



City of Middleton

Public Works & Recycling News Spring 2023

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Refuse and Recycling Update

Pellitteri wants to help us keep costs down for collecting recyclable materials, but they need our help. **Improperly placed recyclables will be tagged and not collected.** Please see [Pellitteri's memo](#) on this topic and review additional information on the [City's](#) and [Pellitteri's](#) web sites for a [list of recyclable materials](#) and proper cart placement. If you have questions, please call Pellitteri at 608-257-4285. They've also constructed twenty-four, 1-minute [recycling tip videos](#) and a 7-minute video showing [what happens to your recyclables](#). Coming soon: A searchable recycling database, sign up for service reminders and notifications, a mobile app, and more!

Paper Cups Now Recyclable

Pellitteri Waste Systems installed new recycling sorting technology at their material recovery facility, Kipp Street Station, which allows them to include paper cups for recycling. Paper cups, such as coffee and soda cups, can be placed in your recycling cart.



Paper Cup Recycling Tips:

- Empty & Clean - free of liquids or residue
- Lids & Straws go in the trash - not recyclable at this time
- Cardboard Sleeves - remove and place in the recycling separately

Paper cups will be sorted and sent to paper mills in the Great Lakes region to make new recycled-content products, such as paperboard, tissue paper and containerboard.

Plastic Bag Recycling

Effective 4/19/21, residents should no longer be placing plastic grocery bag bundles (bags of plastic bags) in their blue recycling carts. Plastic bags can still be recycled in other ways; they can be taken to many local retailers or to the [Middleton Recycling Center](#).

Alternative Options:

- Reuse your plastic bags in bathroom trash cans, etc.
- Bring reusable bags with you to the store to reduce the number of single-use bags.
- Use paper bags to reduce the number of plastic bags generated. Empty paper bags are recyclable in the curbside program. Please flatten and place in the cart like you would cardboard for paper recycling.

Recycling Center

The Middleton Recycling Center is open year-round on Saturday mornings from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM, and Wednesday evenings from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM (May-Sept). The recycling center is located at 4330 Parmenter Street at the Municipal Operations Center.

City of Middleton residents can drop off scrap metals, electronics, block Styrofoam #6, large cardboard, clean wood, textiles, oil and oil filters, durable medical equipment, and small items like eyeglasses, batteries, books, cell phones/iPods/digital cameras, and more for recycling! For specific information about items that will be collected (and fees for recycling, if applicable) at the [Middleton Recycling Center](#), please call 608-821-8390 ahead of time (Saturday, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM).

Oil & Filters

Used Oil and Oil Filters can be dropped off for recycling at the Municipal Operations Center in the shed just outside of the recycling center. The oil drop-off site is open for public use at all times and is under surveillance 24/7. Illegal dumping is prohibited, and violators will be subjected to a fine.

Disposing of Household Hazardous Items



Dane County Clean Sweep accepts many household hazardous items, including paint. The facility is at the landfill on US HWY 12, across from Yahara Hills Golf Course. See the County website (www.danecountycleansweep.com) for location, hours, materials accepted and charges. Remember to bring proof of Dane County residency.

Electronics Recycling

E-waste is one of the fastest growing parts of municipal solid waste worldwide. People have more electronic devices than they did in the past and they are replacing them at an ever-faster rate. Electronics contain valuable reusable materials, including plastics, metals and glass. Recycling or reusing these materials lessens environmental impacts and economic costs by reducing the need for virgin materials in new products.

Electronics also contain harmful materials, including lead, mercury, cadmium, chromium, and other heavy metals and chemical flame retardants. When improperly handled or disposed of, these chemicals can pollute our soil and water and impact human health.

The following items are banned from landfills and incinerators in Wisconsin and should be recycled:

- Televisions
- Computers (desktop, laptop, netbook, and tablet computers)
- Desktop printers (including those that can scan, fax and/or copy)
- Computer monitors
- Computer accessories (including mice, keyboards and speakers)
- DVD players, VCR's and DVR's
- Fax machines
- Cell phones



Many electronics recyclers will also accept other types of electronics like stereo equipment, mp3 players, digital cameras and other hand-held devices. Check the [Middleton Recycling Center](#) web page for a full list of what's accepted there and review other donation/recycling options in the "Electronics" section of the City of Middleton [Trash & Recycling Guide](#).

