

2
0
1
4

Going Green

RAMSEY COUNTY

Recycling, Household Hazardous
Waste, Yard Waste, & More

Organics
Drop-off
Coming this
Spring!

RamseyAtoZ.com



651.633.EASY (3279) answered 24/7



Welcome to GoingGreen

\$20 million! That is the value of recyclables that were thrown in the trash in Ramsey County last year. If those items had been recycled instead, that much more money could have fueled our local economy. Recycling is good for jobs, Minnesota's economy, and our environment.

Last year, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency completed a composition study of trash in our state, and they found that 31% of our trash is organic material, 24% is paper, 18% is plastic and 5% is metal.

There is a lot of value in those resources! This guide will help you find recycling options for things you no longer want, so you can throw less in the trash.

This is the fourth year that we have published this guide, and each year Ramsey County has improved it based on what we hear from you. Highlights this year include more recycling information and a new drop-off program for composting food waste and non-recyclable paper. To share feedback or request additional copies, email AskEH@co.ramsey.mn.us or call 651.266.1199.

Information Lines and Links:

Web: RamseyAtoZ.com • Online resident guide for recycling and disposal.

Email: AskEH@co.ramsey.mn.us

Hotline: 651.633.EASY (3279) – answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



Business Recycling: LessTrash.com

Learn how your business can save by recycling.



Follow Green Ramsey

GoingGreen

RAMSEY COUNTY

Table of Contents

Recycling at Home	1
Recycling at Work	3
Green Events	4
Reduce and Reuse	5
Large Bulky Items	6
Energy Saving Light Bulbs	7
Household Hazardous Waste	8-13
Appliance Recycling	14
Electronics Recycling	15-16
Medicine	17
Yard Waste	19
Organics Recycling	23
Backyard Composting	24

This guide is published by the Ramsey/Washington County Resource Recovery Project – a joint county effort to manage waste wisely through waste reduction, recycling and energy recovery.

Recycling at Home

Recycle These Items

This is a general guideline. Many communities accept additional materials for recycling. Contact your city for more information (see next page).



CONTAINERS:

- Cans – beverage and food
- Bottles – glass and plastic
- Jars – glass, metal and plastic
- Beverage cartons – milk, juice, soup, etc.
(rinse all containers and leave caps/lids on)

PAPER AND CARDBOARD:

- Mail and newspapers, including inserts
- Magazines, catalogs and phone books
- Office and school papers
- Shredded paper in closed paper bags
- Cardboard boxes
- Delivery pizza boxes



NOT IN YOUR RECYCLING CART/BIN:

- Styrofoam™ – put in trash
- Plastic bags and wrap – contact your city
- Microwavable food trays – put in trash
- Frozen food boxes – accepted at organics drop-off*
- Paper with food residue – accepted at organics drop-off*
- Paper cups, plates, towels and napkins – accepted at organics drop-off*
- Gift wrap and tissue paper – accepted at organics drop-off*
- Musical greeting cards – take to HHW site (see pages 8-13)

* See page 23 for information on Ramsey County's new organics recycling drop-off program.



Recycle All You Can

Your efforts do make a difference! In fact, recycling one plastic bottle saves enough energy to power a computer for 25 minutes. And making products from recycled paper uses 40 percent less energy than making them from virgin wood pulp. Manufacturers want your recyclables! Need assistance with recycling at home or your apartment? Call your city or trash service provider. (source: EPA.gov)

City Contacts

Arden Hills/Eureka Recycling
651.222.SORT (7678)

Falcon Heights 651.792.7600

Gem Lake 651.747.2790

Lauderdale/Eureka Recycling
651.222.SORT (7678)

Little Canada 651.766.4029

Maplewood 651.249.2305

Mounds View 763.717.4000

New Brighton 651.638.2100

North Oaks/Peterson-Waddle
651.429.3624

North Saint Paul 651.747.2413

Roseville 651.222.SORT (7678)

Saint Anthony 612.782.3301

Saint Paul/Eureka Recycling
612.NO-WASTE (669.2783)

Shoreview 651.490.4665

Vadnais Heights 651.204.6000

White Bear Lake 651.429.8565

White Bear Township/Allied Waste
763.784.2104



Success Story

St. Paul Hotel's organics recycling program will save the hotel over \$25,000 per year and divert from the trash over 600,000 pounds of food and other compostable materials every year.

