

“Trash Talk” Beltrami County Solid Waste Education:

Our recycling containers continue to be contaminated with 25% of non-recyclable products:

1. First understand just because you think something is recyclable doesn't mean it is “Wish Cycling”. Please read the signs and follow the directions when visiting one of Beltrami County's Solid Waste Facilities/Sites.
2. If you were able to recycle a material when you lived in a different County doesn't mean we accept the same items in Beltrami County. We only accept material that we (Solid Waste Advisory Board, Commissioners and Solid Waste Representatives from Beltrami, Polk, Norman, Clearwater, Hubbard and Mahanomen Counties) can sell as a commodity.
3. Why is this important? Transportation is one of the biggest costs in the waste industry, besides tipping fees. The more times we need to sort and transport waste the more we all pay.
4. If you don't separate your Single Sort recyclable materials it costs us money, we pay a tip fee for all recyclable material placed in the trash. Yes, if the material is sent to the Material Recovery Facility, it is processed to try and remove all the Containers, minus the Fiber Products. Fiber Products only get removed if they are placed in a Single Sort Recycling Bin. We don't pay a tip fee or processing fee when we send loads of Single Sort Recycling to the Material Recovery Facility.

How can you help, understand what is recyclable and how to separate your recyclable materials?

1. Single Sort Recycling (10 Sites located throughout Beltrami County):
 - a. Empty Containers type 1, 2, and 5 Plastics Containers. Because of labor shortages type 5 plastics are not being recycled. The Solid Waste Advisory Board is looking at Robots being installed at the Material Recovery Facility located in Fosston because of the labor shortage.
 - b. Fiber Products (Paper, Box Board, Card Board). Please flatten boxes when using the recycle drop off sites located at North Dale Oil, Old Fair Grounds, and City of Blackduck to help limit how much air space the box will take up in the container.
 - c. Glass: Empty Bottles, “no windows please”
 - d. Metal: Empty Food Containers
2. Compost and where to bring it:
 - a. Yard Waste (Backyard Compost Facilities or Beltrami County Landfill)
 - b. Food Scraps & compostable fiber products (Backyard Compost Facilities or the Bemidji, and Blackduck Transfer Station)
3. Scrap Metal:
 - a. Any metal that is not a food container (This material can be recycled at a local Scrap Metal Business or the Bemidji or Blackduck Transfer Stations).
4. Special Waste and where to recycle:
 - a. Lithium, Lead Acid, Rechargeable Batteries (Remote Drop Off Sites, and the Bemidji and Blackduck Transfer Station)
 - b. LED and Florescent Bulbs (Bemidji and Blackduck Transfer Station)
 - c. Paint (Local Paint Stores and the Bemidji and Blackduck Transfer Station)

- d. Tires (Bemidji and Blackduck Transfer Station)
- e. Electronics (Anything with a Circuit Board (Bemidji and Blackduck Transfer Station)
- f. Appliances (Bemidji and Blackduck Transfer Station)
- g. Residential Waste Engine Oil/Oil Filters/Gas/Antifreeze) If you are a business you must hire your own vender to dispose of this material.

For more information please check out our internet site:

<http://www.co.beltrami.mn.us/Departments/Solid%20Waste/Solid%20Waste.html>

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