

Letters from MRFY - It's NOT REAL CHOCOLATE!!!

There are mornings at the MRF, where the thin line of the morning light illuminates our little facility in a nightmarish blue. It's beautiful. My little junk yard dog, Annie, hops out of my car and makes haste toward the birdfeeder in hopes of catching some wayward mouse nibbling on fallen seeds while I make hast toward the office for coffee and donuts.



I remember this past summer, during one of the many raids on our office candy dish, I told one of the teenagers that we were trying something new. The candy they were shoving in their mouth was 85% post-consumer cardboard finely ground and mixed with cacao and sugar, and only 15% of it was actual chocolate. There was a long standoff; eyes fixed into each other, peering into the deepest parts of my soul to see if I was telling the truth. The initial response was to spit the chocolate into their hand, which prompted a huge smile from me. The jig was up. I laughed a hearty laugh and handed them another saying: "I was kidding." They laughed uncomfortably and reached for the chocolate, which I promptly followed up with a "...or was I?" We laughed uncomfortably again. I'm not sure they ever ate the

chocolate.

Spring is here ... in January. Scary. The deer love it but the Earth needs some time to sleep under its winter blanket of snow. Plus, there are other considerations: namely Snowsnake or shoshimon in the Ojibway vernacular or "Slipping sticks". How will we throw snowsnakes without snow? During the early part of this winter, it looked great. In fact, we had a snowsnake track built and had some throwing going



on. We even had a documentary crew here learning about all things MRF and Snowsnakes. Fingers crossed for just the right amount of snow at just the right time.

For the month of January, we baled 2,300 lbs of paper, 1,076 lbs of cardboard, 830 lbs of tin. Michael hauled 9.67 tons of dem-con and 11.5 tons of solid waste, as well as 6,620 lbs of

tires and 12,000 lbs of scrap metal. Michael and I prepped cars and truck to haul and, once Evan smashed them down, he ended up hauling over 19.06 tons of scrap autos and brought home a check for \$2,860.50. I also ended up bringing over \$200 worth of catalytic converters as well as a load of microwaves and appliances.

RECEIVED
JAN 31 2024

Initial: dy

We have also started processing the reminder of the cars and trucks to be hauled over by the end of February. Prices seem to be holding steady. Our glass crusher is on the fritz and will work on repairs for this as well as ordering the trusses for the new storage facility. All in all, we are charging ahead with the priorities in order to hit the summer in full stride.



As always, thank you for your continued support.

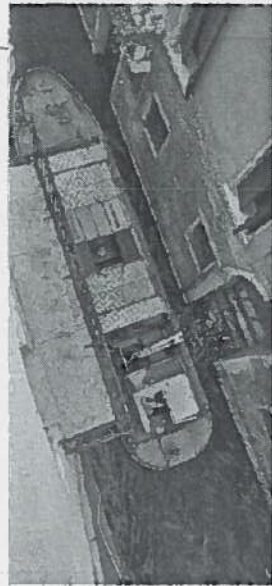
BE MRF-TASTIC.

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MAY 11 1981

Letters from MRFY - SPECIAL EDITION - SPAZZINO

March 1, 2024

This Garbologist was fortunate enough to spend a week in the far-off and distant land of Italy. Home to emperors and kings, popes and paupers, and for some reason, cats of all shapes and sizes. Not only was it a feast of sights and sounds and tastes, but the MRF man deep inside had to take a look at the trends in garbage and recycling. The Italian word for Garbage Man is SPAZZINO and honestly it's not the first time I've been called a spazz.



Venice was a wonder for its small, cramped back alleys and Mainstreet waterways. Waking up at the Hotel Antica Locanda Al Gambero, I was fortunate enough to be a block from San Marco Square. I threw open the shutters pre-sunrise and watched the first rays of the sun glint off the spire of St. Mark's Campanile and the golden weathervane of the Archangel Gabriel. The anticipation of this scene was suddenly shattered with the low hum of a diesel engine and the sounds of yelling echoing through the canyons of this historical morning ... HOW? WHO? Why?? Perfectly enough, it was the garbage man and his garbage barge coming through the streets early. It was my brethren. My Kin. The Brotherhood of trash collectors come to remind me that waste never sleeps, and neither rain, sleet nor snow will stop the garbage man from collecting. In my mind, I interpreted these loud and boisterous Italian phrases to translate to "Bring out your trash!! Bring out your trash!" and a brief Monty Pythonesque flashback. I gazed down to the morning water below and saw this beautiful green barge rolling by. It made a stop before my hotel, collected and stowed the bags below, and then moved further down the line to collect -- all the while, the low rumble of a diesel engine gurgling and pushing my brothers-in-arms down the alley. I smiled and went back to pre-garbage collecting bliss.

Venice is not unlike Madeline Island. Everything arrives by water and must leave by water: groceries, mail, packages, trash and visitors. Although they do have interconnected bridges connecting the main port of entry to the rest of the island, the dominant form of transportation is a free public water-taxi system supported by private haulers. It's a sight to behold, and the streets of Venice are clean and free of refuse and strangely ... no plastic in sight. Including on my cappuccino. I must admit: Italian coffee is far superior to American brands and methods of preparation. Not only in flavor but temperature and, of course, how it is presented. There are very few people using plastic lids for "takeaway coffee" (there is no To-Go; everything is takeaway). They use paper lids and it made the notion of me drinking (no exaggeration) 55 cappuccinos/American coffees/espressos/affogatos considerably less guilt-laden. It was truly eye opening given that, here at the MRF, we deal with a LOT of plastic coffee lids. Each year in America, we throw away 2,000,000 cups a day. In Italy, they recycle them. At the MRF, we will recycle the lids as #2 plastic and paper cups in paper. I did not see ONE Styrofoam cup while in Italy. Stop using Styrofoam.