Throwing Away Money on Your Trash Bill?

Check out LessTrash.com to sign-up for a free 30-minute waste assessment. A consultant will come to your business at your convenience and give you a step-by-step recommendation on starting a recycling program or improving an existing program. With their help, you can save money and improve worker safety and efficiency. Grant money is available to assist with the



cost of start-up collection and buying collection bins.

To date, we have contacted over 350 businesses about the program; provided assistance to over 60 businesses; and performed on-site evaluations at an additional 50 businesses. From senior housing facilities to restaurants, schools and florists, businesses are saving money, enhancing recycling programs, and improving worker safety.

Visit LessTrash.com to find tools and success stories, and sign-up for your free waste assessment. For information on where and how to get rid of business waste the right way, go to LessTrash.com.



Recycle at Your Next Event

Hosting a family, work or community gathering? Make it a green event! You can use your own recycling containers or borrow Ramsey County's for FREE. Our portable containers are collapsible and come with custom signage and bags. We have containers for organics, too.

To learn more and make a reservation, go to RamseyAtoZ.com or call 651.266.1199.

Follow these tips for greater success:

1. Put recycling bins next to trash cans

Limit the number of trash and recycling stations.

2. Recruit and train volunteers or staff

Include how to set up containers, replace bags, and transport materials.

3. Plan where to take materials collected

Find options at RamseyAtoZ.com or call 651.266.1199.

4. Encourage all guests to recycle

Promote recycling in invitations or ads. Post signs with images of recyclables.

5. Learn more online

RethinkRecycling.com/event-planning has green event ideas for waste reduction, food, lodging, energy and transportation.



Free Recycling Containers for Events

You can borrow free containers for collecting bottles, cans and organics at your next event. Call 651.266.1199 to learn more and make a reservation.

Reduce and Reuse

Reduce Junk Mail

While recycling is a better option than throwing out junk mail, reducing unwanted mail is the best option. To keep from being added to new mailing lists, include a privacy statement on anything you put your name on, asking "Please do not add me to your mailing list."

Here's how to get off many current mailing lists:



- Catalogs, magazines and other mail offers: go to DMAchoice.org
- Companies you have done business with: contact directly
- Credit card offers: go to OptOutPrescreen.com or call 1.888.5.OPTOUT (1.888.567.8688)
- Phone books: go to DontTrashThePhoneBook.org.
- Smartphone users: download an app, like PaperKarma, to snap a picture of the junk mail and press "send" to unsubscribe from the mailing list. For other app options, search app stores for "stop junk mail."



Save Money. Save the Environment.

Do you have an item you no longer want? Is it in good condition? Consider reusing, donating or selling it. Find reuse and donation options at RamseyAtoZ.com.

Large Bulky Items

Disposal Options

Sometimes you have stuff that does not fit in your cart or does not belong in the trash. Here are some options to get rid of it.

1. Donate or sell items in good condition. See our Reuse and Donation Guide on RamseyAtoZ.com or call 651.633.EASY (3279) for locations.
2. If an item is not in good condition, check RamseyAtoZ.com or call 651.633.EASY (3279) to see if recycling options exist.
3. Check with your city (see page 2) about clean-up events or curbside collection.
4. If your item is not usable, not repairable, or cannot be recycled, contact your trash service provider, or bring it to a transfer station (fee charged).

→ Advanced Disposal

309 Como Ave
St. Paul, MN 55103 · 651.487.8546
www.veoliatwincities.com

→ Twin City Refuse

318 W Water St
St. Paul, MN 55107 · 651.227.1549
www.twincityrefuse.com

→ J & J Recycling

607 Barge Channel Rd
St. Paul, MN 55107 · 651.227.4457
www.jandjrecycling.net

Mattress Recycling

Several mattress stores will take your old mattress when they deliver your new one. If not, bring it to PPL (fee charged).

→ PPL Industries

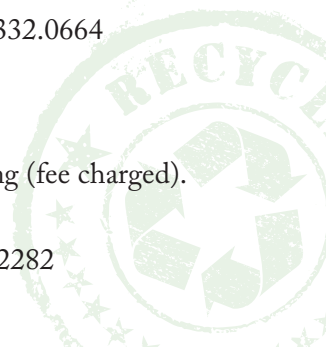
1179 - 15th Ave SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414 · 612.332.0664
www.pplindustries.org

Carpet and Padding

Drop off your carpet and padding at Bro-Tex for recycling (fee charged).

