:** to prevent paint from spoiling, store it in a cool place that does not freeze (paint freezes at about the same temperature as water)
- **Avoid rust:** when paint cans get wet, they can rust and contaminate the paint, making it unusable. Prevent rust by storing paint off the ground in a dry place
- **Repackage it:** place small quantities of leftover paint in an empty quart can or a canning jar to save space and use for touch-ups

Find more storage tips [here](#)

Recycle empty latex paint cans

Dry out, scrape out, recycle

Paint cans are made of tin and are recyclable. If using latex paint, when done leave lid off the can and let the paint dry out. Then scrape out, throw away the dried paint and recycle the can.

Do NOT throw away liquid paint in the trash

Oil paint must always be disposed of at a hazardous waste site because it contains volatile organic compounds, which can negatively impact human health, and are flammable

Disposal

Paint can be disposed of at household hazardous waste facilities or a PaintCare participating retailer.

Disposal within Lake County

- **Lake County Household Hazardous Waste** • 515 Recycle Center Drive • Two Harbors
Open mid-May -mid-September: Wednesday 12:00 pm-5:30 pm

Disposal outside Lake County

- **Regional Landfill** • 5341 Regional Landfill Road • Virginia
Open year-round: Tuesday & Saturday 8:00 am-1:00 pm
- **WLSSD Household Hazardous Waste Facility** • 27th Ave W & Courtland St • Duluth
Open: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm, year-round

PaintCare Participating Retailers:

- **Andren Paint Company** • 5600 Grand Ave • Duluth
- **Diamond Vogel** • 1701 London Rd Duluth
- **Sherwin-Williams** • 4767 Miller Trunk Hwy • Hermantown
- **Lossing Building Center** • 30 North Drive • Babbitt
- **Bradach Lumber Home and Hardware** • 216 W 3rd Ave N • Aurora
- **Sherwin-Williams** • 5486 Mountain Iron Dr • Virginia

PLASTIC BAGS & FILM

Why recycle

More than ever, we use plastic bags and film to shop, package products, and receive packages in the mail. Plastic is not biodegradable, but breaks down into smaller and smaller pieces which enter the environment and food chain. Because of that impact plastic can have, it is concerning that [14 trillion plastic bags](#) are used each year in the U.S. alone but only [1% of plastic bags](#) are recycled each year. Recycling plastics allows them to be remade into new and useful products *and* keeps them out of landfills and oceans.

This includes

plastic shopping bags, bread bags, newspaper bags, clean zip-top food storage bags, produce bags, deflated air pillows, product wrap on cases of water/soda bottles, paper towels, napkins, etc., plastic cereal box liners (but if tears like paper, do not include)

This does not include

Cling wrap, chip and snack bags, candy wrappers, six-pack rings, frozen food bags, compostable bags, plastic #5 bags, woven plastic bags

Special Notes

- Plastic bags cannot be mixed with regular recycling
- Make sure bags are **clean** and **dry**

Recycle

Recycle within Lake County

- **SuperOne** • 802 11th St • Two Harbors
Open: Every day 6:00 am-12:00 am
#2 plastic film only
- **Goodwill** • 702 7th Ave • Two Harbors
Open: Monday-Saturday 9:00 am-6:00 pm & Sunday 11:00 am-5:00 pm
Plastic grocery/shopping bags only

Recycle outside Lake County

St. Louis County

- **Northwoods Transfer Station** • 9384 Hwy 21 N • Ely
Open April 15-September 30: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 12:00 pm-6:00 pm
Open October 1-April 14: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 11:00 am-5:00 pm
- **Regional Landfill** • 5341 Regional Landfill Road • Virginia
Open year-round: Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm & Saturday 8:00 am-3:30 pm

Western Lake Superior Sanitary District

- **Materials Recovery Center** • 4587 Ridgeview Rd • Duluth
Open year-round: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Other retailers also collect plastic bags and film, including Target, Wal-Mart, Whole Foods Co-op, and other SuperOne locations

Reuse

Use plastic bags as trash can liners, packing material for shipping or storing fragile items, or dog poop baggies

Reduce

Bring your own bag when you shop for groceries or at other stores. Some stores like Target even reward you with a \$0.05 discount for every reusable bag you use – which can add up!

