



ANOKA COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2024



Anoka County
MINNESOTA

Respectful, Innovative, Fiscally Responsible

Organics Reduction, Reuse, and Recovery Policies

1. Organics reduction, reuse, and organics recovery efforts will focus on materials offering the greatest benefits, including:
 - resource conservation;
 - public health;
 - pollution prevention; and
 - economic benefits (jobs created/taxes paid by the industry/avoided disposal costs).
2. Organics collection services will be:
 - available to all generators in the County;
 - consistent and efficient; and
 - maximize the volume of organics diverted for composting.
3. Anoka County encourages and promotes waste reduction, reuse, and organics recovery.
4. Anoka County encourages any entity that holds a public event where mixed municipal solid waste (MSW) and recycling is collected to have sufficient organics containers available, provide clear, consistent signage, and ensure the material collected is composted.
5. Anoka County encourages the collection of additional compostable materials as technology and markets become available.
6. Commercial organics recovery in the metro area shall focus on generators of large quantities of organics through partnerships with the Minnesota Waste Wise Foundation, the region, and the MPCA. Anoka County:
 - will work to identify the generators of large volumes of organics;
 - will focus commercial organics reduction and recovery assistance to target outreach based on the environmental quantity of organics reduced or recovered; and
 - encourages and supports the collaboration of the MPCA, the County, and municipalities to address state and city codes and ordinances that inhibit organics recovery.

Organics Recovery Strategies – The County will:

1. Provide required County reporting to the MPCA. (SWMPP requirement #2)
2. Collaborate where appropriate with the MPCA, the region, private industry, and or haulers to improve organics recovery data collection at businesses within the county. (SWMPP requirement #4)
3. Conduct annual food waste reduction challenges for residents. (SWMPP requirement #15)
4. Offer grants for food waste reduction, food to people, and food to animals programs. (SWMPP requirement #20)
5. Collect recyclables, organics, and trash on the same day within each community. (SWMPP requirement #30)
6. **Make residential curbside organics collection available in cities with a population greater than 5,000 by 2030. (MSWMPP requirement #40) (See Appendix I for implementation details.)**

4. Waste from the County should be managed in processing facilities operating in a manner that protects the health, safety, and welfare of the public, as well as the environment, and
 - are designed for the waste materials accepted;
 - incorporate short- and long-term financial, societal, and environmental costs into pricing;
 - meet or exceed all applicable state and federal standards;
 - monitor for environmental impacts; and
 - actively screen wastes managed.

Processing Strategies – The County will:

1. Participate in an annual joint commissioner and staff meeting on solid waste. (MSWMPP requirement #9)
2. Establish mandatory pre-processing of waste at resource recovery facilities and landfills within the County by 2030. (MSWMPP requirement #36)
3. Continue to support the implementation of Minn. Stat. 473.848 Restriction on Disposal. (MSWMPP requirement #58)
4. Manage wastes generated by the County following the Policy Plan, the Master Plan, and state law: (Minn. Stat. §§115A.46, 115A.471, and 473.848)
 - a. County funding agreements for municipalities will require public entity waste to be processed if capacity is available; and
 - b. Inform other public entities about the statutory requirement to process waste (state agencies, Metropolitan Council, schools, etc.).
5. Continue to allocate resources and efforts to higher levels of the hierarchy, including waste and toxicity reduction, reuse, recycling, and organics recovery.
6. Follow the Policy Plan waste certification criteria as found in Appendix D of the Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Policy Plan 2022-2042.

the legislature; the courts; a county; a statutory or home rule charter city; a town; a school district; another special taxing district; or any other general or special purpose unit of government in the state.

Recycling

Recycling is defined in Minn. Stat. §115A.03, Subd. 25b is the process of collecting and preparing recyclable materials and reusing the materials in their original form or using them in manufacturing processes that do not cause the destruction of recyclable materials in a manner that precludes further use. Minn. Stat. §115A.551 Subd. 1(a). also includes source-separated organic material and yard waste into the definition of a recyclable material.

Minn. Stat. §115A.551, Subd. 2a sets a recycling goal for metropolitan counties that by December 31, 2030, 75% by weight of total solid waste generation will be recycled. Additionally, Minn. Stat. §115A.552, Subd. 1 requires counties to ensure that residents, including residents of single and multi-family dwellings, have an opportunity to recycle. County requirements for providing information, education, promotions, and encouraging nonresidential recycling are in Minn. Stat. §115A.552, Subd. 3 and 4.

Minn. Stat. §115A.151 requires public entities, commercial buildings in the metropolitan area and sports facilities to recycle at least three types of recyclable materials and have those materials collected for recycling by a licensed hauler. This requirement applies to commercial entities which contract for waste service with a four-yard trash container or larger; are located within the seven-county metro area; and is a business classified in sectors 42 to 81 under the North American Industrial Classification System.