→ Bro-Tex

800 Hampden Ave, St. Paul, MN 55114 · 1.800.328.2282
www.brotex.com



Energy-Saving Light Bulbs



Did you know?

It is illegal to dispose of fluorescent light bulbs in the trash because they contain mercury.

Using energy-saving light bulbs makes good sense – you save money on your electric bill and reduce energy use.

When they burn out, bring the following types of light bulbs to any Ramsey County household hazardous waste collection site. (See pages 8-13) Some retailers also accept CFLs for recycling.

→ **Fluorescent bulbs** of all shapes and sizes: compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), tubes, circles, U-shaped, bug zappers, tanning lamps and black lights

→ **High-intensity discharge (HID) lamps:** typically used for exterior lighting and includes metal halide, mercury vapor, and high-pressure sodium

→ **Neon lights of all shapes and sizes**

For more recycling options and additional information, call 651.633.EASY (3279) or visit RethinkRecycling.com/cfl.

It is safe to throw incandescent light bulbs in the trash.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

Items Accepted:

For items not listed, call 651.633.EASY (3279).

Home Improvement

Paint, thinners, solvents, adhesives, sealants, wood preservatives & stains, lead paint chips, aerosol cans, etc.

Automotive Products

Used oil & filters, brake fluid, gasoline, antifreeze, auto batteries (keep all automotive fluids separate), etc.

Items with Mercury

Thermometers, fluorescent lights, CFLs, switches, thermostats, vapor lamps, etc.

Cleaning Products

Drain opener, oven cleaner, bathroom cleaner, rust remover, etc.

Recreational Products

Rechargeable batteries, button batteries, lithium batteries, cell phones, propane tanks, pool chemicals, gas cylinders, etc.

Lawn & Garden Chemicals

Weed killer, insecticides, pesticides, etc.

Items NOT Accepted:

Empty Containers

(except propane cylinders)

Electronics & Appliances

See pages 14-16

Business Waste

Call 651.266.1199 for business assistance.

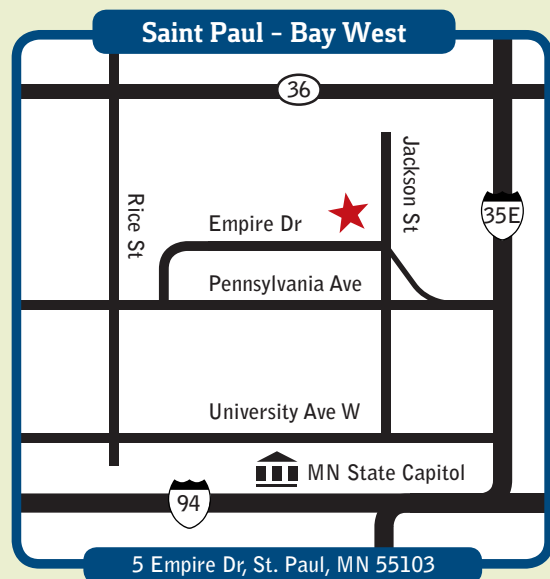


Free Drop-off for Household Hazardous Waste

If a container has the words CAUTION, WARNING, DANGER or POISON on the label and still has product inside, it doesn't belong in the trash.

HHW: Collection Site (Year-Round)

Open to residents of Ramsey, Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, and Washington counties. Photo ID required.



(Bay West Closed: New Years Day, July 4th, Thanksgiving Day, Friday after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.)

More collection sites on pages 11-12

Free Year-Round Collection Site

Bay West, Inc.

December - March

Friday: 11am–6pm
Saturday: 9am–4pm

April - October

Tuesday–Friday: 11am–6pm
Saturday: 9am–4pm

November

Thursday–Friday: 11am–6pm
Saturday: 9am–4pm

Additional Items Collected at Bay West Only

Needles and Syringes

Must be empty, sealed in a hard-sided container, like a detergent jug or coffee can, and labeled “Sharps.” Please inform staff when you drop them off. They will ask you to place sharps in the collection box.

