

Recycling Updates

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

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2025 Recycling Grant Applications Due Oct. 1



The 2025 recycling grant for responsible unit recycling and yard waste programs is open for applications. RUs are strongly encouraged to apply before the Oct. 1 deadline.

Staff are committed to helping RUs through the process, but RUs are ultimately responsible for submitting a complete application on time. Applications submitted after Oct. 1 are subject to reduced funding.

Learn more and access the online application through the DNR's [Basic Recycling Grant to Responsible Units](#) webpage.

SWIFR And REO Grants Open, \$117 Million Available

The EPA announced the next round of the Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling and the Recycling Education and Outreach grants. The grants help further strengthen our nation's recycling infrastructure and advance circular economy initiatives, such as food waste prevention.

The [SWIFR Grants for Communities](#) will provide approximately \$58 million in awards ranging from \$500,000 to \$5 million each. Eligible entities are political subdivisions of states and territories.

The [Recycling Education and Outreach Grant](#) will provide approximately \$39 million for one award, and all applicants must be coalitions. Applicants must have a cooperative agreement that includes: (1) developing and implementing a national consumer wasted food reduction campaign, (2) expanding the market for and sales of compost, and (3) increasing education and outreach to households on composting.



The [SWIFR Grants for Tribes and Intertribal Consortia](#) will provide approximately \$20 million in awards ranging from \$100,000 to \$1.5 million each. Eligible entities are federally recognized tribes, including intertribal consortia.

The EPA will be posting pre-recorded webinars for these grant opportunities by Sept. 30.

Deadlines to apply are:

- Dec. 20, 2024 for SWIFR Grants for Communities
- Dec. 20, 2024 for REO
- March 14, 2025 for SWIFR Grants for Tribes and Intertribal Consortia

Recycling Connections Compost Bin Sale Registration Open



Registration is open for the [Home Composter Group Purchase Program](#) organized by Recycling Connections.

Communities can fill out an [online form](#) to express interest in participating. The deadline for ordering is Jan. 31, 2025. Final per bin pricing will be set upon receiving all orders, but communities can expect bins to cost approximately \$50-\$55 each.

View a list of communities already participating and information about the Home Composter Bin sold through the program on the [Recycling Connections](#) website.

Fall Drug Take Back Day Offers Safe Medication, Vaping Device Collection

Drug Take Back Day, on Oct. 26, is a twice-annual national event where residents can safely dispose of unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medications. There are over 100 participating sites in Wisconsin.

The event also provides an unique opportunity to safely dispose of vaping devices, which have limited collection options. Only devices with removeable batteries are accepted due to the fire risk of batteries.



Visit the [Dose of Reality: Drug Take Back Day](#) webpage for an interactive map of the participating sites, lists of what is accepted/not accepted and a link to a list of permanent collection sites.

Wisconsin consistently tops the nation in the amount collected during the event, meaning fewer pharmaceuticals are flushed down the drain or sent to the landfill. Visit the DNR's website on [how to safely dispose of household pharmaceutical waste](#) to learn more.

Recycling Myths Busted In Fall Natural Resources Magazine



The fall issue of the Wisconsin Natural Resources Magazine takes on common misconceptions about recycling, electronics recycling and medication disposal. The DNR produces the magazine quarterly, and it frequently features articles about waste and recycling. The winter edition will be covering how and why we should tackle food waste during the holiday season.

Access the online edition and the magazine archive on the [DNR website](#).

Check out the full digital edition of *Wisconsin Natural Resources* online at [wnrmag.com](#). Or subscribe to the print edition, one year for just \$8.97.

Organics Management News Replaces Compost Post

The DNR is about to launch "Organics Management News," which is replacing the Compost Post. Subscribers of the Compost Post will be carried over to the new format, which will share additional resources on reduction of food waste and other methods of recycling organics, including anaerobic digestion. Not currently a subscriber? The link to [subscribe to the Compost Post](#) is still active.

Upcoming Webinars, Online Conferences And Events

Addressing Vape Product Waste: Management Challenges And Policy Solutions (Webinar)

Oct. 2, noon, CST

Hosted by Product Stewardship Institute

[Register online.](#)

Wisconsin Solid Waste Rule Feedback Session- Processing, Incinerator, Air Curtain Destructor And Municipal Solid Waste Combustor Facilities

Oct. 3, 10-11:30 a.m. CST

Hosted by Wisconsin DNR

[Join in Teams.](#)

Plastic Cup & Container Recycling Update (Webinar)

Oct. 3, 11 a.m., CST

Hosted by Product Stewardship Institute

[Register online.](#)

Mid-Format Battery Recycling: Role Of Manufacturers And Retailers In Promoting Safer Collection And Recycling (Virtual Working Session)

Oct. 15, 1-3 p.m., CST

Hosted by U.S. EPA

[Register online.](#)

Wisconsin Solid Waste Rule Feedback Session- Open Burning, Woodburning And Composting Facilities

Oct. 17, 10-11:30 a.m., CST

Hosted by Wisconsin DNR

[Join in Teams.](#)

Waste Reduction In Restaurants And To-Go Food Service (Webinar)

Oct. 23, 1-2 p.m. CST

Hosted by Busch Systems

[Register online](#)

Mid-Format Battery Recycling: Mid-Format Batteries: Consumers Information Needs And Safety Concerns (Virtual Working Session)

Oct. 30, 1-3 p.m., CST

Hosted by U.S. EPA

[Register online.](#)

Wisconsin Solid Waste Rule Feedback Session- Fill Exemptions, Low Hazard Exemptions, Storage Facilities, Landspreading And PCB Generators And Handlers

Oct. 31, 10-11:30 a.m., CST

Hosted by Wisconsin DNR

[Join in Teams.](#)

Several webinars can also be found on the websites of the [Public Resources-Product Stewardship Institute](#), the [EPA's Sustainable Materials Management Program](#) and the [Northeast Recycling Council](#).



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

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