

# Recycling and Garbage Guide

## Welcome to Metro Waste Authority's Recycling and Garbage Guide!

The information in this guide is current as of August 2008. For the most current information, visit Metro Waste Authority's website at [www.mwatoday.com](http://www.mwatoday.com).

For the most recent city information, contact your City Hall.

Metro Waste Authority (MWA) is a regional government agency serving Central Iowa communities listed to the right. It owns and operates the largest public landfill in Iowa, and the income it generates from landfill services pays for recycling and waste reduction programs available to businesses and residents in Central Iowa. MWA receives no tax dollars.

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**Metro Waste Authority**  
*Your Partner in Environmental Solutions*

Metro Waste Authority (MWA) provides landfill and recycling services to 16 member communities, one county and six planning member communities. They include:

- Alleman\*
- Altoona
- Ankeny
- Bondurant
- Carlisle\*
- Clive
- Des Moines
- Elkhart
- Grimes
- Hartford\*
- Johnston
- Mingo\*
- Mitchellville
- Norwalk
- Pleasant Hill
- Polk City
- Polk County (unincorporated)
- Prairie City\*
- Runnells
- Sheldahl\*
- Urbandale
- West Des Moines
- Windsor Heights

\* Planning member communities - Alleman, Carlisle,

Hartford, Mingo, Prairie City and Sheldahl - are offered MWA programs and facilities but do not have a voting representative on MWA's Board of Directors.

MWA has agreements with South Dallas County Landfill and North Dallas County Landfill.

MWA is the leader in environmental stewardship and cost-effective waste management.

Information in this guide applies ONLY to the residents in the above communities.



[www.mwatoday.com](http://www.mwatoday.com)

# Recycling and Garbage Guide

## Metro Park East Landfill (MPE)

12181 NE University Ave.  
Mitchellville, IA 50169 (515) 967-2076

Director of Operations - (515) 333-4445 Operations Manager - (515) 333-4447 Scalehouse - (515) 333-4448

### Hours

Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Saturday, 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Saturdays from April 4, 2009, until October 31, 2009,  
7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Closed Sunday

Closed New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day,  
Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas

Saturdays prior to a Monday holiday, 6:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Saturdays after a weekday holiday, 6:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

**NOTE: All customers must be off site premises by 5 p.m.  
If not, they may be subject to a \$35 handling charge.**

### Location

The landfill is located nine miles east of Pleasant Hill on the south side of Hwy 163/University Avenue.

### Rates (see Covered Vehicle Policy)

Payment required at time of service. MWA accepts cash, checks, Visa, American Express, Discover, MasterCard and Check Cards.

### Cars/Station Wagons/Passenger Vans/Sport Utility Vehicles

(Under 200 pounds of waste)..... \$6 per load

Please note, vehicles with loads weighing under 200 lbs. will be charged \$6. Vehicles with loads weighing more than 6,000 lbs. will be charged the net weight of the waste with a \$16 min.

### Pickup Trucks/Trailers/Commercial Vans

(Over 200 pounds of waste).....\$32 per ton; \$16 min.

Vehicles with loads weighing more than 6,000 lbs. will be charged the net weight of the waste with a \$16 minimum.

**Residential/Commercial Hauler Waste...**\$32 per ton; \$16 min.

**Construction/Demolition Waste.....**\$32.70 per ton; \$16 min.

### Recycling Fees/Rates

**Yard Waste.** . . . . . \$25 per ton with a \$16 minimum

Yard waste in Compost It! bags or bags with Compost It! stickers on them will not be charged.

**Small Tires** (rim diameter up to and including 16.5") . . . . . \$2 each

**Large Tires** (rim diameter over 16.5" but less than or equal to 24.5")  
. . . . . \$5 each

**Farm Tires** (rim diameter over 24.5"; very large or earth-moving tires will be charged at the per ton rate) . . . . . \$20 each

### Appliances - \$10 each

Includes air conditioners (window and central), clothes dryers, clothes washers, dehumidifiers, dishwashers, freezers, furnaces, kitchen ranges, microwave ovens, ovens/stoves, refrigerators, thermostats and water heaters. Please call for additional appliance information.

