

## Online Residential Disposal Guide Undergoes “Extreme Makeover”

Wondering how to get rid of an old appliance, old television or computer, some old paint, or usable household items?

Check out the new and improved online **Residential Disposal Guide** for information on how to recycle or dispose of just about anything, from appliances to yard waste. The guide includes an A-Z list of items with disposal information, a section on automotive wastes, a list of compost sites, donation opportunities, information on the county’s household hazardous waste facility, recycling options and a list of waste haulers. Go to [www.co.washington.mn.us/publichealth](http://www.co.washington.mn.us/publichealth) and click on “**Residential Disposal Guide**”.

The Department of Public Health and Environment improved the **Residential Disposal Guide** to

better provide updated information for residents to reduce, reuse, recycle, and properly dispose of several types of wastes, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The colorful guide is easier to read and provides additional online resources. Residents can access the entire guide at once or review only sections of the guide.

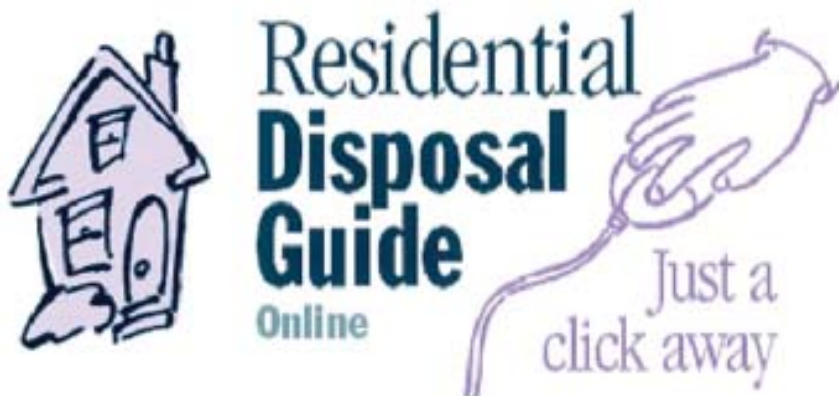
Although this guide is designed for residents, businesses can also find disposal information using this web site. Click on *Resourceful Waste Management Guide for Businesses* on the **Residential Disposal Guide’s** menu page. This will link businesses to a directory of Twin Cities-area waste disposal locations that accept commercial types and quantities of wastes. Examples of wastes listed include automotive fluids, CRTs, filters, and sorbents, pallets, and other materials.

## What is the County Environmental Charge (CEC)?

All counties in Minnesota, including Washington County, have been given the responsibility of planning and implementing programs that meet the state’s environmental goals. Washington County has taken this responsibility seriously and provides a number of environmental programs including: household hazardous waste services, funding for local recycling programs, a resource recovery facility, groundwater planning, and other services, to

### County Environmental Charge

- continued on page 8e



**The State of Minnesota will spend about \$500,000,000 during the next 20 years to clean up soil and groundwater contamination caused by old landfills. The County Environmental Charge helps pay for programs that prevent future damage to our environment and pocketbooks.**

## Two More Items Added to Recycled Products Kits

Each year, over 3000 people in Washington County see a recycled products kit. The kits are used by dozens of scout groups, community organizations, schools, churches, cities, and businesses to teach about recycling and recycled products. The kits contain twelve examples of products made from commonly recycled items including lumber made from recycled milk and detergent bottles, clothing made from recycled soft drink bottles, and a door mat made from tires. Recent additions to the kit include a rug made from recycled clothing and tile made from recycled glass. Also included in the kits is a block of aluminum cans which is suitable for a guessing contest or other activity. Contact Dan Schoepke, Washington County Department of Public Health and Environment, at (651) 430-6714 for more information or to reserve a kit.

## Rake for Lakes' Sake

### Simple Changes in Yard Care Can Protect Water Quality

Autumn has arrived, along with falling leaves and crisp, cool nights. Did you know that those leaves (along with grass clippings and pet waste) are a source of phosphorus — the nutrient that turns our lakes and rivers green with algae?

Excessive algae growth looks bad, smells bad, damages lake habitats and, in severe cases, kills fish. But according to Metro WaterShed Partners — a coalition of more than 40 public, private and nonprofit water resource organizations — Minnesotans can take steps to reduce the amount of phosphorus that enters our waterways.