Ways to remember your reusable bags:

- Hang them by the door
- Keep them in the car
- Write “bags” at the top of your shopping list, do you don’t forget to bring them!

SCRAP METAL

Recycle

Recycle scrap metal for free at the following locations:

Recycle within Lake County

- **Construction and Demolition Landfill** • W Castle Danger Road (CO 106) • Silver Creek Township
Additional directions: Turn left on 106 and travel about .7 miles, and then turn right on Bunker Hill Road. The facility shop is about 1 mile ahead on the right
Open year-round: Tuesday-Saturday 12:30-3:00 pm & first Saturday of each month 8:30 am-11:30 am
- **Fall Lake Transfer Station** • 303 Kawishiwi Trail • Fall Lake Township
Open: May-August: Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday 8:00 am-4:00 pm
September: Wednesday and Saturday 8:00 am-4:00 pm
October-April: Saturday 8:00 am-4:00 pm

Recycle outside Lake County

- **John's Sanitary Removal** • 15 Golf Course Road • Silver Bay
Open year-round: Monday-Friday 7:00 am-3:00 pm
218-226-3418
- **Northwoods Transfer Station** • 9384 Hwy 21 N • Ely
Open April 15-September 30: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 12:00 pm-6:00 pm
Open October 1-April 14: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 11:00 am-5:00 pm
- **St. Louis County Regional Landfill** • 5341 Regional Landfill Road • Virginia
Open year-round: Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm & Saturday 8:00 am-3:30 pm
- **WLSSD Materials Recovery Center** • 4587 Ridgeview Rd • Duluth
Open year-round: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm
- **Azcon Corporation** • 630 Arthur Ave • Duluth
218-722-7703
- **Bayside Recycling** • 22 S 39th Ave • Duluth
218-628-3109

Contact businesses before dropping off your scrap metals

SHARPS

Why sharps are important to dispose of properly

Improper sharps disposal raises concerns for the health and safety of those who work with garbage and recycling. There are options for disposing of medical sharps; many are free.

This includes

Needles, syringes, lancet, auto injectors, infusion sets, connection needles

Preparing for disposal

- Place sharps in rigid **plastic, puncture-resistant container** with a screw-on lid (laundry detergent, 2-liter pop bottles, or milk jugs work best)
- **Label Container** “Household Medical Sharps”
- When full, make sure container is **securely sealed**

NEVER RECYCLE A CONTAINER OF SHARPS

Disposal

Dispose within Lake County

Prepare for disposal, then bring to:

- **Lake County Household Hazardous Waste** • 515 Recycle Center Drive • Two Harbors
Open mid-May -mid-September: Wednesday 12:00 pm-5:30 pm

Dispose outside Lake County

St. Louis County

Prepare for disposal, secure lid with duct, then place in garbage

Red biohazard containers are not accepted

Medical sharps not accepted at household hazardous waste facilities in St. Louis county

Western Lake Superior Sanitary District

Prepare for disposal, then bring to:

- **WLSSD Household Hazardous Waste Facility** • 27th Ave W & Courtland St • Duluth
Open year-round: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm

It is illegal to dispose of sharps in garbage within the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District

Medical Providers may also collect sharps in an approved container for a fee

SHREDDED PAPER

Shredded paper can be placed with regular recycling. It must be in its own bag. White and color shredded paper must be separate when dropped off at the Lake County Recycling Center.

STYROFOAM

Polystyrene foam, usually known by the name brand Styrofoam, is unfortunately a tricky plastic. While there is potential for Styrofoam to be recycled, like with other materials, it can be difficult, costly, and there are not currently any nearby options to do so.