### Special Industrial Waste

Rates vary, please call (515) 333-4432

### CRTs in Commercial Loads

Color televisions and computer monitors 19" or less are \$25 each. Larger than 20" are \$75 each\*.

### The Following Items are NOT Landfilled:

Color CRTs in commercial loads\*; appliances\*;  
hazardous materials including pesticides, varnish, flammable materials, PCBs, Freon and mercury; lead acid batteries; used oil filters from commercial and industrial sources; waste oil; yard waste\*; waste tires\*.

\*These items are accepted at the facility but are separated from other wastes.



### Covered Vehicle Policy

To reduce litter along metro roadways and at the MPE Landfill, MWA requires all loads to be secured and/or tarped, eliminating the risk of any part of the load escaping from the vehicle. Any vehicle arriving at the landfill with a load that is unsecured, inadequately covered, or not totally enclosed will be charged a \$10 fee per load in addition to the regular tipping fee. Vehicles with a gross weight of over 25,000 pounds will be charged \$100 for unsecured loads.

### Tours

Landfill tours are available for students and adults of all ages. For more information, see page R11 or call (515) 323-6505.

# Recycling and Garbage Guide

## Regional Collection Center for Household Hazardous Waste (RCC)

1105 Prairie Dr. SW  
Bondurant, IA 50035  
(515) 967-5512

Facility Manager - (515) 333-4430    Environmental Compliance Consultant - (515) 333-4432  
Mobile Program Coordinator - (515) 333-4431

### Hours

Tuesday through Friday, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Open the first and third Saturday of each month,  
8:00 a.m. – noon  
Summer hours (June through August), every Saturday,  
8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Closed Sunday and Monday  
Closed New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day,  
Thanksgiving and Christmas  
Other times by appointment

### Location

The Regional Collection Center is located one mile north of I-80 on Highway 65.

### Limits and Fees

There is a 75-pound limit per resident, per visit. Any amount over 75 pounds will be assessed a fee of \$1.00 per pound. Latex paint is accepted at \$1.00 per gallon container or smaller, or \$5.00 for five-gallon buckets. Used motor oil is now accepted in containers larger than 5 gallons for a \$10.00 per large container handling fee.

### Computer and Television Recycling

Computer and television recycling is available at \$0.50 per pound. Materials accepted are computer monitors, CPUs and computer accessories (mouse, keyboard, printer, etc.). Console TVs are not accepted, and televisions must be 27" or less. To recycle e-waste at the RCC, businesses need to call ahead at (515) 967-5512 to schedule an appointment. Residents may bring their e-waste to the facility during regular drop-off hours.

### Fluorescent Light Bulbs

All fluorescent bulbs should be recycled at the RCC. There are a few different types of fluorescent bulbs. One is the compact fluorescent (CFL's the swirl bulb), another is the 4ft. and 8ft. tubes like you may see in a shop, garage or storage; there are also high intensity discharge (HID) lamps such as metal halide, mercury vapor and high pressure sodium lamps. There are also some neon lights that fall into this category.



### Accepted Items

Bring household products with the words DANGER, WARNING, TOXIC, CORROSIVE, FLAMMABLE or CAUTION on them to the RCC for proper, safe disposal. Other key phrases that can indicate if something is hazardous:

- "Harmful or fatal if swallowed"
- "Do not use near heat or flame"
- "Causes severe burns on contact"

If there is a question about whether or not an item is hazardous, call the RCC at (515) 967-5512 for more information. For a full list of accepted items, visit Metro Waste Authority's website at [www.mwatoday.com](http://www.mwatoday.com).

### Non-accepted Items

Items not accepted at the Regional Collection Center include:

- Ammunition/explosives - call a local police station
- Asbestos - call the RCC at (515) 967-5512
- Radioactive materials - call the RCC at (515) 967-5512
- Fire extinguishers - look in the Yellow Pages under the heading "fire extinguishers" for more information
- Non-hazardous waste - can be thrown in with regular garbage
- Empty containers (that once held hazardous materials) can be thrown out with garbage. Leave the lids off, please.
- Propane tanks - look in the Yellow Pages under the heading "gas propane" for more information
- Scrap tires - see page R2
- Incandescent light bulbs

### Business and School Programs

The RCC helps qualifying businesses and schools dispose and manage their hazardous waste. To find out more, see page 11.