Phosphorus enters Minnesota lakes and rivers as leaves, grass clippings and other materials decompose and are washed into waterways by stormwater — rain and snow melt that runs off of our yards, streets, and parking lots. Unlike household wastewater, stormwater doesn't go through a treatment plant. In urban areas,



storm drains typically carry stormwater directly to lakes, rivers and wetlands, dumping phosphorus and other pollutants straight into Minnesota's precious water resources.

To help our yards reflect our love of lakes, Metro WaterShed Partners has assembled a list of easy-to implement fall yard care tips:

- Rake or sweep leaves from streets and storm drains
- Compost or mulch leaves and grass clippings this fall
- Keep streets free of other pollutants, like eroded soil and animal waste, which can be washed down storm drains by rain or melting snow

To access additional tips or learn more about *Minnesota Water — Let's Keep it Clean*, visit [www.cleanwatermn.org](http://www.cleanwatermn.org) this fall and throughout the year to learn how you can protect lakes, rivers and wetlands.



Eric Lillyblad of Forest Lake has been using the Twin Cities Free Market since it became available to Washington County residents in 2001. Through the service, he has given away

a TV, microwave, stove top/range, oven, computer monitor, sink, children's toys, furniture, window, and weight bench. Eric is one of over 1,100 county residents who have given something away using the Free Market this year. Not only does this help keep items from becoming waste, it also provides usable items to those who need them. Here's how the service works:

Go to [www.twincitiesfreemarket.org](http://www.twincitiesfreemarket.org) and click on "view listings" to see what is available or "list and item" if you have something to give away. After a match is made, the person requesting the item will make arrangements to pick it up directly from the person giving it away. [www.twincitiesfreemarket.org](http://www.twincitiesfreemarket.org)

## Curbside Recycling Pickup: what, where and when

All of the cities and townships in Washington County now offer curbside pickup of these materials. Call your collector for sorting details.

### Paper



### Metal cans



### Glass Jars and bottles



### Plastic bottles



Some collectors also accept plastic bottles. Look for the 3, 4, or 5 next to your city.

\*Please do not recycle motor oil bottles or containers that have held hazardous material

### Available in selected cities only



City/Township	Collection Days	Collector	Phone
Afton •	Weekly, on trash day	Highland Sanitation	651-458-0043
Bayport • ◆	Weekly, on trash day	B.F.I.	651-455-8634
Baytown Twp. • +	Every Wednesday	Maroney's Sanitation	651-439-7279
Birchwood •	Every other Monday	Waste Management	952-890-1100
Cottage Grove	Weekly, on trash day	Trash Haulers	Hauler
Dellwood •	Every other Thursday	Waste Management	952-890-1100
Denmark Twp.	2 X Month on trash day	Trash Haulers	Hauler
Forest Lake • ◆ ♦ ◆	Every other week on trash day	Forest Lake Sanitation	651-464-2321
Grant •	Every other Monday	Waste Management	952-890-1100
Grey Cloud Is	Every Tuesday	Tennis Sanitation	651-459-1887
Hugo +	On trash day	Trash Haulers	Hauler
Lake Elmo •	On trash day	Trash Haulers	Hauler
Lake St. Croix Beach •	Every other Thursday	Waste Management	952-890-1100
Lakeland	Every other Wednesday	EZ Recycling	651-644-6577
Lakeland Shores	Every other Wednesday	EZ Recycling	651-644-6577
Landfall	Every Wednesday	Tennis Sanitation	651-459-1887
Mahtomedi •	Every other Monday	Waste Management	952-890-1100
Marine on St. Croix •	Every Monday	Waste Management	800-472-7919
May Twp	On trash day	Hauler	Hauler
New Scandia Twp. • ◆ ♦ ◆	North of Hwy 97: Every Other Fri. South: Every Other Thursday	Forest Lake Sanitation	651-464-2321
Newport	Weekly, on trash day	Trash Haulers	Hauler
Oak Park Hts. •	Weekly, on trash day	Superior Services	651-459-6377
Oakdale	Weekly, on trash day	Trash Haulers	Hauler
Pine Springs •	Every other Thursday	Waste Management	952-890-1100
St. Mary's Point •	Every other Thursday	Waste Management	952-890-1100
St. Paul Park	Weekly, on trash day	Trash Haulers	Hauler
Stillwater • +	Weekly, on trash day	Waste Management	952-890-1100
Stillwater Twp. •	On trash day	Trash Haulers	Hauler
West Lakeland Twp. •	Every other Friday	Waste Management	952-890-1100
White Bear Lake • ◆	Weekly, on trash day	Superior Services	651-459-6377
Willernie •	Every other Monday	Waste Management	952-890-1100
Woodbury	On trash day	Trash Haulers	Hauler