Reduce

Choose reusable, compostable, or recyclable cups, plates, to-go containers, and packaging material when possible

Reuse

Save packing peanuts and other pieces of Styrofoam to use in moving boxes or when packing mail or gifts

Recycle

There are some mail back programs, mostly for clean Styrofoam (like the kind used to package a new appliance, etc.) as well as drop-off sites. Find out more [here](#)

Packing peanuts are accepted to be reused by some post offices and mail centers

Dispose

Place in trash

DO NOT place Styrofoam in with regular recycling

TEXTILES

Reduce

Purchase high quality, durable clothing and textiles when possible

Repair

Repair clothes when possible: sew on patches, replace button and zippers, etc. If sewing is not something you usually do, ask a friend to teach you or to repair the item for you. There are also videos available online that demonstrate how to repair clothing.

Reuse

purchase gently used clothing at a thrift or consignment store or online marketplace rather than buying new

Recycle

Usable clothing and textiles

- **Neighbor to Neighbor Thrift Store** • 508 7th St • Two Harbors
Store open: Monday-Saturday 10:00 am-5:00pm
Receiving open: Monday-Saturday 11:00 am-3:30 pm
- **Goodwill**
Various locations:
 - 702 7th Ave • Two Harbors
 - 204 E Sheridan St • Ely
 - 1352 W Arrowhead Rd • Duluth
 - 4883 Miller Trunk Highway • Hermantown**Open:** Monday-Saturday 9:00 am-6:00 pm & Sunday 11:00 am-5:00 pm
- **DAV (Disabled American Veterans)**
Donation drop bins are in [many locations](#):
 - **Savers Thrift Store** • 1740 Mall Drive • Duluth
 - **Two Harbors Community Center** • 417 South Ave • Two Harbors
 - **WLSSD Materials Recovery Center** • 4587 Ridgeview Rd • Duluth
 - **Northwoods True Value** • 730 Highway 169 • Tower
 - **Perrault Constructions** • 318 Hoover Rd N • Virginia*Additional DAV drop-off options may be available in the Duluth and Virginia area*
- **Regional Landfill** clothing donation box • 5341 Regional Landfill Road • Virginia
Open year-round: Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm & Saturday 8:00 am-3:30 pm
- **Secret Sisters Boutique** • 244 W Sheridan St • Ely

Other thrift stores not listed here also accept old, usable clothing

Non-usable, worn clothing and textile scraps (salvage)

- **Lake County Developmental Achievement Center (DAC)** • 626 2nd Ave • Two Harbors
*“Lake County DAC has been in the rug production business for over 15 years. We create beautiful **hand-woven rugs** from worn out and donated material. We sell the rugs at our Two Harbors River site and area venues. We rely on the donation of clothing and material for the creation of our rugs.”*
Open for drop-off: Monday-Friday 9:00 am-2:00 pm
Currently accepting:
Scraps at least 2”x18” preferred
Upholstery, drapes, bedspreads, bath towels, table cloths made from:
 - Dark cottons: dark navy blue, reds, browns, greens, black
 - Dark chenille: dark navy blue, reds, browns, greens, black
 - Flannel: any color
 - Wool blankets and shirts: dark navy blue, reds, browns, greens
 - Polar Fleece: dark navy blue, reds, browns, greens, black
 - Terry cloth: dark navy blue, reds, browns, greens**Currently NOT accepting:**
 - Blue jeans
 - Light colored cottons: white, pink, lavender, blue, yellow
- **WLSSD Materials Recovery Center** • 4587 Ridgeview Rd • Duluth
Open year-round: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm
Fee: Yes. For more information call 218.722.3336

TIRES

Automobile and truck tires are [not allowed in the garbage](#); they must be recycled. Smaller tires such as lawnmower tires can be disposed of in the garbage.