# Recycling and Garbage Guide

## Paint Disposal Keep Your Latex Paint

Latex paint contains water as the solvent to keep the paint in liquid form and can easily be disposed of at home. Because latex paint is NOT hazardous, the RCC charges customers \$1 per gallon container (or smaller) and \$5 per five-gallon container of latex paint. You can dispose of latex paint yourself:

- Open the paint can and let it dry out on its own; or
- Pour the paint onto newspaper and let it dry - then toss the newspaper in the trash; or
- Add cat litter or sawdust to the paint, stir it and let it dry.



When you're ready to throw the paint and can away, make sure the lid is off the paint can so your garbage hauler knows the can is empty or that all paint is dried.

Other latex products such as spackling compounds, latex caulking compounds and latex adhesives can be disposed of the same way.

**Remember:** Discard the cans with the lids off so the waste hauler knows the paint is dry.

## How to Handle Oil-Based Paint

Oil-based or alkaloid paints, stains and varnishes contain hazardous solvents that are used to keep the paint in a liquid state. They may also contain toxic metals such as lead, mercury and cadmium. The containers usually say they are "combustible" and should be cleaned up with mineral spirits or paint thinner.

Oil-based paint products are classified as hazardous because they are ignitable and contain harmful, toxic chemicals. If oil-based products cannot be used or given away, bring them to MWA's Regional Collection Center. These items are subject to the limits and fees outlined on page R3.

**Remember:** Latex paints, stains and varnishes provide a safer alternative to oil-based products.

**Waste Reduction tip:** Store paint properly. Keep in a dry area and place lid on tightly to keep air out. Properly handled, oil-based paint has a shelf life of almost 15 years!

## Pesticides Household Pesticides

Small quantities of household pesticides can be taken to the RCC. Over the years, some pesticides have been banned because of the risks they pose to human health and the environment. Examples of banned pesticides are: Aldrin, Chlordane, DDT, Dieldrin, Heptachlor, Silvex, 2,4,5,T. DO NOT use banned pesticides! Bring these to the RCC.

## Agri-Business Pesticides

Farms and businesses may contact the RCC for information on the RCC Business Program to find out about the disposal of business waste pesticides and farm chemicals.

- Appointments are required for service and disposal.
- There is a reasonable fee to cover the costs.
- Store pesticides in their original containers, complete with labels that list ingredients, directions for use, and antidotes.
- Never transfer pesticides to other containers.
- Store in a dry, protected area.

Concrete surfaces cause metal containers to corrode.

**Remember:** DO NOT over apply pesticides to use up excess.

## Batteries Household Batteries

The following household batteries are hazardous and should be taken to the RCC:

- Mercuric-Oxide (button batteries)- Non-rechargeable batteries used in hearing aids.
- Nickel Cadmium (NiCd)- Rechargeable batteries used in kitchen appliances, power tools and other household products.
- Lithium or Nickel-Metal Hydride (NiMH)- Used in digital cameras, etc.

Common batteries used in flashlights, toys, clocks, smoke alarms, radios and remote controls may be thrown in the trash.

They come in several sizes:AAA, AA, C, D, 6V, 9V.

They also come in several types:

- Alkaline
- Carbon Zinc (rechargeable)
- Alkaline Manganese (rechargeable)

## Lead-Acid Batteries

Iowa law prohibits burying lead-acid (vehicle) batteries in landfills, so please don't throw them out with your garbage.

These can be taken to the RCC for proper disposal. Iowa law also mandates that retailers who sell these batteries be required to accept used batteries. Leave old batteries at the retailer when purchasing a new one. Also, check with local service stations and salvage businesses to see if they accept used batteries.

# Recycling and Garbage Guide

## Automotive Products

Most liquid automotive products are hazardous and should never be poured down drains, on the ground or placed in the trash. These products include brake fluid, fuels, transmission fluids, degreasers, waxes, cleaners and windshield-washer fluid.

Bring waste oil and filters to the RCC in disposable containers such as milk jugs or 5-gallon buckets with tight lids.