# Hazardous Materials Are in Every Home

## Disposal options for

Washington County offers free hazardous materials dropoff for its residents at a year-round site located in Oakdale.★

Proof of County residency, such as a driver's license, is required.



### Hazardous Materials Collection Site

1900 Hadley Avenue N. Oakdale  
(look for Household Hazardous Waste signs)

#### Open year-round:

Tuesdays: 12 p.m. – 7 p.m.  
Thursdays: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Saturdays: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Closed on Thanksgiving,  
Christmas, New Year's &  
other major holidays



### Hazardous materials accepted

#### Household products

- Aerosols
- Cleaners
- Fluorescent bulbs
- Mercury switches & thermometers
- Paint
- Roofing tar
- Thinners and solvents



#### Automotive products

- Brake fluid
- Car batteries
- Driveway/garage sealers
- Gasoline
- Used oil and filters



#### Lawn and garden products

- Herbicides
- Insecticides
- Pesticides
- Wood preservatives, stains



#### Hobby/recreation products

- Fire extinguishers
- Fireworks
- Glues, paints
- Lighter fluid
- Pool chemicals
- Propane tanks
- Rechargeable batteries



### Hazardous materials Not accepted

- Appliances
- Asbestos
- Ammunition
- Explosives
- Treated wood
- Medical waste, including needles
- Computers, TVs, & other electronics



### Other items Not accepted

- Yard waste
- Construction waste
- Tires
- Trash
- Used cooking oil



See facing page for disposal options for many of these items



### For information on disposal options

Call your trash hauler or Washington County at 651-430-6655.

## Pack it up. Bring it in.

#### Do this:

- Please bring only accepted items. See list at left.
- Transport items in a paper bag, cardboard box, or plastic tote and put them in the trunk away from children.
- Arrange bottles and cans in a single layer, upright and sealed. Paint cans may be double-stacked.
- All containers must be sealed with a tight lid or cap.
- Label materials that are not in their original containers.
- Oil, antifreeze, and gas containers may be returned for reuse. Put such waste in a clearly marked container, no more than ¾ full.



- Bundle fluorescent tubes with rubber bands. Please don't tape.

- Place a piece of tape over contacts for rechargeable batteries to avoid sparking.



No business waste is accepted

# residents

## Check out the Reuse Room



Free paint, automotive products, cleaners, and other products are available to residents 18 years or older. These are products that were dropped off and that meet the criteria for reuse.

Another reuse option:

### Twin Cities Free Market

The Free Market is an online listing service for residents who want to give or get free reusable goods for the home, garage and garden. It is part of an effort to reduce the amount of reusable goods being thrown away.

[www.twincitiesfreemarket.org](http://www.twincitiesfreemarket.org)

Need more information on waste and the environment? Visit



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



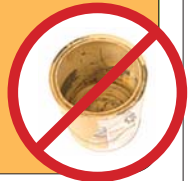
### Don't do this:

▶ **Do not put your items in a plastic bag.** Use a box or a grocery-style paper bag to keep bottles and cans arranged and upright.



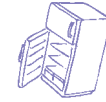
▶ **Do not mix or combine chemicals!** Pouring chemicals together can be dangerous and prevents recycling.

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



## Dropoff options for appliances, computers, electronics, tires, and other waste

These businesses will accept the following materials for a fee. Call ahead for details.