To learn more about electronics recycling, go to <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/ecycle>.

Med Drop

A **24-hour drop box** is available in the lobby of the Middleton Police Dept, 7341 Donna Dr.

Please empty pills into plastic sealed bags & recycle the pill bottles. If you are dropping off liquids or creams, they should remain in the original container, but placed in a sealed bag to avoid spillage. For more information, please visit the City's website at <https://www.cityofmiddleton.us/543/Med-Drop-Program>.

Sidewalk Obstructions

Sidewalk obstructions other than from City terrace trees must be cleared by the adjacent property owner. To report a sidewalk obstruction other than from a City terrace tree, please contact Public Works at 608-821-8370.

Obstructions in need of edging or trimming include:

- Grass & weeds need to be kept clear from the entire width of the sidewalk and curb ramps.
- Vegetation (trees & bushes) hanging over the sidewalk, within a height of 10' above the sidewalk.

Per City Ordinance, trimming or removal of any City terrace trees must be conducted or approved by the City Forester. To report a City terrace tree in need of pruning, please contact the City Forester, Tony Krohm at 608-821-8372, by email at tkrohm@cityofmiddleton.us, or through the [Request Tracker](#) on the City's website *Home > Request Tracker > Forestry > Street Tree Pruning*.

Major Public Works Projects for 2023

Please see the City's [Current Construction Projects](#) web page for current information and a location map for major City construction projects.

Outdoor Grilling Ordinance

Per Fire Code 10.11.6 for other than one-and two-family dwellings, no hibachi, grill or other similar devices used for cooking, heating, or any other purpose shall be used or kindled on any balcony, under any overhanging portion, or within 10ft (3 m) of any structure.

Water Conservation Program Overview

Beginning July 1, 2015, the Middleton Water Utility began offering water conservation programs. The funding for the programs was approved by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin and is intended to reduce water usage City-wide as outlined in the Middleton Sustainable City Plan. The plan outlines goals and action steps for decreasing the gallons of groundwater pumped per capita per year.

[Residential Water Conservation Program](#) (\$100 rebate for installation of high efficiency toilet)

[Commercial Water Conservation Program](#) (Rebates for toilets, spray valves, or water audit)

Wondering if the Water Pipes in Your Home are Lead?

Some older homes (generally constructed prior to 1950) may have some water pipes made of lead. Old lead pipes are not automatically a health threat, since a layer of oxidized metal typically forms on the pipe surfaces over time, preventing water from directly contacting the raw lead. The following tips are intended to help you determine what kind of metal your home water pipes are made of.

Brass Pipes: Scraping brass will reveal a shiny yellow color. The pipe will not attract a magnet. Pipe Fittings are mostly threaded but on occasion may be soldered. Watch Out: Some brass water piping may contain lead in the brass alloy.

Copper Pipes: May range in color from shiny copper color to black depending on age, location, hot or cold-water use, and other conditions. Copper will not attract a magnet.

Galvanized Steel Pipes: Scraping a galvanized iron pipe will reveal a shiny silver-white color, similar to lead. Unlike lead pipes, steel pipes will attract a magnet and will often have threaded pipe fittings.

Lead Pipes: Scraping a lead pipe will reveal a shiny silver-white color and soft material. The pipe will not attract a magnet. Pipes terminate in a wider-diameter lead pipe joint that in turn may marry to a threaded nipple or adapter.

Flushable?



What we put down our drains and toilets can negatively impact our environment and put our health at risk. Even items labeled “flushable” can clog pipes, tangle pumps, and result in messy and costly sewer backups. By educating ourselves and each other, we can avoid expensive and dangerous mistakes while improving our sewer system practices.

How you can help...