Containers larger than 5 gallons will be accepted and charged \$10 .00 per container.

Handle waste fuels such as gasoline and gas/oil mixtures by storing flammable materials in an approved container away from ignition sources in a well-ventilated area, or use fuels up before storing equipment for the winter. If you must dispose of fuels, bring them to the RCC. Containers cannot be returned.

**Remember:** Do not mix gas, antifreeze or oil with any other products, as this may make them non-recyclable.

**FACT:** One gallon of used oil can contaminate 1 million gallons of water. Iowans get 80 to 100 percent of their drinking water from groundwater.

## Sharps, Needles, Syringes

It is important to store syringes, needles and lancets safely. Use a hard plastic container with a tight screw-on lid. Plastic bleach jugs or liquid detergent bottles work well. When the container is full:

- Bring it to the RCC. There is no charge for this service, and it is the safest disposal option.
- Take them back. Ask the home health care provider or pharmacy where you obtained the sharps whether they will accept used sharps.

Residents are allowed to throw sharps in the garbage. If you choose to take that option, please place them in an enclosed container to protect sanitation workers or anyone who can access your garbage.

## Swap Shop

The Swap Shop (located at the RCC) contains usable items that have been dropped off and are available to the public free of charge. Cleaners, varnishes, car wax, garden products and paints are examples of items available for both residents and businesses. Inventory changes daily and the facility does reserve the right to limit quantities.

The Swap Shop is open during regular facility hours.

Call (515) 967-5512 for more information.

## Pool Chemicals

### Storing Pool Chemicals

Bring unusable pool chemicals to the RCC. Remember pool chemicals can react with each other, even different brands of the same type of chemical. Store and use all chemicals according to the manufacturer's directions.

- Store them out of the reach of children. Keep them off the floor in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area, with the lids firmly in place.
- Store dry and wet chemicals away from each other, and never store any liquid on a shelf above dry chemicals. Do not stack pool chemicals.
- Never store pool chemicals in direct sunlight, and keep them away from any source of flame.
- A separate locked storage area for pool chemicals is recommended, as the products can react with many other substances and create hazardous fumes and explosions.

### Handling Pool Chemicals

- Never mix chemicals, even different brands of the same type. This includes using a clean, dry scoop for each product. Do not put a wet scoop back into a container.
- Always add the product to water, never add water to the product.
- Read and follow label instructions and don't overuse.
- Wear protective glasses and gloves.
- Add chemicals to the pool one at a time and follow the directions regarding time specifications.

**Remember:** Handle any spills according to the label directions. Do not re-use spilled products, which can be taken to the RCC.

**Waste Reduction Tip:** Learn about the different types of chemicals you use in your pool. You may be able to minimize the types of chemicals you store.



# Recycling and Garbage Guide



Your Yardwaste Recycling Choice

## Yard Waste Recycling and Compost

### Purchasing

Don't trash yard waste, recycle it with Compost It!. State law bans yard waste from Iowa landfills, which means you should not place it in your garbage container or throw it out with your regular garbage. Compost It! gives Central Iowa residents\* an option for yard waste disposal in compliance with the state law. Material collected through the Compost It! program is turned into a usable soil amendment (see "Compost Purchasing").

### \*Participating Communities

Altoona, Bondurant, Carlisle,  
Clive, Des Moines, Grimes,  
Johnston, Norwalk, Pleasant Hill,  
Urbandale, West Des Moines,  
Windsor Heights



### How to Use Compost It!®

1. Use the Compost It! bags - no need to affix a sticker to them.
2. Use store-brand bags (from home improvement stores, for example) and attach a Compost It! sticker to each bag.
3. Attach Compost It! stickers to brush bundles.

### Brush Bundles

Brush bundles must be no more than 18 inches in diameter and no more than four (4) feet long. Bundles cannot weigh more than 40 pounds. Des Moines and Urbandale have additional restrictions - residents should call the numbers under "Who to call for collection or missed pickups" for more information. Each bundle must have a Compost It! sticker attached.

### Where to Buy Bags and Stickers

Bags and stickers are available at area grocery, hardware and home improvement stores.

### Who to Call for Collection or Missed

**Pick-ups** - For collection days or missed pickups, contact your hauler:

Des Moines residents, call Public Works' 24-hour customer service line at (515) 283-4950.