Electrical Cords and Holiday String Lights

All types of cords are accepted. No battery packs, electronics or appliances attached.

HHW: Product Reuse Center

Thank You!

Last year, 25,581 participants dropped off 661 tons of household hazardous waste at our collection sites, and over 3,000 residents took 115,804 pounds of product from our reuse center.



FREE household chemicals and other products

are available at the new Product Reuse Center at Ramsey County’s year-round household hazardous waste collection site at Bay West (See page 9 for map and hours). Products are available on a first come, first served basis and selection will vary. Park in the lot in front of the building and follow signs. Must be 18 years or older.

Example products:

- Paint
- Automotive products, oil, antifreeze, motor additives
- Spray paint
- Household cleaners, polishes, waxes
- Paint solvents, cleaners, turpentine, paint thinners
- Wood stains, preservatives, oils, polyurethanes
- Fertilizers
- Driveway and roof sealers
- Charcoal lighter fluid, camp stove fluid

Note: Reusable items are not available at the mobile collection sites on pages 11-12.

HHW: Mobile Collection Sites

Collection Site Hours:

(Fridays: 10am–6pm · Saturdays: 9am–4pm)

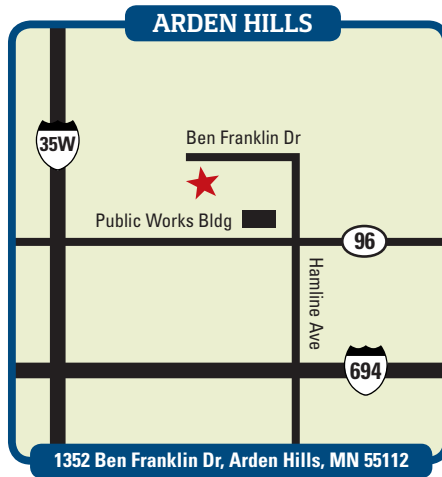


April

May

June

July



August

September (After Labor Day)

October



Place these in the TRASH:

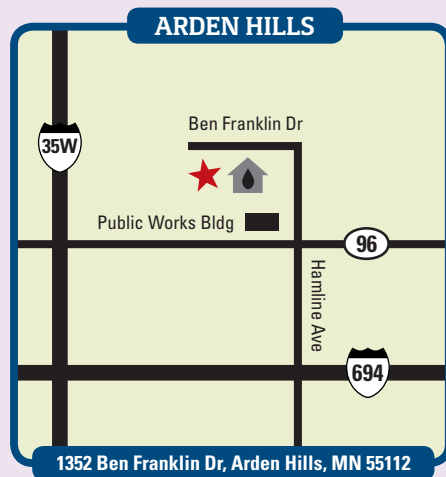
- Alkaline batteries (AA, AAA, C, D)
- Empty aerosol cans and other empty containers
- Dried up latex paint – leave lid off or remove lid
- Drywall compound, including joint, taping and filler
- Latex or water-based caulk

More paint recycling options coming in 2014!

HHW: Oil Shed and Safety Tips

Used Oil and Filter Collection Shed

Ramsey County accepts used oil and filters for free recycling at its household hazardous waste collection sites. The Arden Hills collection site has a self service used oil and filter collection shed that is always open. It is located on the north side of the County's Public Works facility, off Ben Franklin Road.



Safe Transportation Tips

- Keep products in their original container.
- Seal containers tightly and arrange upright in a single layer.
- Transport items in a paper bag, cardboard box, or plastic tote.

→ Transport items in the trunk, away from children.

→ **Never mix chemicals.** Pouring chemicals together can be dangerous and prevents recycling.

→ **No empties.** Empty containers may be placed in the trash.

Appliance Recycling

Recycle These Appliances

- Air conditioners
- Dehumidifiers
- Dishwashers
- Freezers
- Furnaces
- Garbage disposals
- Heat pumps
- Hot water heater
- Microwave ovens
- Ranges and stoves
- Refrigerators
- Trash compactors
- Washers and dryers

Contact your trash hauler for curbside pick-up options. Other recycling options include city and neighborhood cleanup events. For more information, call your city (see page 2), 651.633.EASY (3279) or visit RamseyAtoZ.com.