RECEIVED

MAR 7 2024

clg



The streetside collection units are well designed and manage to offer the consumer a variety of options for disposal. Organics include food waste and disposable wooden forks. Paper is not delineated from cardboard, and it all goes in one bin. Plastic is not separated and is placed in a unified bin and everything else is "indifferent" or "if it doesn't fit in the other bins put it here." I didn't see a lot of metal cans being used or disposed of and rates of cross-contamination were minimal. It seems national pride at making the recycling program a success has taken hold. I know you've heard me banter on and banter on about it, but the bulk of the success for recycling begins at home with effective presorting. Bringing full bags of recycling and sorting in line and calling this "presorting" is NOT effective. (YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE). Let's do better this year, shall we?

Venice and Rome were models of efficiency for recycling and garbage collection and, although my view was limited to what I could see from the street view, it was surprisingly clean and well managed. Napoli.... Not so much. I am not sure where the breakdown in process happens, but Naples was a garbage man nightmare. The streets are paved with plastic and litter. Garbage bins are full and overflowing with solid waste and recyclable material. There were no public disposal units, and it was unfortunate because the city is beautiful. However, taking a 30-minute drive outside of the city to Pompeii and its surrounding villages, it is



exemplary in terms of messaging and clarity. "Take care of the Earth and it will take care of you!" and "No Water No Life - No Blue No Green" and my favorite "Recycle the Present - Save the Future - Live the Past" is applicable to the rich history of Pompeii as it



is to Madeline Island-Mooningawanakuaning.

All is all, it was a treat to be able to not only to visit Italy but to be able to see how people are managing the same challenges with waste and recycling that we are. There could be some changes in messaging for our public disposal units in order to make it more efficient, and I may incorporate a few more Italian phrases into my recycling lexicon at the drive-through. Either way, it will be a treat to see you here at the MRF and assist you.

Preordina il tuo riciclaggio. Grazie mille. (Pre-sort your recycling. A thousand thanks.)

ADDENDUM - Metrics and Mayhem



For the month of February, the MRF processed 2,273 lbs. of cardboard, 556 lbs. of aluminum, 680 lbs. of #1 plastic, and 1,258 lbs. of paper.

We had small MRF miracles happening this past month. Michael and I prepared our stockpile of 50 autos. We drained fluids and pulled the catalytic converters and waited for the arrival of the Duke of Demolition!! THE CAPTAIN OF CAR-NAGE... the Master of DISAAASTER ... the SULTAN OF SMASHY SMASHY ... MR EVAN ERICKSON to come in and work his magic. (CROWD GOES WILD!!!)

LIFTING VEHICLES INTO POSITION TO DRAIN FLUIDS



REMOVING TIRES



SMASHY SMASH!! Corporal Crusher does the deed! All in all, we will haul 6 boxes of autos at around \$150/ton. The total for the auto project will be included in next month's report.

We are once again collecting autos!! Stay tuned!!

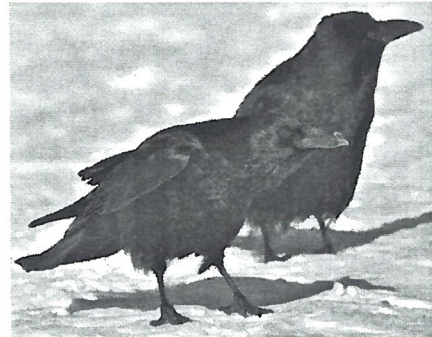
Letters from MRFY - The Others
April 2024

As most of you know, we started a compost project here at the MRF last year. During our freshman outing, we had a mixed degree of success. Community involvement was fantastic, and we received kudos from families and friends at the simplicity of it all.

"I can't believe how much food waste I create!"

"I only have to come to the dump once every week and a half now."

"My garbage stinks less!"



But for every action is an equal and opposite reaction. With a reduction in some "people" visitors comes an increase in...The Others. At just around 2:30 pm on any given Monday, Wednesday or Saturday, the crows sit in the red pines that border the field around MRF, waiting for some doddering attendant to make his way to the gate to close for the day. They watch with intense eyes and the occasional cackles of laughter. I will often respond with some sly boots comment, my favorite being "Don't do to me what you did to Tippiie Hedren," at which point my overactive imagination kicks into high gear and I see myself running down the MRF driveway screaming my head off, being chased by a thousand crows hell bent on destruction. By the time I get into the office, they have landed on the edge of the compost barrel and are already sorting through the mish mash of old potatoes, veggie scraps and bread, looking for the juiciest morsels. They don't even fly away when I walk past and moments like this are special: to see the iridescent sheen of blues and purples and greens of their feathers glint in the afternoon light, while being watched with piercing black eyes...it is magical.



At night, the action continues with the nightly visits of *procyon lotor* aka trash panda that comes on stealthy cat feet. When I was a kid, I raised some pet raccoons: Jackson and Rascus. Two peas in a pod. Something about watching raccoons eat with their soft flexible noses and cute tiny little hands is endearing. When I arrive to the MRF in the mornings, there are no signs of the raccoons, only a small trail of feet, empty dog food cans licked clean, and errant

scraps of paper strewn about. Here at the MRF, we are working to reduce pests. Locking up our food scraps and grease are part of the process as is constant cleaning of the compactor spaces to prevent the "Juicy Lucy Effect" from all these bags leaking out. And soon...Makwa will wake up and then the party begins. But that is a story for another time.