Urbandale residents, call Urbandale Engineering and Public Works at (515) 278-3950.

Residents of other participating communities, call Artistic Waste Services at (515) 262-4040.

### Compost Sales/Buying Compost

Yard waste isn't "waste" at all! Your use of Compost It! bags and stickers to dispose of yard debris not only helps Central Iowa comply with state law, it also pays for a portion of the costs to convert it into valuable compost. The sale of compost, in turn, helps MWA keep the price of Compost It! bags and stickers low for residents. Turf Gold Premium, MWA's compost, is available for sale.

For more information on compost purchasing, visit [www.mwatoday.com](http://www.mwatoday.com) or call (515) 244-0021.

### The Compost It!® Premium Service

Is an optional subscription service that offers residents the convenience of a wheeled container for the weekly collection of yard waste. It is available in addition to the Compost It! bags and stickers. Residents purchase an annual sticker which covers the use of the container for a one-year yard waste collection season. The annual sticker price covers the cost of collection and processing of all the yard waste at Metro Waste Authority's Metro Compost Center. Residents may also be required to pay a start up fee to defray initial costs for the wheeled container, and its delivery and certain administration costs.

### Using Compost It!® Premium Service

Residents are provided a 64-gallon or 96-gallon wheeled container and a yearly program sticker to attach to the container. Yard waste is collected weekly on the regular Compost It! collection day. Yard waste containers are placed at the curb, six feet away from permanent structures such as mail boxes and 3 to 6 feet away from Curb It! bins and trash containers. The Compost It! premium yard waste containers are only to be used for grass clippings, leaves, branches, yard and garden trimmings and brush. Excess yard waste can be put in Compost It! bags or stickered bundles and placed with the wheeled container at the curb. For information on participating communities, call (515) 244-0021 or visit [www.mwatoday.com](http://www.mwatoday.com).

# Recycling and Garbage Guide

## Self-Haul Recycling



Can't fit everything in a Curb It! bin? Try one of our self-haul recycling facilities.

These facilities are available at no charge to businesses and residents. The self-haul recycling facilities accept the same materials as the Curb It! program. Visit [www.mwatoday.com](http://www.mwatoday.com) for more information on Curb It!.

### Metro Recycling Centers

Call (515) 244-0021 for hours and more information on accepted materials at each facility.

*Operated by Metro Waste Authority's Regional Collection Center*  
1105 Prairie Drive SW  
Bondurant, IA 50035

*Operated by Weyerhaeuser Recycling*  
2800 Dixon Street,  
Des Moines, IA 50316

*Operated by Artistic Waste Services*  
1817 Euclid Ave.  
Des Moines, Iowa 50313

### Elkhart Self-Haul Recycling

City Garage (515) 367-4735  
Elm St. and Railroad Ave.  
Hours - 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days a week

### Mitchellville Self-Haul Recycling

First Street and Center Ave.  
(515) 967-2935  
Hours - Open 24 hours

### Polk City Self-Haul Recycling

City Maintenance Building  
(515) 984-6233  
301 E. Northside Dr.  
Hours - Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon

## Managing Storm Debris

Windstorms, ice storms and floods can create large amounts of wood debris and other waste. After a storm, look for specific announcements giving removal information and schedules for your community.

You can do your part to help speed up the recovery process! Storm debris should be prepared for pick-up as quickly as possible since special collection is available for a limited time. Please move material to the curb and be sure to separate your debris into the following categories, since each will have different destinations once collected:

- Yard debris - including trees and brush
- Building debris - including construction materials, carpet and furniture
- Appliances - including air conditioners, water heaters, refrigerators and stoves
- Household hazardous waste - including paint, solvents, cleaners, fertilizers and insecticides; use caution to prevent mixing and spills!
- Household garbage - perishable items including food and normal household waste, collected by your regular garbage service provider

As you clear debris from your yard and home, please be careful not to block roadways, fire hydrants or utility boxes. For more information, contact your city hall.

## Automated Collection

Many communities use an automated garbage collection system in which a mechanical arm picks up specially-designed containers from each resident. Many of the cities with automated collection have additional restrictions on extra trash and items outside the container. For specific collection dates and times, as well as container options, call your city hall.

