

Recycling

Minnesota continues to be one of the national leaders in recycling. Annually, as a state, we recycle over 2 million tons of waste, which ranks us second in the country. One of the many benefits of recycling is a reduction of greenhouse gases. Last year's recycling efforts throughout the state was equivalent to taking about 2 million cars of the road!

Recently, the state of Minnesota increased its targeted goal for recycling and Anoka County's recently adopted Solid Waste Master Plan reflects these newly established goals (stated in tons) as follows:

Actual	Objectives			
2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
134,257	154,029	174,651	189,416	221,597

As you can see, the new goals are very aggressive. In order to achieve these new goals, we need to rethink what can be recycled. We all know that paper, cardboard, and glass, plastic and aluminum/steel containers can be recycled. But, we often don't associate that with items such as paper towel cores, shoe boxes, mail inserts and envelopes. We need to not only encourage everybody to recycle but also encourage everyone to recycle *more* material.

If you're not sure if a particular material or item is recyclable, you have many options to find out, such as contacting the City's Recycling Coordinator or ACE Solid Waste (763-427-3110), or visiting the City's website at www.cityoframsey.com or Anoka County's website at www.co.anoka.mn.us/v2_dept/iwm/index.aspx.

Let's see what each one of us can do to help meet Ramsey's recycling goal for 2012 (2,130 tons) and beyond!