The compost from last year's pilot project will be rotated when the weather dries up a bit and distributed to the community garden, the school garden, and some to the MRF as well for our gardening demonstration. If all proceeds according to plan, we will also have some available for our customers. Drop off your new compost, fill up with some old compost, and give those flowers a nice pick me up with nutrients and vitamins!!

Be MRFtastic!

RECEIVED

APR 8 2024

Initial: dg

Letters from MRFY- Let's do some METRICS!

(To be read in a John Cleese voice.)

So, most of my reports have tended toward the benign and artsy, as I fancy myself a writer of expression but sometimes with very little substance. So, in the interest of metrics and providing a baseline for taxpayer confidence, let's put some substance in this edition.

- From January to April of 2024, the MRF Crew and Associates baled 3,628 lbs. of Paper, 6,423 lbs. of Cardboard, 1,640 lbs. of Tin, and 1,096 lbs. of Aluminum.
- The hauling duo of Michael and Evan hauled 6,850 lbs. of tires, 36.14 tons of dem/con, 71.9 tons of auto salvage, and 29.82 tons of solid waste.
- We brought in \$11,987 at the MRF till as compared to \$10,908 brought in during the same period last year.

After a brief survey of the quality of recycling brought in during the same period, we have seen a marked increase in presorting, with cross-contamination decreasing 2.2% as compared to the same time last year -- where we noted (due to the weather related drop-offs) that MRF customers spent an average of 4.5 minutes unloading recyclable at the drive-through. This would account for a "hurried approach" to transferring materials and hence more contamination..

On a bright note, we have a considerable increase in prewashed bean cans. Last year, we noted in a previous report (Letters from MRFY September 2023) that unwashed bean cans were a nuisance, and their odiferous odor was the stuff of legend. A small sampling of bean cans during the first 4 months of the year (random sample of 10 beans cans minimum) indicates a 40% INCREASE in washed beans cans. If projections are held, we can expect that by the year 2025, we will have achieved maximum bean can cleanliness (say that 3 times fast) and the scourge of the MRF Tin Bin will be eliminated. A hearty handshake and pat on the back to all who continue to wage this war.

Considerably less exciting is the news that cottage cheese containers are being recycled with cottage cheese still in them! Although we have no baseline to compare this with, we are establishing one this year to remind people (take note) that large curd cottage cheese and its ugly cousin 2% low-fat small curd cottage cheese contain a considerable amount of protein and calories to fuel the human body and maintain muscle mass. Leaving a full tablespoon of cottage cheese in the container will provide a MASSIVE surge of protein for the local mouse population and will generate a (probable) breed of larger "Super Mouse". Within the span of 1 or 2 generations, if left unchecked, these Super Mice will have the intelligence and strength to overpower us and lay claim to vast tracts of land and real estate. To curb this scenario, we are starting the "Eat Your Cheese" Awareness program designed to reduce and (Hopefully) eliminate dirty cottage cheese containers. Do your part and help stave off certain disasters.

Viva La Fromage!! *fist raised*

As Always, Be MRFY.

Martin A. Curry
Recycling Supervisor

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MAY 7 2024

Initial: dg

Letters from MRFY

The MRF is Busy.

In May, we baled:

- 5,315 lbs. of Cardboard
- 4,193 lbs. of Paper
- 500 lbs. of Aluminum

In June we baled:

- 2,770 lbs. of Paper
- 5,700 lbs. of Cardboard
- 1,050 lbs. of Aluminum
- 714 lbs. of #1 Plastic

For 2024, we've brought in \$39,745 at the till, an increase of 15.4% from this time last year.

As Always, Be MRFY.

Martin A. Curry
Recycling Supervisor

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JUL 3 2024

Initial: dg

MRF REPORT

August 2024

Well what can I say...we are drowning in the refuse of tourism.

1. We should consider going to single stream recycling during the peak months because the tourist just don't give a crap. We import irresponsibility and are left to pay for it. I will be chatting with Ben and doing research on this proposal.
2. WE have outgrown our MRF. When the MRF was constructed in 1995, there were 150 year-round residents, and maybe 5000 tourists that visited during the summer. WE have blown past that capacity and if we don't make some serious MRF infrastructure investments we will not be able to process the waste and recycling we have coming in. Our drive through is in gross violation of OSHA standards as well as after our most recent compactor inspection, so is the interface between solid waste dumping and the public. If we are not going to make these investments due to budget restraints or if we cant secure grant funding, we should consider selling the MRF to a private business and let them make the \$1,000,000 investment.
3. We will need a new compactor within one-two years' time. Our most recent inspection has noted that one of our compactors is on its last legs. We could nickel and dime its but the smart money is to buy a new one. Further the safety mechanism for the public dumping trash into it does not meet safety requirements. There are a couple gory stories of worked falling into compactors downstate. I can share if you want.
4. I will be making a budget recommendation for a full retrofit of the main building in order to stream line processing next year. This will entail making full bins and moving away from plastic bags as a means of storing plastic and cans. It will also save strain and injury on our labor force. Repetitive lifting of 65 lbs barrels of waste and 80 lb bins of paper is taxing. This may also require a bucket attachment for our skid steer to dump.
5. Budget season is coming. Will be doing research on wage analysis as well as grant research.
6. We got .65/lb for aluminum recycling and got a check for \$4300 for a load of aluminum cans. It seems our local alcohol consumption of paying off. Drink up.