**Appliances**



**Computers, TV's, and other Electronics**



**Self-haul Trash**  
Household remodeling and other bulky items

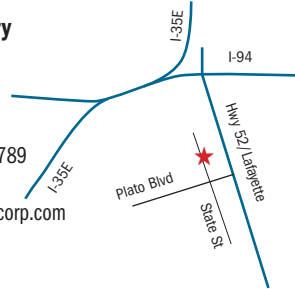


**Hold on! Call your trash hauler first.**  
They may offer curbside pickup options for your items.

### Asset Recovery

150 State Street  
St Paul

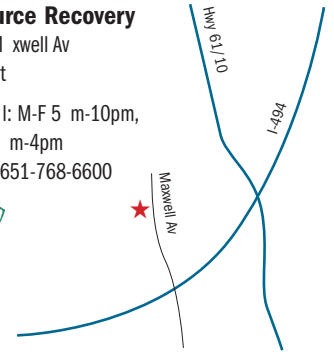
Dispos I: M-F 7-5  
Phone: 651-602-0789  
Website: [www.ssetrecoverycorp.com](http://www.ssetrecoverycorp.com)



### Resource Recovery

2901 Maxwell Av  
Newport

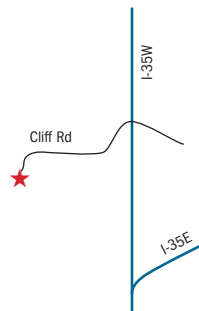
Dispos I: M-F 5 m-10pm,  
S t 6 m-4pm  
Phone: 651-768-6600



### Burnsville Landfill

2650 Cliff Rd W  
Burnsville

Dispos I: M-F 6:30-6, S t 7-2  
Construction/Demolition  
Debris: M-F 6:30-5:30  
S t 7-noon  
Phone: 952-890-3248



### SRC

6320 E Viking Blvd  
Wyoming

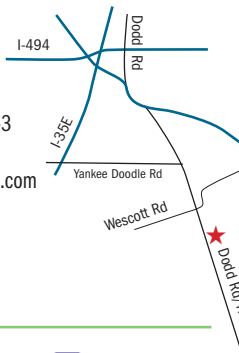
Dispos I: M-F 8-4:30,  
S t 8-1:30 (Apr-Oct)  
8-noon (Nov-Mar)  
Phone: 651-462-1099  
Website: [www.src-group.com](http://www.src-group.com)



### JR's Appliances

8980 Highway 149  
Inver Grove Heights

Dispos I: M-F 8-4, S t 10-3  
Phone: 651-454-9215  
Website: [www.jrsappliances.com](http://www.jrsappliances.com)



### Pla a TV & Appliance

1918 Belmont Av  
Maplewood

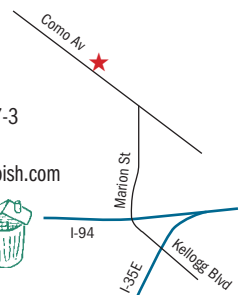
Dispos I: M-Th 9-9, Fri 9-6, S t 9-5, Sun noon-5  
Phone: 651-731-3603  
Website: [www.platztvandappliance.com](http://www.platztvandappliance.com)



### Vasko Disposal

309 Como Av  
St Paul

Dispos I: M-F 6-6, S t 7-3  
Phone: 651-487-8546  
Website: [www.vskorubbish.com](http://www.vskorubbish.com)



### Other items

#### Treated Wood



See Buberl Recycling, pg. 10 for treated wood disposal



#### Yard Waste

See pg. 10 for dropoff locations

#### Tires



Check with your local tire retailer for best results

# Fall 2005 Compost Sites and Hours\*

(Call individual sites for fee and price information.)

## Cottage Grove

**Location:** Glendenning Road and 95<sup>th</sup> St. South, ½ mile south of the Jamaica Avenue/Highway 10-61 interchange.

*Open to all County residents.*

**Open:** October 18<sup>th</sup> - Thanksgiving\*

**Phone:** 651-458-1026

### Hours:

Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m..

Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### Waste Accepted

Debagged leaves and yard waste

Brush, Stumps

### Materials Available

Finished Compost

## Forest Lake

**Location:** Bixby Park, intersection of 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NW and 8<sup>th</sup> Street

**Open:** April\* - early November\*

**Phone:** 651-464-3550

*Open only to residents of Forest Lake.*

### Hours:

**Summer: June 1 - September 28**

Wednesday 1:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. (dusk)

Saturday 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Fall: October 1- November 13**

Mon. & Wed. 1:30 p.m. - 7 p.m (dusk)

Sat. & Sun. 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m..