Reuse

Check out [these 20 ways](#) to turn used tires into something new

Recycle

Disposal within Lake County

- **John’s Sanitary Removal** • 15 Golf Course Road • Silver Bay
Open year-round: Monday-Friday 7:00 am-3:00 pm
218-226-3418

Disposal outside Lake County

- **WLSSD Materials Recovery Center** • 4587 Ridgeview Rd • Duluth
Open year-round: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Fees: Yes. For more information call 218.722.3336

Businesses limit of 20 per day, must be used to support daily operations; auto mechanics or tire retailers are not eligible for this service at the MRC

- **Northwoods Transfer Station** • 9384 Hwy 21 N • Ely
Open April 15-September 30: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 12:00 pm-6:00 pm
Open October 1-April 14: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 11:00 am-5:00 pm
Fees: Yes. For more information call 218.226.3418
CASH NOT ACCEPTED
- **Regional Landfill** • 5341 Regional Landfill Road • Virginia
Open year-round: Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm & Saturday 8:00 am-3:30 pm
Fees: Yes. For more information call 218.741.8207

You may also ask your local garbage hauler if they accept or will pick up tires for you

Toner Cartridges

Toner cartridges cannot be placed in the garbage. Many offices and schools have disposal sites that can be utilized. Many schools collect them for fundraisers, have you asked the school if they would accept them?

Recycle

Disposal within Lake County

- **Lake County Household Hazardous Waste** • 515 Recycle Center Drive • Two Harbors
Open mid-May -mid-September: Wednesday 12:00 pm-5:30 pm

Disposal outside Lake County

- **Best Buy** • 5105 Burning Tree Rd • Duluth
Fees: some items free, some priced
[Full list of accepted items](#)

You may also find other department or electronics stores that accept toner cartridges.

TREATED LUMBER

Treated wood contains chemicals to protect it from damage due to insects, moisture and fungi. It is illegal to burn treated wood in wood stoves, fireplaces or recreational or cooking fires. Burning releases chemicals that can be harmful to human health and the environment.

Do not bring treated wood to the yard waste collection sites.

See [MPCA Treated Wood for Residential Use](#)

Reduce

Less toxic wood preservatives for pressure-treated lumber are available. Choose these when possible:

- Ammoniacal copper quaternary (ACQ)
- Borate preservatives (Disodium Octoborate Tetrahydrate or DOT)
- Copper azole
- Cyproconazole
- Propiconazole

There are also alternatives to treated lumber, including:

- **Recycled plastic and wood-plastic lumber:** doesn't leach toxic chemicals into the soil or water and costs less to maintain. Additionally, there are several Minnesota manufactures of plastic lumber, when you buy [Minnesota-made products](#) you are helping local businesses.
- **Redwood, cedar, and cypress:** naturally resistant to insects and rot. Be sure to purchase FSC-certified wood. Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) ensures the product comes from responsibly managed forests.
- **Reclaimed wood:** typically recycled from old barn structures, and "sinker" logs from the days of river-based log drives.
- **Stone or metal:** stone and landscape blocks can be used for gardens and landscaping, while metal can be used in place of some treated wood applications.

Dispose

- **WLSSD Materials Recovery Center** • 4587 Ridgeview Rd • Duluth
Open year-round: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm
Fees: Yes. For more information call 218.722.3336
Unpainted and untreated lumber is also accepted at the WLSSD Materials Recovery Center as clean wood

You may also ask your local garbage hauler if they accept or will pick up your treated lumber for you

YARD WASTE

Yard waste is [banned from Minnesota landfills](#). You are not allowed to put any brush, leaves, grass clippings, and garden waste in the garbage.

This includes

- Brush
- Leaves
- Clean soil
- Sod
- Hay or straw mulch
- Lawn clippings
- Wood chips
- Tree limbs and logs

This does not include

- Boards
- Lawn furniture
- Railroad ties
- Root balls
- Bricks
- Landscaping timbers
- Pallets
- Cement blocks
- Flower pots

Compost at home

One way to manage your leaves, grass clippings, and garden waste is to compost it in your backyard. There are no State or County laws or ordinance that prohibit property owners from having their own compost area on their property.