Thank you,
100 Days of August Curry

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AUG 13 2024

Initial: dg

Town of LaPointe Board

October MRF Report

For this month of October 2024 Marty Curry has taken a leave of absence and I, Evan also known as Squirt, was asked to step in as the temporary supervisor. After another busy summer Michael Haben and I worked at cleaning up and reorganizing the MRF. The reasons for doing this was to remove anything that was blocking emergency exits and making it easier and safer for the public and staff to walk around the facility.

One big help to helping us open the floor was the approval from Republic and the Town Board to go single stream with plastic and paper. Plastic and paper bails are both difficult to sell and the labor and equipment time ends up costing the town than if we where single stream. We have started loading up one of our 40-yard compactor boxes up with plastic and paper, and once full it will be hauled to Republic transfer station. From there Republic will take it to their facility in Eagle River to sort and bale it along with all the other recyclables they receive from other customers.

Now that the main building floor has been cleared, we have started to reorganize. We have purchased two 275-gallon totes that will be used to collect fryer oil and have placed them inside the main building. The first reason for this is to keep the bears out of the fryer oil. Also, these totes will be easier and safer to load and bring to mainland where the fryer oil collection truck can easily suck out of them. 2 years ago, MIFL Inc gave us a 500-gallon oil drum and a plastic containment device and a 55-gallon barrel containment platform that we have now setup in the main building. This is a safer way for us to collect fuels and oils, and if we have a barrel fail, everything will be contained.

On Wednesday October 16th we had our DNR inspection with Bob Germer who is the Waste and Materials Management Specialist for our area. Overall, he was pleased with the facility and the grounds, and he sees that we are working and making sure things are moving and clean, but he did flag two issues. The first issue is the compost program. This program should have been approved and had DNR oversight. Bob asked that we stop this program immediately and dump all the contents into solid waste. The second issue was the collection area in the "old exchange" of hazardous waste. We need to do a better job reviewing and organizing the contents that we are taking in and disposing of it correctly. Bob is going to give us a contact with someone out of Park Falls who can help guide us better on handling some of these materials. Micheal and I have been working with Como the last couple of weeks to dispose of barrels of used antifreeze, and oil filters and the week of the 14th we hauled 10 55-gallon drums to mainland for pickup. We are still working with them on the removal of some drums of fuels as of now.

From the inspection we did learn some good information from Bob on other materials that have been stockpiled. Both Styrofoam and aerosol cans are considered household waste and can be thrown into the trash. We have started to throw out some of these items that have been stockpiled, continuing our mission to clean and organize the facility.

Overall, it has been a good and productive month down at the MRF and I am pleased with the progress that has been made.

Respectfully submitted

Evan Erickson Jr

RECEIVED
OCT 28 2024

Initial: dg



COMPLIANCE MONITORING
AND EVALUATION FORM
CASE PACKAGE

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

FIST SEQ #: 77953

Facility Name (current) TOWN OF LA POINTE MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY			FID # 802023420	EPA ID #	Case # 77953	Complaint #
Street/Location 342 BIG BAY ROAD			Notification Status SW MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY (RECYCLE)			
City LA POINTE	Zip Code 54850-	County ASHLAND	Type of Contact FIELD		Contact Date/Time 10/16/2024 00:00	
Contact Name/Phone Number EVAN ERICKSON (715) 747-6913			Staff Assigned to Site GERMER, ROBERT		Case Close Out Date 10/28/2024	

B. FACILITY INSPECTED AS

Inspection Type
SW MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY (RECYCLE)

C. NOTIFICATION CHANGE

Date processed SHWIMS _____, EPA Data System _____

Status Change: Field Verified Status Is _____

Name Change: Former Name _____

D. ACTIVITY TYPES

Lic/RU/RA	Staff Person	Lead Program	Activity Type
	GERMER, ROBERT	RECYCLING	WASTE HANDLER ASSESSMENT
	CARLSON, KELLY	RECYCLING	ASSIST LEAD STAFF

E. ACTIONS AND VIOLATIONS

Action Date	Action Type	Close Date	SNC	Comments
10/28/2024	NO ACTION	10/28/2024		

F. CASE CONTACTS

G. COMMENTS

CASE INSPECTION FORM(S)

ASSESSMENT GUIDE FOR ELECTRONIC WASTES, UNIVERSAL WASTE AND USED OIL HANDLERS

This form, used for facilities that provide collection or recycling services for one or more of these materials, evaluates basic material handling requirements. Responses on the form are used by the Department to identify facilities that may require separate follow-up inspections.

Section 1: Electronic Waste: Discarded household electronics: computers, computer accessories, TVs, printers,

A. Are Electronic Wastes stored on-site? If No, go to Section 2.

Y

Additional Information Resource: Managing Electronic Wastes Destined for Recycling, DNR Publication WA-1473.

B. Do you have documentation showing that electron wastes have been stored for less than one year?

Y

C. Are all e-wastes stored in a manner that protects them from weather and breakage?

E-waste stored in gaylord containers inside the MRF building.

Y

D. Are all e-wastes stored so they are secure and inaccessible to the public after hours?

Yes. E-waste is stored inside the MRF building. At the end of each working day, the MRF building is locked. Entrance and exit to the property is also gated and locked.