### Waste Accepted

Debagged leaves and yard waste

Lake Weeds

### Materials Available

Finished compost

## Hugo

**Location:** West of Highway 61 on 170<sup>th</sup> St. (County Road 4A)

**Open:** Through November 15

(or first snowfall)

**Phone:** 651-429-6676

*Open only to residents of Hugo.*

**Hours:** Sat. & Sun. 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

### Waste Accepted

Debagged leaves and yard waste

### Materials Available

Finished compost

## Marine on St. Croix

**Location:** North on Highway 95, next to the community drainfield

**Open:** Through October 30\*

**Phone:** 651-433-3636

*Open only to Marine residents.*

### Hours:

Wednesday Noon - 7 p.m. (dusk)

Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### Waste Accepted

Debagged leaves and grass clippings

### Materials Available

Finished compost

## Newport

**Location:** Bailey Road and Sterling Avenue

**Open:** Through November 13\*

**Phone:** 651-459-5677

*Open only to Newport residents.*

### Hours:

Wednesday & Friday 3:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### Waste Accepted

Grass and Leaves

Brush

*(Call for prices)*

### Materials Available

Limited quantity of finished compost and wood chips

## St. Paul Park

**Location:** Next to Riverside Park on 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue, west of 3<sup>rd</sup> St.

**Open:** Through November 1\*

**Phone:** 651-459-9785

*Leaves and grass accepted from St.*

*Paul Park and Grey Cloud residents only. Brush accepted only from St. Paul Park residents.*

### Hours:

Mon. & Wed. 1:30 - 6 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday 1:30 - 6 p.m..

Closed Easter, Memorial Day, and Labor Day

### Waste Accepted

Debagged Yard Waste

Brush

*(Call for prices)*

### Materials Available

Finished Compost

Wood chips

## Stillwater Area

**Location:** Buberl Recycling and Composting, 5750 Memorial Avenue North

(Behind Stillwater Motors, west of entrance to Stillwater High School)

**Open:** April\* - October\*

**Phone:** 651-439-8399

*Open to all county residents.*

### Hours:

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### Waste Accepted

Grass and Leaves, Brush, Stumps, Treated Wood *(Call for prices)*

### Materials Available

Finished Compost, Mulch

*(Call for prices)*

## Woodbury

**Location:** 4600 Cottage Grove Drive

Directions from intersection of County Road 19 and Bailey Road: Go 1 mile east on Bailey Road to Cottage Grove Drive. Turn south (right) on Cottage Grove Drive and proceed ½ mile to site.

**Open:** April - November 27\* and the first two Saturdays in January for Christmas trees

**Phone:** 651-436-1213

*Open to all County residents for yard waste and brush.*

### Hours:

Monday - Saturday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Wednesday is Senior's Day: ½ price, 65 and over (Grass and leaves only)

### Waste Accepted

bagged Leaves and Grass / Pumpkins / Brush

*(Call for prices)*

### Materials Available

Finished Compost

Wood chips

*(Call for prices)*

\*Site hours and opening/closing dates may be affected by weather conditions. Sites are closed on holidays.

Dusk means the site will close at the scheduled time or dusk, whichever comes first.

# Take Precautions Now to Prevent Septic System Freeze-up

Septic systems in Minnesota typically do not freeze in the winter because there is enough residual heat in the soil. Normal snowfall and dry soil conditions insulate the ground therefore preventing freezing. “However in the last several years we saw a climate pattern that produced very little snow insulation. This allows frost to penetrate deeper into the soil than normal and cause septic systems to freeze,” said Pete Ganzel, Senior Environmental Specialist with Washington County. The most common reasons a septic system freezes are a waterlogged system, cold air entering the system, lack of snow cover, compacted soil, or lack of plant cover.

“If your septic system is frozen, your first step is to call an onsite professional,” says Sara Christopherson, an engineer with the U of M Extension Service. If you have a pump and hear water constantly running in the pump tank (a possible indication of a frozen system), disconnect the pump, and call an onsite professional. Contrary to common myth, pouring additives or antifreeze chemicals into the system will not provide additional heat and will only serve to tax a septic system.

