



Highway Maintenance Manual
Chapter 08 Roadside Facilities
Section 05 Rest Area Maintenance
Subject 15 Recycling

Bureau of Highway Maintenance
May 2015

1.0 Authority and Background

Wisconsin Act 335, amending Chapter 144 and creating Chapter 159, Wisconsin Statutes, requires all state agencies to separate for recycling all materials subject to landfilling and incinerations bans and generated by the Department [ss. 6.15(13)]. The act took effect on May 11, 1990, but recycling of specified materials is phased in according to the following schedule:

1. Beginning January 1, 1991, all lead batteries, waste oil and major appliances shall be recycled;
2. Beginning on January 1, 1993, all yard waste shall be recycled;
3. Beginning January 1, 1995, all cardboard, aluminum containers, plastic and steel containers, foam polystyrene packaging, glass containers, magazines, newspapers and office paper shall be recycled.

2.0 Policy

1. 1991 Ban

Batteries, appliances or waste oil found within the highway right-of-way shall be picked up and properly recycled by contractors.

2. 1993 Ban

"Yard waste" is defined as "leaves, grass clippings, yard and garden debris, and brush, including clean woody vegetative material no greater than six inches in diameter. This term does not include stumps, roots or shrubs with intact root balls" according to Wisconsin Statutes ss. 159.01(17). All yard waste from rest areas, waysides and other roadside facilities shall be left where it falls or collected and taken to a licensed compost site operated by the local county or other municipal agency.

3. 1995 Ban

All cardboard, aluminum containers, plastic and steel containers, foam polystyrene packaging, glass containers, magazines, newspapers, and office paper found within the highway right-of-way shall be recycled. Recyclables deposited at rest areas, waysides, historic monuments, or other roadside facilities, where there are containers to collect them, shall also be recycled.

- a. Rest Area

An adequate number of designated recycling containers for each recyclable type should be placed at each site. The custodial care and landscape maintenance contractor shall be responsible for the maintenance, care and servicing of the containers and the site and the disposal of the recyclable materials with a recycling contractor. Any revenue from the sale of the recyclable materials shall remain with the custodial/maintenance contractor.

Recycling containers should be durable and attractive; for example, of concrete with exposed aggregate or redwood finish. Containers should be placed in appropriate settings that are convenient to users.

- b. Waysides

A set or recycling containers for each new recyclable material and signage should be placed at each wayside, historic monument, scenic view, or park and ride where trash containers are available. The maintaining authority, either the county or the custodial care and landscape maintenance contractor, is responsible for the maintenance, care and servicing of the

containers and the site and the disposal of the recyclable materials with a recycling contractor. Any revenue from the sale of the recyclables shall remain with the maintaining authority.

3.0 Recycling Program

1. Rest Areas

a. Location

Collection and separation of recyclable materials shall be conducted at all rest areas.

b. Recyclable Containers

The recyclable containers should be of exposed aggregate concrete similar to the present waste containers, except that they should have distinctive markings and a distinctively colored push-door cap. Two to four sets or clusters of three containers for aluminum, plastic, and clear glass should be placed in attractive settings along the sidewalks fronting the parking area. One or two sets or clusters of six containers for aluminum, plastic, clear glass, brown glass, green glass, and non-aluminum metal should be placed near the entrances to the toilet building.

c. Maintenance

The custodial care and landscape maintenance contractor is responsible for the maintenance, care and servicing of the containers and the sorting and disposal of the recyclables with a recycling contractor. The rest area maintenance program manager should be responsible for managing the recycling program. Any revenue from the sale of the recyclable materials shall remain with the custodial/maintenance contractor.

2. Waysides

a. Location and Maintenance

Collection and separation of recyclable materials shall be conducted at all waysides where trash containers are available. Recycling containers will be maintained and serviced, either by the custodial/maintenance contractor or by the county maintenance forces maintaining the wayside.

b. Containers

Recycling containers may be wood bins or other rustic-appearing bins with metal or plastic containers inside the bins. Bins should be restored to good operating condition and painted early each spring. Unrestored bins should be disposed of and the recycling station abandoned.

County highway patrol personnel and Adopt-A-Highway volunteer groups will be encouraged to recycle materials collected along the roadside whenever practical.