The following businesses in Ramsey County recycle appliances. Call ahead to verify items accepted, hours and fees.

→ A-Plus Appliance

760 Payne Ave, St. Paul, MN 55130
651.771.0336

→ Advanced Disposal Service

309 Como Ave, St. Paul, MN 55103
651.487.8546

→ Plaza TV and Appliance

1918 Beam Ave, Maplewood MN 55109
651.731.3603 (no water softeners)

→ Retrofit Companies

2960 Yorkton Blvd, Little Canada, MN 55117
800.795.1230



Did you know?

It is illegal to place major appliances like microwave ovens and air conditioners in the trash.



Know What to Throw.

TVs and computer monitors with a CRT (cathode ray tube) contain toxic substances like lead. It is illegal to throw them in the trash.

Recycle These Electronics

→ **Television**

Flat screens, projections and older box styles

→ **Computer**

Computers, monitors, laptops, tablets, keyboards and printers

→ **Phone and Fax**

Cell phones, corded phones, cordless phones, answering machines and fax machines

→ **Audio and Video Equipment**

CD and MP3 players, radios, speakers, stereos, DVD players, VCRs, video game systems, and cameras

Recycling Options for Electronics:

→ **City and neighborhood cleanup events**

(Call your city, see page 2)

→ **Manufacturer take-back programs**

Contact the electronic item's manufacturer

→ **WeRecycle.com**

Free mail-in program

→ **Local electronic recyclers**

(See next page)

→ **Curbside pick-up**

Some trash haulers offer pick-up service for their customers (Call your city, see page 2)

Electronics Recycling Options

The following businesses in your area accept electronics for recycling. Call ahead to verify items accepted, hours and fees. FREE recycling options are accurate at the time of printing, but can change.

→ **Arrow Global Asset Disposition, Inc. (Prices Vary)**

2299 Territorial Rd, St. Paul, MN 55114 · 651.602.0789
www.assetrecoverycorp.com

→ **Best Buy (FREE)**

1795 County Rd D E, Maplewood, MN 55109 · 651.704.1901
1643 County Rd B2, Roseville, MN 55113 · 651.746.0538
www.bestbuy.com/ecycle

→ **Green Lights Recycling, Inc. (Prices Vary)**

10040 Davenport St NE, Blaine, MN 55449 · 763.785.0456
www.glrnow.com

→ **Eco Recycling Solutions (FREE)**

2360 County Rd J, Ste 100, White Bear Lake, MN 55110 · 651.653.1336
www.ecorecyclingsolutions.com

→ **Office Depot (Prices Vary)**

1615 W County Rd C, Roseville, MN 55113 · 651.631.2020
www.officedepot.com

→ **Retrofit Companies (Prices Vary)**

2960 Yorkton Blvd, Little Canada, MN 55117 · 800.795.1230
www.retrofitcompanies.com

→ **Staples (Computers FREE)**

2100 N Snelling Dr #42, Roseville, MN 55113 · 651.633.1034
www.staples.com

For more options, go to RamseyAtoZ.com or call 651.633.EASY (3279).

Free Medicine Drop Boxes



Why use the free medicine drop boxes?

Proper and safe disposal of unwanted medicine helps prevent crime, drug abuse, and accidental poisoning. Protect the environment by not putting harmful medicines down the drain or in the trash.

Visit one of Ramsey County's year-round drop boxes to safely dispose of your unwanted or expired medicines. In 2013, the County collected over 5,228 pounds of medicines from 2,843 participants. Thank you!

Items Accepted

Medicines from households are accepted in any form, including prescription, over-the-counter and pet medicines.

Examples include:

- Blister packs
- Capsules and pills
- Creams and gels
- Inhalers
- IV bags
- Liquids
- Patches
- Powders
- Sprays
- Vials

Items NOT Accepted

No needles or syringes, except full epi-pens. Empty needles and syringes are accepted for FREE at Ramsey County's year-round household hazardous waste collection site at Bay West (see page 9).

No medicines from businesses, health care facilities, long-term care facilities, pharmacies, doctors' offices or veterinary clinics.

Coming this spring!