Y

E. Are the containers of discarded electronics labeled to identify the contents?

Y

F. Are the facility employees who handle the discarded electronics trained to prevent breakage and how to clean up any breakage that occurs?

Y

G. Are any of the electronics de-manufactured or disassembled on site?

Note: Demanufacturing or disassembly means to manually break down e-waste into individual components parts for resale or reuse, or to sort for further recycling. Some components generated by demanufacturing or disassembly are universal wastes (e.g., nickel-cadmium or lithium batteries; fluorescent or other mercury-containing lights, switches or relays.) See Section B - D.

N

H. Do you know where the electronic wastes are sent for processing or recycling? If yes, list the recycler/s:

E-waste is sent to Green Lights Recycling, Blaine, MN. E-waste is transferred to Green Lights Recycling at a meet up point in Duluth MN.

Y

Section 2: Universal Waste Standards - Batteries, NR 673.02: lead-acid automotive, mercuric-oxide (button, some

A. Are spent batteries managed on-site? If No, go to Section 3.

Y

Universal Waste rules streamline the requirements for collecting and transporting hazardous waste batteries, certain pesticides, fluorescent and other hazardous waste lamps, mercury containing equipment and antifreeze.

Universal Waste Handler is: a generator of universal waste, or the owner or operator of a facility that receives universal waste from other handlers, accumulates universal waste and sends universal waste to another universal waste handler, destination facility or to a foreign destination. A Universal Waste Handler does not include a person who treats, disposes or recycles universal waste [s. NR 673.09(12)(b), Wis. Adm. Code]. Persons treating, disposing, recycling, or otherwise processing universal wastes are universal waste destination facilities and are subject to applicable hazardous waste regulations.

Additional information resource: Management of Used Batteries, UW Extension Publication SHWEC 710.MK.0002.

B. Are leaking batteries stored in containers that are closed, structurally sound and leak proof?

If accepted, leaking batteries should be stored in a thick-walled, leakproof plastic container. Floor dry, kitty litter, or something similar can be used to absorb leaked fluids. Used sorbent can be disposed as solid waste.

UN

C. Do you have documentation showing that batteries been have stored for less than one year?

Used batteries need to be recycled at least once per year. If the town is doing this, thank you! If not, please begin recycling on a yearly basis. Regular recycling of used batteries keeps materials moving to end users. This helps ensure a more steady flow of materials (lead plates in batteries, for instance) to end users rather to creating shortages or too much material at any one time.

UN

D. Are all batteries or containers of batteries labeled or marked clearly with the phrase "Universal Waste - Batteries", "Waste Batteries" or "Used Batteries?"

Some lead acid batteries were observed on the concrete floor in the building south of the MRF. To meet Universal Waste recommendations, used batteries should be stored in a thick-walled, plastic, leakproof container with label on outside to identify contents. If not labelled, the container should have the words above applied to the outside of container.

Y

Key: C or EV: Evaluated - no noncompliance detected at the time of inspection

CA: Compliance with Concern

R: Returned to Compliance

X or V: Non-Compliance

Y: Yes N: No UN: Unknown NA: Inspected, Not Applicable NE: Evaluation Determination will be Made at a Later Date NI: Not Inspected

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*: Dept. approved alternate may apply

No 'box' is an open ended question

ND: Inspected, Not Determined

Revision: 03/20/2024

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CASE INSPECTION FORM(S)

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Section 2: Universal Waste Standards - Batteries, NR 673.02: lead-acid automotive, mercuric-oxide (button, some

E. Do you know where the batteries are sent for processing or recycling? If yes, list recycler/s

Sent to Chicago Iron in Ashland WI. Chicago then sends out to battery recyclers.

Y

Section 3: Universal Waste Standards - Mercury Containing Devices, NR 673.04: manometers, switches,

A. Are discarded mercury containing devices managed on-site? If No, go to Section 4.

Additional information resource Management of Mercury Containing Equipment, DNR Publication WA-1004.

Y

B. Are leaking mercury containing devices stored in containers that are closed, structurally sound and leak proof?

I believe the town is using a labelled, structurally sound, and leakproof container for storing all mercury-containing devices. Please correct me if I am wrong and adjust if needed.

Y

C. Do you have documentation showing that these devices have been stored for less than one year?

Y

D. Are the devices or containers labeled or marked clearly with any of the following phrases:

Equipment: "Universal Waste — Mercury-Containing Equipment," "Waste Mercury-Containing Equipment," or "Used Mercury-containing Equipment."

Thermostats: "Universal Waste — Mercury Thermostats," "Waste Mercury Thermostats" or "Used Mercury Thermostats."

Y

E. Do you know where the mercury containing devices sent for processing or recycling? If yes, list recycler/s:

In the past, the town has been managing these materials through household cleansweep (HHW) events coordinated by Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NWRPC). The town is working on setting up a program for managing these wastes, whether NWRPC or another company/organization.

UN

Section 4: Universal Waste Standards - Lamps, NR 673.05: fluorescent, HID, mercury or sodium vapor.

A. Are discarded lamps managed on-site? If No, go to Section 5.

Additional information resource: Safe Lamp and Bulb Management, DNR Publication WA-195.

Y

B. Are lamps stored in containers that are closed, structurally sound, adequate to prevent breakage and compatible with the contents of the lamps?

Lamps were observed not being stored as above. Some lamps were being stored loose and other lamps were stored in containers too small for the size of the lamp.