Compost at a facility

Compost within Lake County

- **Yard Waste at C&D Landfill** • W Castle Danger Road (CO 106) • Silver Creek Township
Additional directions: Turn left on 106 and travel about .7 miles, and then turn right on Bunker Hill Road. The facility shop is about 1 mile ahead on the right
Open: 24/7
Fees: none
Separate material over 4" in diameter from material under 4" in diameter
- **Fall Lake Transfer Station** • 303 Kawishiwi Trail • Fall Lake Township
Open: May-August: Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday 8:00 am-4:00 pm
September: Wednesday and Saturday 8:00 am-4:00 pm
October-April: Saturday 8:00 am-4:00 pm
Fees: none
- **Two Harbors Yard Waste Facility** • 20th Ave • Two Harbors
Open only to Two Harbors residents and businesses
Open: Friday 9:00 am-3:00 pm, seasonally
Fees: none
- **John's Sanitary Removal** • 15 Golf Course Road • Silver Bay
Open year-round: Monday-Friday 7:00 am-3:00 pm
218-226-3418

Compost outside Lake County

- **WLSSD Yard Waste Compost Site** • 27th Ave W & Courtland St • Duluth
Located past the Household Hazardous Waste Facility
Open: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 9:00 am-4:00 pm, seasonally
Fees: Leaves, grass clippings, and garden waste: none
Other fees may be applied. For more information call 218.722.3336
- **WLSSD Materials Recovery Center** • 4587 Ridgeview Rd • Duluth
Brush only
Open: Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm, year-round
Fees: Yes. For more information call 218.722.3336
- **Northwoods Transfer Station** • 9384 Hwy 21 N • Ely
Open April 15-September 30: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 12:00 pm-6:00 pm
Open October 1-April 14: Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Tuesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 11:00 am-5:00 pm
Fees: Leaves, grass clippings, and garden waste: none
Brush, branches, trees: Yes. For more information call 218.365.3895
- **Regional Landfill** • 5345 Regional Landfill Rd • Virginia
Open: Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm & Saturday 8:00 am-3:30 pm, year-round
Fees: Leaves, grass clippings, and garden waste: none
Brush, branches, trees: Yes. For more information call 218.741.8207

Invasive Species

Removal of noxious weeds from the habitats they have invaded results in large amounts of plant material that landowners and managers often feel the need to dispose of. It is important to prevent noxious weeds, native and non-native plants that can be injurious to public health and the environment, from spreading into new areas.

Minnesota currently has 42 plant species listed as noxious weeds.

See the 2018 Minnesota noxious weed list [here](#)

See a guide to noxious weeds with images [here](#)

In addition, watch out for the following species:

- false spiraea
- Sorbaria sorbifolia
- shiny cotoneaster
- Cotoneaster lucidus

How to handle invasive species

Like yard waste, disposal of noxious weeds in the trash is against the law.

A compost site may not be the right place to dispose of noxious weeds and their propagating parts:

Due to the risk of noxious weed seeds surviving the composting process and potentially being spread to

new areas in the resulting compost material, **it is safer to allow noxious weed materials to decay naturally on site.**

There are two simple guidelines to follow when dealing with noxious weeds on an individual property:

1. Most preferred: **Kill but do not remove weeds from an infested area when possible.** Keeping plants on site to decay is the best and safest method to prevent future spread to new areas.
2. If removal of weed plant materials from an infested site is necessary, **properly contain and transport the materials to a compost or other disposal site that will accept and properly dispose of noxious weed materials.** Contact the disposal site prior to transporting noxious weed materials to ensure that they will accept noxious weeds and that they have a system in place to destroy all propagating parts and prevent any future seed transfer.

See this [guide](#) to learn more about how to remove and dispose of noxious weeds in Minnesota

For any further questions please contact Lake County Environmental Services at 218.834.8304.

Keep our mottos in mind! They can help make Lake County recycling the best it can be!

1. **When in doubt, give us a shout**
2. **Try to think repair instead of I don't care**
3. **Quality over quantity in recycling**
4. **Reduce FIRST, then reuse and recycle**