The following rules apply to garbage collection for these communities:

- Trash should be placed in bags inside the container.
- The container must be placed within 18 inches of the curb.
- The container must be at least six feet away from permanent structures (including mailboxes, walls, lampposts, vehicles and utility poles).
- Place your Curb It! bin, additional trash items and yard waste bags at least three to six feet away from your container.
- Avoid placing the container near low-hanging tree branches.
- The metal bars should face the street.
- Place your container on a level surface.

For city-specific information, contact your local city hall, your garbage hauler or go to MWA's website.

# Recycling and Garbage Guide

## curb it! Recycle and Roll

### Curb It!® Curbside Recycling

MWA's Curb It! program has helped residents recycle more than 233,000 tons of materials (that's 29,000 garbage trucks)! Recycle & Roll is the latest innovation in Metro Waste Authority's Curb It!® program, which celebrates its 15th year in 2009. 2009 also marks Metro Waste Authority's 40th year of being "your partner in environmental solutions."

### What can I recycle in my cart?

- Below is a brief list of items that can be recycled:
- Cardboard (cut to fit inside your cart)
- Newspaper
- Mixed paper (put shredded paper in a paper sack)
- Necked plastic bottles and their lids (bottles have openings smaller than the base)
- Empty aerosol cans
- Wire hangers
- Aluminum and tin cans
- Plastic margarine and yogurt tubs and their lids
- Glass food jars - all colors

### Trash It!

- Below is a brief list of the items that are not accepted in the Curb It! recycling cart
- Tissues and napkins
- Styrofoam\*
- Pizza boxes
- Aluminum foil
- Spray nozzles or pumps
- Toilet paper or paper towels
- Lids from glass jars
- Paper contaminated with food
- Containers that once held motor oil or antifreeze
- Any plastic item that is not a bottle or a yogurt or margarine tub or their lids.
- Plastic bags

\* Check with packing/mailling stores for Styrofoam recycling information.

### Reminder!

If you have questions about a specific item, call our customer service staff at (515) 244-0021 or visit our web site at [www.mwatoday.com](http://www.mwatoday.com).



### Collection

Recycling collection is every other week. Please refer to the calendar sticker on the lid of your cart to find your recycling pick-up day.

### Recycling Hauler

Waste Management of Iowa is the company that Metro Waste Authority has hired to collect the recyclables. If your recyclables are not collected on your regular collection day or if you have issues/problems with your cart, please contact Waste Management at 515-24-GREEN (47336).

### Where Do I Get a Green Cart?

Carts are property of Metro Waste Authority and are for use in residential recycling, so please use them as intended. To request a cart please contact Waste Management at 515-24-GREEN (47336).

### Recycling Tips

- Please rinse out containers, but there is no need to remove labels from containers.
- Crush plastic bottles and tin/ aluminum to save space.
- Check the neck! A bottle is a container that has an opening smaller than its base.
- Write down your serial number that is on your recycling cart. Then in case of a windy day, you will easily identify it if wild weather carries it away from your curb.

# Recycling and Garbage Guide

## Placing your cart at the curb

The Recycle & Roll program makes it easier for you to recycle. We appreciate your assistance in making it easier for our collectors to pick it up as well. Here's how you can help.

- Your cart should be within 18 inches of the curb with the short metal bar facing the street.
- Do not place the cart near low hanging branches.
- To avoid damage to public and private property, place the cart at least 6 feet away from mailboxes, lamp posts and other permanent structures.
- Place your cart on as level a surface as possible.
- Yard waste bags and other large items should be 3 to 6 feet away from your cart.
- Placing the cart in your driveway reduces the likelihood that access to it will be blocked by vehicles, landscaping or snow.
- Close the lid prior to pick-up.
- Putting your cart in the right spot assures that your recycling will be picked up in a timely, safe and clean manner. Failure to do so may mean your recycling will not be collected at the appropriate time.



**CORRECT**



**CORRECT**



**INCORRECT**



**INCORRECT**



# Recycling and Garbage Guide

## Environmental Education Classroom Programs

Metro Waste Authority partners with Des Moines Water Works to provide 16 free educational programs for kindergarten through 8th grade.