Toxicity Reduction

Minn. Stat. §115A.02 establishes waste toxicity reduction to serve the following purposes: protect the state's land, air, water, and other natural resources and the public health by improving waste management in the state. The Anoka County Solid Waste Management Plan interprets the statutory term "toxicity reduction" to mean reduction in the toxic/hazardous character of waste. Under more specific federal laws and Minn. Stat. §182.651 Subd. 14 and Minn. Rules 7045.0135 toxicity is one of seven characteristics of hazardous wastes, the others being corrosivity, ignitability (flammability), reactivity (explosiveness), oxidizers (permanganates), Minnesota lethality (LD50), acute hazardous waste (pesticides), characteristics of toxicity (heavy metals), and toxicity characteristic waste (chlorinated Solvents).

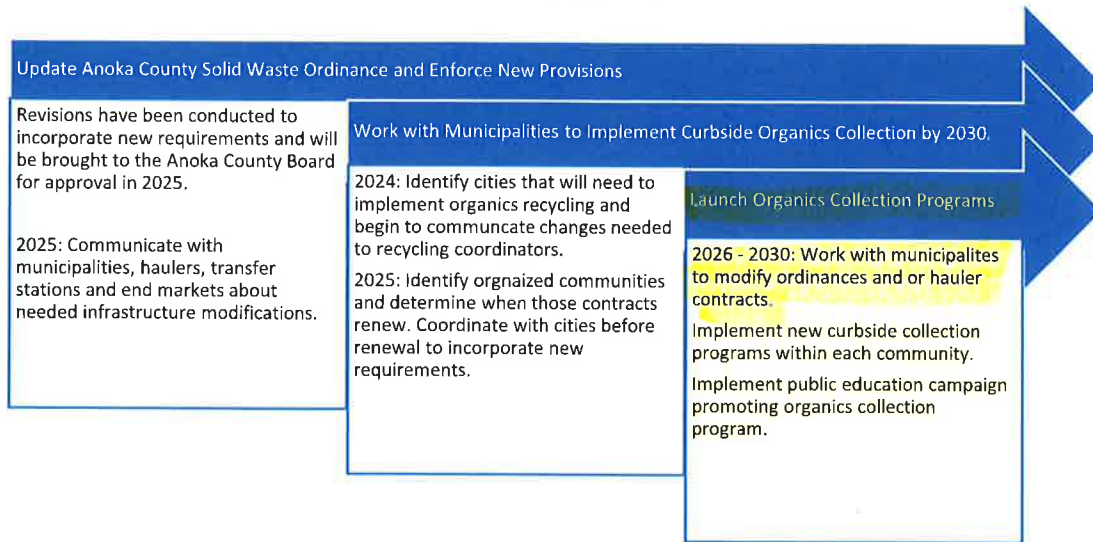
Minn. Stat. §115A.1415 Subd. 15. Local government responsibilities.

- a. A city, county, or other public agency may choose to participate voluntarily in a product stewardship program.
- b. Cities, counties, and other public agencies are encouraged to work with producers and stewardship organizations to assist in meeting product stewardship program reuse and recycling obligations, by providing education and outreach or using other strategies.
- c. A city, county, or other public agency that participates in a product stewardship program must report for the first year of the program to the agency using the reporting form provided by the agency on the cost savings as a result of participation and describe how the savings were used.

Appendix I: Curbside Organics Implementation

Additional details related to strategy #6 on page 58: “Make residential curbside organics collection available in cities with a population greater than 5,000 by 2030. (MSWMPP requirement #40)”

Figure I: Municipal Curbside Organics Implementation Timeline



Municipalities Affected by New Curbside Organics Collection Requirements

Cities with a population over 5,000 are required to implement curbside organics collection and include Andover, Anoka, Blaine, Circle Pines (currently curbside collection is available on a subscription basis), Columbia Heights (currently curbside collection is available on a subscription basis, East Bethel, Fridley (currently curbside collection is available on a subscription basis, Ham Lake, Lino Lakes, Linwood Township, Oak Grove, Spring Lake Park, and St. Francis. The collection systems within these communities vary, with organized and open hauling for trash and recyclables. All of these municipalities are required to have curbside collection of organics available to all and charge every resident equally to comply with state law.

Anoka County Staff and Leadership Commitment:

County R&RS Program Specialist staff will communicate the new program requirements to recycling coordinators, provide technical assistance, model ordinance language for municipalities, and offer grant funding to municipalities. Technical assistance will focus on modifying existing hauler contracts for organized collection communities and revising municipal ordinance language for open hauling communities. If a municipality chooses to commit to organized collection of organics, the County will provide technical support upon request. PHES leadership will communicate with end markets, private transfer stations, and private waste haulers to ensure they understand the amounts of anticipated organics that will need to be diverted and when those requirements must be achieved.

Public Education and Outreach:

Public education and outreach will use consistent terminology following the Recycling Education Committee Organics Terminology Guide. Terminology of future SSO program with consideration to regional education and naming conventions- per requirements of Required Strategy #10, which requires the use of "organics recycling" or "food scraps" based on the collection method used. Messaging and outreach efforts will be consistent with Chapter 6.