Onsite professionals, such as a septic tank pumper or system installer can help determine the cause of the problem and offer solutions. The U of M Onsite Sewage Treatment Program web site is one place to go to locate a professional: <http://septic.umn.edu>. Preventing your septic system from freezing

1. Place a layer of mulch (8-12 inches) over the pipes, tank, and soil treatment area to provide extra insulation. This is particularly important if you have had a new system installed late in the year and no vegetative cover has been established.
2. Fix any leaky plumbing fixtures or appliances in your home. This will help prevent freezing problems and help your system work well year-round.
3. Keep all types of vehicles and high-volume foot traffic, off the septic system.
4. Make sure all risers, inspection pipes, and manholes have covers on them. Sealing them and adding rigid foam insulation is a good idea.
5. Keep an eye on your system. If any seeping or ponding occurs, contact an onsite professional to help determine the cause and remedy.

6. Use water; the warmer the better! Although water conservation is important, if freezing is a concern, increasing water use can help the system. This includes spreading out your laundry schedule to possibly one warm/hot load per day, using the hottest cycle for your dishwasher, and maybe even taking a hot bath. **DO NOT** leave water running all the time, as this will hydraulically overload the system.

7. If you know you are going to be gone for an extended period, plan accordingly. This could include having someone use sufficient quantities of water in the home regularly, or pumping out your tank before leaving.

8. If you had problems last year with a frozen system and have a high efficiency condensing furnace, consider directing the condensate to the foundation drain tile or sump during the winter months.

**For more information, please contact the Washington County Department of Public Health and Environment, 651-430-6655.**



## Protect Your Water-based Products from Freezing!

As you prepare your home for the coming cold weather, take a moment to think about any water-based or latex products that will become unusable if left out to freeze. These products will usually say “keep from freezing” or “soap and water clean up” on the label.

Facts to remember:

- Water-based products such as latex paint and driveway sealer should be kept above 40° F.
- Store them in a climate-controlled area, such as a basement.
- Always keep products in their original container.

If you don't have adequate space to store your products properly, bring them to product reuse room at the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility while they are still usable. Someone else will be happy to have them! Water-based products that are no longer usable should also be brought to the HHW Facility for safe disposal. See pages 4E and 5E for more information.

## County Environmental Charge

*Continued from page 1*

protect public health and the environment. The County Environmental Charge (CEC) helps pay for these services that were formerly funded through the property tax.

The CEC is a 39.5% charge on garbage service. All residents and businesses who generate garbage pay the CEC. Garbage haulers are required to collect and remit the CEC from their customers through garbage bills. In most cities with contracted garbage collection service, whoever issues the bills to customers will collect and remit the CEC. The amount of CEC a resident pays depends on the amount and cost of garbage

service. Each city and township in the county has different garbage collection companies, collection arrangements, and rates and fees, but on the average, those with larger volume (i.e., 90 gallon) service, pay more than they did when these funds were collected on the property tax and those that have lower volume (30 gallon) service pay less. For more information on the CEC, go to [www.co.washington.mn.us/publichealth](http://www.co.washington.mn.us/publichealth) and click on county environmental charge or call 651-275-7303.

## CEC Provides Incentive for Businesses and Schools to Recycle Food Waste

Businesses and schools are finding out that they can save money and increase operational efficiencies by recycling food waste instead of trashing it. When food waste is collected separately for recycling, businesses not only reduce their garbage hauling fees, they also reduce the amount of CEC (39.5%) and state solid waste tax (17%) they pay.

Ramsey and Washington Counties have been working with a consultant, J.L. Taitt & Associates, to provide information to businesses and schools about the financial and other benefits of recycling food waste. Through this project, a waste sort was recently conducted at an elementary school and it was determined that over 72% of the cafeteria waste at the school was food waste. The result of this study has led to four schools beginning food waste recycling



*Food Waste (bottom right) is separated from other waste at a school for feeding to hogs*

this fall, where the students will separate waste food from their lunch trays into carts which will be collected by a farmer to feed to livestock. For more information on this project, go to:

[www.co.ramsey.mn.us/recovery/FoodWaste.asp](http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us/recovery/FoodWaste.asp) This website provides hands-on information on how businesses can manage food waste and also showcases businesses and schools that have made the switch to food donation programs and livestock feeding programs.