There are only two items that we should ever flush: **human waste** and **toilet paper**. If you cannot avoid purchasing and using items that have been labeled “flushable,” throw them away after use rather than putting them into our sewer system.

Water & Sewer Utilities Bill Payment Options

Online: Simply create an account at Payment Service Network through (PSN) on the [City Website](#). When bills are ready for viewing, you will receive an email notification with a link to view your password protected account information. Payments can be made online through your checking or savings account and viewed in your account the following day. Also available are paperless bills. All of these options can be done through your PSN account.

Automatic Clearing House (ACH) payment: Utility bills can be paid through an automatic draft service. Through bank drafting, your quarterly utility bill payment is withdrawn automatically on the due date, from your checking or savings account. Because payment is automatic, there are no late penalty fees or postage costs. Complete the ACH form, available on the [City Website](#), and return it to the Water/Sewer Department at 7426 Hubbard Ave.

Debit or Credit Card: Call 1-877-885-7968 or 1-866-917-7368. \$3.30 is added per phone payment.

Brush Collection

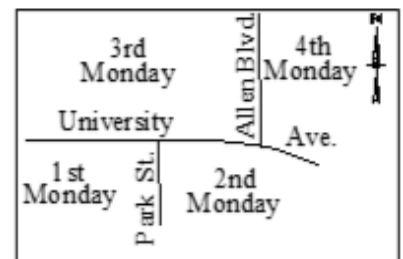
Curbside collection of brush will be provided **once a month from April through October**. This year's brush collection will begin April 3rd, weather depending.

Special collections may be made in response to storm events. Please see the City's [Brush Program](#) web page for the current policy, as well as a complete description of rules and an alternative to curbside collection.

Brush Collection Rules:

- Limbs or branches must not exceed 6" in diameter.
- Place brush in an orderly fashion parallel to the curb, with all cut ends pointing to the right as you face the street.
- Avoid conflicts with trees, poles, hydrants, mailboxes, parked cars, and other obstructions.
- Remove all metal, roots and dirt.
- Keep brush segregated from garbage, leaves and garden waste.
- Brush trimmed by contractors **WILL NOT** be collected.
- Brush mixed with leaves **WILL NOT** be collected.

If you live:	Place your brush at curb by 7:00 a.m. on:
South of University Ave. West of Park St.	1st Monday of the Month
South of University Ave. East of Park St.	2nd Monday of the Month
North of University Ave. West of Allen Blvd.	3rd Monday of the Month
North of University Ave. East of Allen Blvd.	4th Monday of the Month



Note: Collection is done throughout the week, not necessarily on Monday. If Monday is a holiday, place brush at curb by 7:00 a.m. Tuesday.

Leaf Collection

Curbside collection of leaves and yard waste will resume on April 3rd and will continue throughout the month of April, weather permitting. To ensure your leaves and yard waste is picked up, please have them windrowed behind the curb by April 24th. Please see the City's [Leaves and Garden Waste](#) web page for the current policy, as well as a complete description of rules and alternative options.

Leaf Collection Rules:

- Pile leaves on grass areas along the curb, but not in the street or gutter.
- Do not pile leaves around trees, posts, hydrants or mailboxes.
- Do not park a vehicle in front of leaf piles.
- Leaves in bags or containers, or covered with a tarp, **WILL NOT** be collected.
- Leaves mixed with brush **WILL NOT** be collected.

Compost Site

Residents may drop off yard waste at the MRD compost site, 5211 CTH Q. See the City's [Compost](#) web page for hours and rules. The site is operated by Purple Cow Organics and is open April through November. Compost material is not available to the public. If you have any questions, please call: 608-831-0349.

Report a Concern (Request Tracker)

If you notice something that you'd like brought to the attention of City staff, but don't know which person or department needs to see it, you can send a message through our website Request Tracker. You can access it either by searching our website for [RequestTracker](#) (no space), or by scrolling down the "I Want To..." drop-down menu at the upper right of the home page, and clicking on "Report a Concern." You can then select a topic most closely associated with the issue you noticed.