N

C. Do you have documentation showing that lamps been stored for less than one year?

If the town is keeping this type of documentation for lamps, thank you. If not, please begin keeping this documentation. This provides proof of recycling and serves to show that lamps are leaving the facility for recycling following the frequency (at least once per year).

UN

D. Are all containers labeled or marked clearly with the phrase "Universal Waste — Lamps", "Waste Lamps" or "Used Lamps"?

To comply with the Universal Waste recommendations for storing used lamps, containers must be labelled as above. Containers for lamps were observed in the building south of the MRF, but I could not safely get to the containers to see. (The town is currently addressing materials being stored in this building).

UN

E. Are lamps intentionally broken or crushed?

N

F. Do you know where the lamps are sent for processing or recycling? If yes, list recycler/s:

Please make sure used lamps are recycled through the services of a legitimate company.

UN

Section 5: Universal Waste Standards - Antifreeze, used engine coolant, propylene or ethylene glycol.

A. Is used antifreeze managed on-site? If No, go to Section 6.

Used antifreeze must be managed under the NR 679 used oil requirements.

Y

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Y: Yes

N: No

UN: Unknown

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Page 2 of 3

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Revision: 03/20/2024

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CASE INSPECTION FORM(S)**ASSESSMENT GUIDE FOR ELECTRONIC WASTES, UNIVERSAL WASTE AND USED OIL HANDLERS**

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Section 5: Universal Waste Standards - Antifreeze, used engine coolant, propylene or ethylene glycol.

B. Is the antifreeze stored in containers that are closed, structurally sound and leak proof?

As a reminder, the container for used antifreeze must be closed when not in use. Just like the closure requirement for managing used motor oil.

Y

C. Are containers labeled or marked with words containing "Used Oil"?

The town is changing the collection system used for storing used antifreeze. A new container will be used rather than the system used in the past. The words "Used oil" should be applied to the outside of the container to identify the contents. Following a change in the hazardous waste regulations, used antifreeze is now stored and managed as used oil, thus the name change.

Y

D. Do you know where the antifreeze is sent for recycling? If yes, list recycler/s:

Como Oil accepts and recycles.

Y**Section 6: Used Oil, NR 679 subch C.**

A. Is used oil managed on-site? If No, go to Section 7.

If the facility operates a used oil collection center, they may accept used oil from household do-it-yourselfers and farmers or companies who self-transport no more than 55 gallons of used oil at any time. Additional information resource: Used Oil Management, DNR Publication WA-233

Y

B. Are the containers and above-ground tanks labeled with the words "Used Oil"?

A new container from Como Oil is going to be used for storing used oil.

Y

C. Are the containers or tanks in good condition and not leaking?

Y

D. Are spills cleaned up promptly, and released used oil and other materials managed properly?

Y

E. Do you know where the used oil is sent for processing or recycling? If yes, list recycler/s:

Como Oil

Y**Section 7: Miscellaneous Information**

F. Are there any additional comments or concerns about management practices for the above wastes at this facility? If Yes, describe.

Please read email this document is attached to.

Y

Key : C or EV: Evaluated - no noncompliance detected at the time of inspection

CA: Compliance with Concern

R: Returned to Compliance

X or V: Non-Compliance

Y: Yes N: No UN: Unknown NA: Inspected, Not Applicable NE: Evaluation Determination will be Made at a Later Date NI: Not Inspected

Page 3 of 3

*: Dept. approved alternate may apply No 'box' is an open ended question ND: Inspected, Not Determined

Revision: 03/20/2024

CASE PHOTOS

Photo #108268Photo 1 of 11

Photo Date & Time10/16/2024 00:00

Photo DirectionINSIDE

PhotographerGERMER, ROBERT

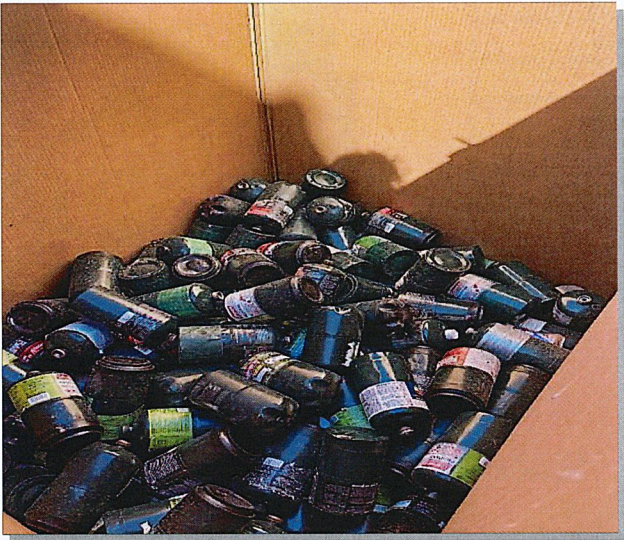


Photo #108269Photo 2 of 11

Photo Date & Time10/16/2024 00:00

Photo DirectionINSIDE

PhotographerGERMER, ROBERT



Photo #108270Photo 3 of 11

Photo Date & Time10/16/2024 00:00

Photo DirectionINSIDE

PhotographerGERMER, ROBERT



CASE PHOTOS

Photo # 108271 Photo 4 of 11

Photo Date & Time 10/16/2024 00:00

Photo Direction INSIDE

Photographer GERMER, ROBERT

Photo Description

Barrels inside storage building.



Photo # 108272 Photo 5 of 11

Photo Date & Time 10/16/2024 00:00

Photo Direction INSIDE

Photographer GERMER, ROBERT

Photo Description

Fire extinguishers and containers of unknown contents.