The goals of the classroom programs are to empower students to take responsibility for their actions and make good environmental decisions.

Topics include:

- Recycling, waste reduction and landfills
- Household hazardous waste
- Preventing pollution in waterways
- What pollutes water and how it's cleaned
- Understanding watersheds and the water cycle

Each presentation includes how-to activities, hands-on learning and follow-up packets for teachers with a variety of resource materials. Programs are available throughout the school year; to read program descriptions, visit [www.mwatoday.com](http://www.mwatoday.com).

To schedule an education program, call MWA's Education Specialist at (515) 323-6505.

\* The City of Des Moines Storm Water Utility, the Wastewater Reclamation Authority, the city of Johnston, the city of Waukee and the city of Norwalk are also active supporters of the educational programs.



## Tours

Students and adults are welcome to tour the facilities at the Metro Park East Landfill, Des Moines Water Works and the Wastewater Reclamation Facility.

To schedule a tour, call (515) 323-6505 for the landfill; (515) 283-8753 for Des Moines Water Works; or (515) 323-8009 for the Wastewater Treatment Facility.

## MWA Grant Program

Metro Waste Authority's Grant Program was launched in August 2004. From then through June 30, 2007, MWA distributed over \$120,000 reimbursements to non-profits, schools, cities and other groups.

Since 2001, MWA has provided more than \$1.5 Million to its member communities through grants for beautification and waste reduction and diversion.

## Who Can Apply?

The MWA Grant Program is only for groups in MWA's service area (cities are listed on the first page of the Recycling and Garbage Guide). Businesses, non-profits, governments and community groups within these communities are eligible for an MWA grant. Individuals are not eligible.

## What Projects are Eligible?

Eligible projects fall under at least one category: recycling, waste reduction, beautification, yard waste/use of compost, conservation sustainability, watershed protection or litter and illegal dumping prevention and cleanup projects.

If you have any questions about whether your project is eligible, please contact Metro Waste Authority at (515) 244-0021.

## How to Apply for a Reimbursable Grant

The form is available on MWA's website at [www.mwatoday.com](http://www.mwatoday.com) or by contacting our office at (515) 244-0021.

## Funding

Projects are funded on a first come, first serve reimbursement basis. Reimbursements are limited to \$2,500 per year per group. MWA will not reimburse expenses for labor, and individuals are not eligible for the program.

# Recycling and Garbage Guide

## Business Programs

While businesses are often overlooked for their role in proper waste management, Metro Waste Authority (MWA) recognizes their importance.

Within MWA's Central Iowa service area, 75 percent of the waste that reaches the Metro Park East Landfill is generated by the commercial sector - more than 364,000 tons each year! MWA provides businesses with assistance on everything from recycling to properly disposing of hazardous and special waste.



## Business Recycling

Recycling is everybody's business. Paper is the single most recyclable office product - 32 percent of what businesses send to the landfill is recoverable paper!

Because of this, MWA works with businesses to implement new recycling programs and re-evaluate existing ones.

Having a recycling "champion", providing consistent and easy-to-understand communication with employees, clearly marking collection containers and obtaining the cooperation of custodial staff are all components of successful recycling programs, and Metro Waste Authority can help you develop all of these. Recycling has some clear advantages: reduced garbage volumes and disposal costs, in some cases reduced operating costs and an enhanced public image. Metro Waste Authority can help you get started with a business recycling program or assess and kick-start an existing program. Call (515) 323-6524 to request a packet of information.

## Hazardous Waste Options for Businesses

Most businesses generate or store some type of hazardous materials, and the regulations governing how to dispose of them (and even the proper way to store them on the shelf) can be confusing. MWA helps businesses by:

- Assessing purchasing procedures to find less hazardous alternatives;
- Designing a customized time-saving maintenance program to prevent future stockpiles of hazardous materials;
- Providing safe, responsible and cost-effective options for excess hazardous materials; and
- Offering technical assistance with both identification and disposal of hazardous waste.

In many cases, businesses who work with MWA's staff on hazardous waste disposal spend up to 40 PERCENT LESS than what they would be charged by a commercial hazardous waste company!

