

Recycle more! Ten tips for America Recycles Day

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MADISON -- Recycling has long been a daily habit for Wisconsinites and for good reason—recycling works! Every can, bottle and newspaper that is recycled helps save resources and energy, reduces the amount of waste that ends up in landfills and supplies raw materials to industry, creating jobs.

On November 15, Wisconsin residents can celebrate all that recycling does by participating in America Recycles Day. The annual event encourages Americans to waste less, recycle more and purchase recycled products.

In honor of America Recycles Day, the Department of Natural Resources recycling program offers 10 ways people can boost the amount they recycle:

1. Compost food and yard debris. For suggestions on how to construct and maintain a bin, see the [home composting](#) page of the DNR website or check out a new [composting poster \(pdf\)](#).
2. Donate clothing, furniture or other household items you no longer use to a local nonprofit or resale store. By donating reusable items, you're helping others in your community while reducing waste.
3. Take time to reacquaint yourself with your community's recycling program. Many recycling programs have changed in recent years to collect a wider range of recyclables and simplify the recycling process. See [Recycle More Wisconsin](#) (exit DNR) for a list of recyclables collected in your community.
4. Recycle your electronics. [E-Cycle Wisconsin](#), a program funded by electronics manufacturers, is making it easier to recycle electronics like TVs, computers and computer accessories. See the program website to find a recycler near you.
5. In addition to standard recyclables, find out what other products your recycling program accepts. Many communities have special programs to recycle scrap metal, prescription pills, electronics, household hazardous wastes and other materials—even athletic shoes!
6. In places you visit frequently—the grocery store, your workplace, gas stations and others—ask whether they accept recycling. If not, ask them to put out a recycling bin for customer and employee use.
7. Recycle construction and demolition debris. Several businesses across the state recycle or reuse shingles, construction lumber, lighting fixtures, drywall, concrete, glass and other construction materials.
8. Talk to your kids about ways they can recycle at home and at school. For ideas on [simple activities to teach you kids about recycling](#) see the DNR's [EEK](#) website.
9. If you operate a business in Wisconsin, make sure your business is saving money by reducing waste and recycling as much as it can. The [Wisconsin Recycling Markets Directory](#) (exit DNR) connects businesses with recyclers across the state. See the directory online.
10. Be a thoughtful shopper. Look for products labeled with a high recycled content or that use “post-consumer” recycled materials, or buy products with minimal packaging or packaging that is easily recyclable.

Recycling is easy, and with 5 million Wisconsinites all doing it, it makes a big difference.

For more information on America Recycles Day, including a listing of events, see [americarecyclesday.org](#). The Associated Recyclers of Wisconsin's [Recycle More Wisconsin](#) (exit DNR) also providing a list of America Recycles Day links, Wisconsin specific events and resources.

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