Photo # 108273 Photo 6 of 11

Photo Date & Time 10/16/2024 00:00

Photo Direction INSIDE

Photographer GERMER, ROBERT

Photo Description

Used lamps and ballasts.



CASE PHOTOS

Photo # 108274 Photo 7 of 11

Photo Date & Time 10/16/2024 00:00

Photo Direction INSIDE

Photographer GERMER, ROBERT

Photo Description

Vehicle batteries foreground. Black plastic container back right for storing batteries.



Photo # 108275 Photo 8 of 11

Photo Date & Time 10/16/2024 00:00

Photo Direction INSIDE

Photographer GERMER, ROBERT

Photo Description

Another view from inside storage building.



Photo # 108276 Photo 9 of 11

Photo Date & Time 10/16/2024 00:00

Photo Direction INSIDE

Photographer GERMER, ROBERT

Photo Description

Inside storage building.



CASE PHOTOS

Photo # 108277 Photo 10 of 11

Photo Date & Time 10/16/2024 00:00

Photo Direction INSIDE

Photographer GERMER, ROBERT

Photo Description

spill on concrete floor inside storage building.



Photo # 108278 Photo 11 of 11

Photo Date & Time 10/16/2024 00:00

Photo Direction INSIDE

Photographer GERMER, ROBERT

Photo Description

Barrel containing free used oil, used oil in containers, and other materials in the used oil.



November 2024 MRF Report

Even though the season has started to slow down, and we have experienced our first snow of the year up here on Madeline Island, the MRF continues to stay busy and experience changes.

The largest change we experienced was Marty Curry resigning from the MRF supervisor position. Marty was a large part of making significant changes to the MRF, helping clean the grounds up, making the facility much more efficient, and making a trip to the MRF fun and enjoyable. We hope we can continue to keep the MRF an enjoyable experience for our customers in his absence. We would like to thank Marty for his time and dedication to the MRF and wish him well on his next adventure.

On a day-to-day basis we have been working on cleaning up the grounds from a busy summer. Over the course of summer, items find their way accumulating in the corners and now that we have started to slow down, we are sorting and disposing of those items. The largest project that we have been working on has been sorting out the Hazardous Materials and preparing for a possible clean sweep next summer. Examples of these items are paints, stains, fuels/oils, batteries, mercury filled light bulbs, and anything else the DNR considers Hazardous Waste. These items are put into sealed containers and stored inside, then taken by the Northwest Planning Commission during a Clean Sweep where they will be recycled and disposed of properly.

In the month of December, we will be updating our payment system to hopefully make it more convenient for our customers. A couple of years ago we replaced our very old and outdated cash register with a Square Point of Sales (POS) system. Over the last couple of years this POS system has been used just as a cash register, but now we are looking to use it at its full capacity. Starting sometime mid-December, we are hoping to start accepting credit cards at the MRF thanks to the Town Board approving to open a new savings account to put these transactions in. Accepting credit cards is a large step for the MRF and one of many changes we will be making.

The next change we will be making is coming up with a system to get away from the paper punch cards. We have purchased reloadable MRF cards that will be used in a similar way that the Ferry Cards are used. Customers will be able to put money on this card, in an amount that they seem fit for their use, and use it when paying for their items and receive a discount like what the paper cards currently give. When we receive these cards we will ask some of our frequent customers to test out this new payment system to make sure it works the way we hope before we get into the busy season. We will still offer the paper cards for the next year since we still have a supply of them and we will implement the new MRF cards slowly. One of the large benefits for us at the MRF will be data tracking. Using the paper cards it is difficult to track actual sales on a day to day basis along with tracking the amount of trash, demcon, and other items we charge for. Data tracking will help us

understand what we are charging for items vs how much it costs us to dispose of. We hope that this data will help us make the MRF break even on our budget and not depend on the tax levy to run our operation.

Finally, the last feature we will be using with the Square POS system will be the House Account feature. The current system that we use for charge accounts is time consuming for MRF staff and Town Hall staff. Using the Square POS system, we can charge accounts in the system throughout the month, and at the end of the month, generate and send out the invoice through the POS software. By doing charge accounts this way, we will no longer have to convert our handwritten log into a spreadsheet, send it to Town Hall, have Town Hall create and record invoices, and track payments as they come in. By using the house account feature, we can generate and send out invoices quickly by email and our customers can pay those invoices by check, cash, ACH transfer or Credit Card. It will be a little bit of a learning curve and some policies will have to be created to make sure that MRF, the Treasurer, and the Accounting Administrator are all on the same page. Overall, we hope that this will hopefully greatly reduce the amount of time and effort that is currently used.

Over the next couple of months we hope that these changes will help make the MRF process more efficient for our staff and customers. From Micheal and I at the MRF we wish you a happy holiday and we'll see you on your next visit.

Respectfully submitted

Evan Robert Erickson

December MRF Report

Town of LaPointe Board of Supervisors and residents of the Town of LaPointe,

We would first like to congratulate Max on his new position with the Town of LaPointe, and the new Town Administrator. A well deserved thank you to Dorgene, Lauren, Alex and the rest of the Town Hall staff who kept us all moving forward while we were in search for the new Administrator.

December has been a slow month for the MRF but we continue to work at cleaning and organizing the facility along with planning for 2025. We have also made progress with using more of the features that the Square Point of Sale system has to offer. Our everyday goal at the MRF is to continue to serve the public and to keep solid waste and recyclables moving off island.