Medicine drop box in North Saint Paul.
Check city's website for updates:
www.ci.north-saint-paul.mn.us

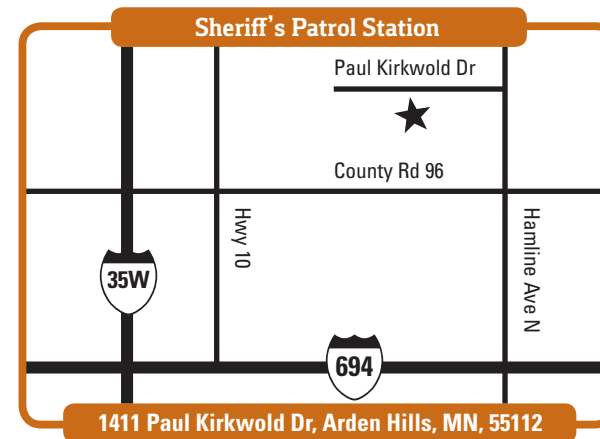
County Drop Box Locations

Hours: Monday – Friday: 8am – 4pm

Drop box located inside building. Look for signs.

No ID required. Free parking.

Closed Federal holidays.



Guidelines

- Keep medicines in their original container for legal transport. Put loose medicines in a clear plastic bag and label it.
- Seal all containers in a clear plastic bag, ideally one-gallon or smaller size.
- Place bag with medicine into drop box.

Additional Sites: Find links to other medicine collection programs in the metro area at RamseyAtoZ.com or call our hotline at 651.633.EASY (3279).

Yard Waste Collection Sites



Materials Accepted

Leaves

Grass Clippings

Garden Plants

Other Non-Woody Plants

Trees & Shrubs (NO STUMPS)

Accepted ONLY at Arden Hills, Frank & Sims, Midway and White Bear Township yard waste sites.

Bags must be emptied on site and taken with you.

Materials NOT Accepted

No waste from commercial lawn care, landscape or tree services.

No lumber.

No tree roots or stumps.

Did you know?

Leaves, grass clippings, trees and other types of yard waste are banned from the trash. Composting is the best option! The plant material breaks down into a rich soil amendment.



Yard Waste Collection Sites

Open to Ramsey County residents only. Photo ID required.

April - November

Weather permitting

Mon, Wed, Fri: 11am–7pm

Saturday: 9am–5pm

Sunday: 11am–5pm

December - March*

Weather permitting

Saturday: 9am–5pm

Sunday: 11am–5pm

*Arden Hills site CLOSED from December – March

ALL sites CLOSED: Memorial Day, July 4th and Labor Day.



Trees & Shrubs NOT Accepted.

Maps continued on page 21



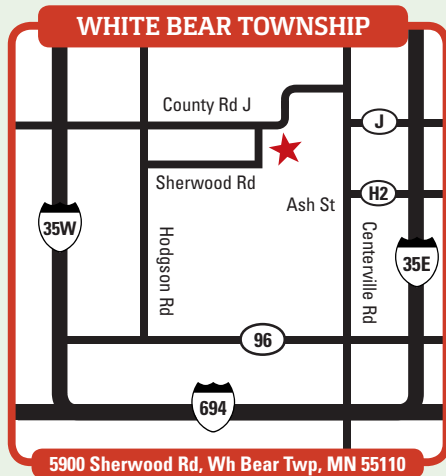
Trees & Shrubs NOT Accepted.



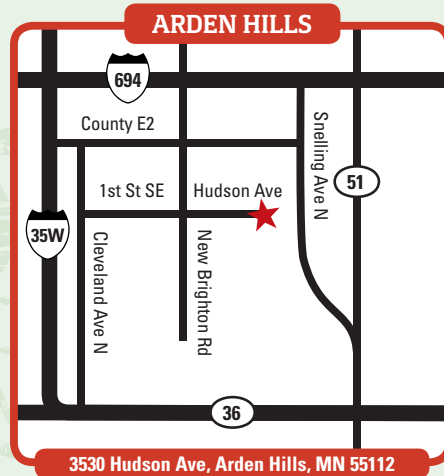
Trees & Shrubs NOT Accepted.