Call MWA's Regional Collection Center for Household Hazardous Waste at (515) 967-5512 for more information.

## Industrial, Pollution Control and Toxic Wastes

Certain wastes are called special because they require special handling to properly dispose of it at MWA's Metro Park East Landfill. Metro Waste Authority has trained professionals ready to assist your business with the management and disposal of these wastes, including completing the necessary forms and ensuring regulatory compliance.

Special waste falls into three categories: industrial process wastes; petroleum contaminated soils; and other wastes requiring special handling, such as asbestos and spent fluorescent lights.

For more information about special waste, call (515) 333-4432.

# Recycling and Garbage Guide

## Participating Communities

### Alleman (planning member)

(515) 685-3666  
14000 NE 6th St., Box 86, Alleman, IA 50007

### Altoona

(515) 967-5136 • [www.altoona-iowa.com](http://www.altoona-iowa.com)  
407 Eighth St. SE, Box 338, Altoona, IA 50009

### Ankeny

(515) 965-6400 • [www.ci.ankeny.ia.us](http://www.ci.ankeny.ia.us)  
410 W. First St., Ankeny, IA 50023

### Bondurant

(515) 967-2418 • [www.cityofbondurant.com](http://www.cityofbondurant.com)  
200 Second St. NE, Bondurant, IA 50035

### Carlisle (planning member)

(515) 989-3224 • [www.carlisle-ia.gov](http://www.carlisle-ia.gov)  
195 N. First St., Carlisle, IA 50047

### Clive

(515) 223-6220 • [www.cityofclive.com](http://www.cityofclive.com)  
1900 NW 114th St., Clive, IA 50325

### Des Moines

(515) 283-4500 • [www.dmgov.org](http://www.dmgov.org)  
400 E. First St., Des Moines, IA 50309

### Elkhart

(515) 367-4735  
PO Box 77, Elkhart, IA 50073

### Grimes (515) 986-3036

101 N. Harvey St., Grimes, IA 50111

### Hartford (planning member)

(515) 989-0267 • [hfordcty@netins.net](mailto:hfordcty@netins.net)  
150 W. Elm St., Box 910, Hartford, IA 50118-0910

### Johnston

(515) 278-2344 • [www.cityofjohnston.com](http://www.cityofjohnston.com)  
6221 Merle Hay Rd., Johnston, IA 50131

### Mingo (planning member)

(641) 363-4441  
103 W. Main St., Mingo, IA 50168

### Mitchellville

(515) 967-2935 • [www.mitchellville.org](http://www.mitchellville.org)  
110 Second St. NE, Mitchellville, IA 50169

### Norwalk

(515) 981-0228 • [www.ci.norwalk.ia.us](http://www.ci.norwalk.ia.us)  
705 North Ave., Norwalk, IA 50211-1417

### Pleasant Hill

(515) 262-9368 • [www.ci.pleasant-hill.ia.us](http://www.ci.pleasant-hill.ia.us)  
5160 Maple Drive, Ste. A, Pleasant Hill, IA 50327

### Polk City

(515) 984-6233 • [www.polkcity.org](http://www.polkcity.org)  
112 Third St., Polk City, IA 50266

### Unincorporated Polk County

(515) 286-3000 • [www.co.polk.ia.us](http://www.co.polk.ia.us)  
111 Court Ave., Des Moines, IA 50309

### Prairie City (planning member)

(515) 994-2649  
203 E. Jefferson, Prairie City, IA 50228-0607

### Runnells

(515) 966-2042  
110 Brown St., Runnells, IA 50237

### Sheldahl (planning member)

(515) 685-2814  
803 2nd St., Sheldahl, IA 50243

### Urbandale

(515) 278-3950 • [www.urbandale.org](http://www.urbandale.org)  
3600 – 86th St., Urbandale, IA 50322

### West Des Moines

(515) 222-3600 • [www.wdm-ia.com](http://www.wdm-ia.com)  
4200 Mills Civic Pkwy., West Des Moines, IA 50265

### Windsor Heights

(515) 279-3662 • [www.windsorheights.org](http://www.windsorheights.org)  
1133 – 66th St. Windsor Heights, IA 50311