We have made good progress in the last month to complete the goal of having the main MRF building cleaned and organized. A big help to this was going to a single stream system with plastic and paper. In the middle of the month, Micheal hauled the first load of plastic/paper mix in one of our 40 cubic yard compactor boxes to the Republic Transfer Station in Ashland. Total weight of the recycling load came out to 4.5 tons. Going single stream with plastic and paper has created some dislike from some of the public, but we do our best to explain to them why the Town has gone this route. Ultimately, sending plastic and paper to Republic gives those recyclables a much higher chance of being recycled and not ending up in a landfill. Doing these single stream loads will also help cut down costs of labor and equipment wear and tear when it comes to storing and bailing the items.

With a fresh box in place Micheal and I cleaned up the rest of the stored plastic in the back of the main building. With no need to keep the plastic storage bins, we are gaining back about 25% more floor space in the main building. The plan for this space is have an organized area for Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) where it can be kept in order by the attendants when they are working. How we want things organized will be a working process into the summertime to see what works best in terms of organization and efficiency.

The most important projects that we have been working on is organizing the HHW in the lower building. In mid-December we finalized a date with Veolia to have a clean sweep at the MRF. This will take place July 23rd, 2025, between 10AM to 2PM. With this clean sweep coming up, we want to make sure that we are as organized as possible, to make the Veolia teams job as easy as possible when they are here. Along with cleaning up the HHW, we are also organizing E-Waste. Once we have everything in labeled containers, we will haul the E-Waste for recycling. Even though the concept is simple for organizing these items, it takes time to make sure everything is going into the right container and set for shipping. Depending on how January is in terms of snow fall, we would like to have the clean up project done by the end of January.

In December we made a big step forward, introducing the new MRF cards. These MRF cards will work in the same way as the ferry cards do. Customers can preload them, with any dollar amount of their choosing, and when they come to the MRF to pay for their trash, they will pay with their card. So far, the public seems happy with the new system. When we start getting into peak summer, we will see how the new system will work with the heavy traffic flow. In January we plan on purchasing a mobile square system that we can use out in the sorting area, so that we do not have to do every transaction in the office. This will help keep customers flowing through the facility. As we mentioned in a previous report, using this new card system will help us better track actual sales. We have created spreadsheets to help us track trucking costs and will use the data from the square system to figure out how much we are taking in on sales vs what it costs us to dispose of solid waste and demo.

The next part of change we will be making in the office will be the charge accounts. There are two issues that we have with the current system. The first issue is that we have no agreement between our customers and the Town of LaPointe to have a charge account, and the costs of the charge account. We have a draft agreement written up for Max to review. Once Max approves of the document, we will have the Town Board approve it, and have it sent off to our customers that have charge accounts to fill out and sign. The second issue with the current charging system is that it takes a lot of labor for both MRF staff and Town Hall staff. Currently we hand write all transactions that are charges for business and at the end of the month we enter those transactions into a spreadsheet. That spreadsheet is then sent to Town Hall where invoices are created and sent out to the customers. We are looking at using the House Account feature in the Square sales system. As businesses charge their items, we can put it in the Square system as a house account charge. At the end of the month, we can easily convert those charges into an invoice and send it to the customer. These invoices can be sent to the customer by email, and through that email, customers can pay by ACH transfer, Credit Card charge, mail a check, or come to the MRF and pay by cash or check. This will hopefully reduce the amount of time for both MRF staff and Town Hall staff moving forward. As with all change, there will have to figure out the new procedure for this new system so that everyone is on the same page.

The last part of this report, and future reports will be financial information and other data on MRF operations. With some spreadsheets that we have made, we hope to give accurate information for the following. Sales, outstanding MRF card balance, House Account outstanding balance, trucking costs, hauling information, and recycling data. One item to note in the sales is that these numbers are through the Square system and does not include charge account revenue.

Financials

December sales through square		Year to Date
Gross Sales	\$1,467 .00	\$79,409.75
New MRF Card Discount	\$(109.75)	\$(109.75)
New MRF Card Sales	\$1,545.00	\$1545.00
Total Payment Collected	\$2,878.25	\$80,821.00

Revenue and Expense numbers from Workhorse as of 12/30/2024

Solid Waste Disposal	\$135,813.75
Sale of Recycled Materials	\$28,461.64
Total MRF Revenue	\$164,275.39
Total MRF Expenses	\$177,059.01

Recycling for 2024

Plastics 5,927lbs Paper 14,230lbs
Aluminum 9,185lbs Tin 4,030lbs
Carboard 50,821lbs
Total bailed 84,193lbs

Auction

The information given in this report for the auction is as of 12/30/2024 at 1:00PM. The conclusion of the auction will be 1/3/2025 at 10:40AM. Most of the bidding for the auction starts about 5 hours before the end of the auction, so we should expect the prices for some of the items to be higher than what I am reporting. When the auction is concluded, I will give a full report to what the items sold for.

2019 Harbor Commission Fridge Truck \$5,050.00

1991 Public Works 5yd dump truck \$1,000.00

1994 Fire Department F250 \$825.00

1989 Public Works Chevy 2500 \$100.00

MRF Armor Cast containment unit \$100.00

2006 Harbor Commission trailer \$955.00

Harbor Commission off road trailer \$415.00

Public Works 737 mower \$86.00

Public Works one person kayak \$13.50

Public Works two person kayak \$79.00

Public Works old Jonis beach playground \$155.00