Yard Waste Collection Sites

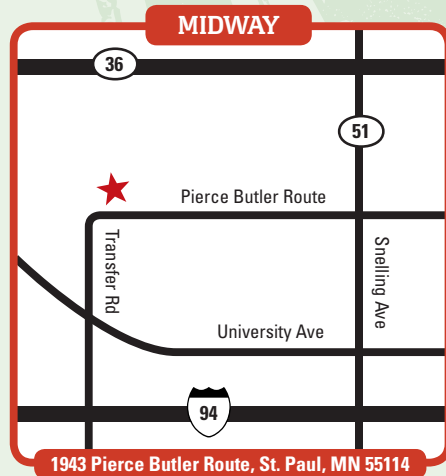
Open to Ramsey County residents only. Photo ID required.



Trees & Shrubs Accepted



Trees & Shrubs Accepted



Trees & Shrubs Accepted



Trees & Shrubs Accepted

Yard Waste Tips

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Quarantine

Ramsey County residents cannot transport ash trees, including limbs, branches, logs, mulch and untreated ash lumber with the bark attached, outside of the quarantine area, which includes Ramsey County. The quarantine also applies to firewood of any species.

To prevent the spread of EAB, please dispose of ash trees at the County yard waste site nearest to where the tree was removed. The sites listed on page 21 accept ash trees.

Suspect that your ash tree is infected with EAB? Contact the Minnesota Department of Agriculture at 888.545.6684 (voicemail) or email arrest.the.pest@state.mn.us.

For more information on EAB, go to www.mda.state.mn.us/eab



Contact the **Ramsey County Master Gardeners** at 651.704.2071 (leave a message and a Master Gardener will return your call) or online at www.co.ramsey.mn.us/mastergardener.



The University of Minnesota Extension provides information about pruning trees and shrubs. Go to www.extension.umn.edu and search "Pruning."



Help prevent
the spread of
Emerald Ash
Borer. Avoid
pruning ash
trees from
May 1–August 31.





Put Your Food Scraps to Work

Beginning in spring 2014, you can bring your food waste and non-recyclable paper to six of the Ramsey County yard waste sites (does not include the Arden Hills site). We'll haul it to an organics composting site, where it will become a soil amendment.

Open to: Ramsey County residents only.
No organic waste from businesses.

Drop-off Locations: All Ramsey County Yard Waste sites **EXCEPT ARDEN HILLS**. See pages 20-21 for maps and hours.

How to Use:

1. Pick up FREE compostable bags at the six yard waste sites that collect organic waste or contact your city (see page 2).
2. Fill the bags with food waste and other material listed below.
3. Bring your bagged organics to a Ramsey County yard waste site.
4. Put your bagged organics in the designated container.
5. If you need more compostable bags, ask a yard waste monitor.

*Keep food waste separate from yard waste

Items Accepted

All food scraps (including meat and dairy), non-recyclable paper, and compostable plastics are accepted. See our website for a detailed list and tips for success.



For more information on our organics recycling program, go to RamseyAtoZ.com or call the Ramsey County Master Gardeners at 651.704.2071 (leave a message and a Master Gardener will return your call.)

Getting Started

1. Check with your city about composting requirements. (See page 2)
2. Place your bin in a convenient location for easy access.
3. Pick a spot in your yard that's at least partially shaded.
4. Easy access to water is helpful.

Compost Bin Sale

Starting mid-March, the Recycling Association of Minnesota will sell compost bins at a reduced price. To purchase, pre-order online at RecycleMinnesota.org or call 651.641.4589. Pick up your pre-purchased bin on April 25 at Roseville City Hall or May 31 at Rock Tenn in Saint Paul.

What to Compost

As a general rule, add three parts of dry ingredients, like leaves or dry grass, to one part of wet ingredients, like food waste or green plants.

Add (compost):

- Vegetable and fruit scraps, rinds, peels
- Coffee grounds and filters, tea leaves and bags
- Egg shells, nut shells
- Plant trimmings
- Grass, leaves

Do not add:

- Butter, cheese, dairy products
- Meat, bones
- Grease, gravies, sauces
- Pet waste
- Diseased plants, weeds gone to seed
- Ash from charcoal or coal
- Wood chunks



Combine food scraps and yard waste in a backyard bin to create useful compost.

Find tips to prevent food waste at West-CoastClimate-Forum.com/food

Going Green

Published by the Ramsey/Washington County
Resource Recovery Project



Follow Green Ramsey



PRSRT STD
US Postage
Paid
Twin Cities, MN
Permit 7407



Printed on 100% recycled paper.