

# Monroe County Recycling Program

## WHY RECYCLE?



Monroe County is *committed* to recycling! Recycling benefits our community, our County, and our Country, by conserving natural resources, protecting the environment and reducing the amount of waste that is landfilled. In 2012, Monroe County received a Recycling Excellence Award from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for being the leader in the West-Central Wisconsin Region in recycling. The award states the County's recycling program exceeds the DNR expectations and leads the way for other communities! We can be proud of this award collectively!

## WHERE DO MY RECYCLABLES GO?

In Monroe County, all recyclables go to a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) where they are separated prepared, packaged and shipped out for resale. They are beneficially reused into new manufactured products.

## AM I REQUIRED TO SORT MATERIALS?

Recyclables are collected single-stream in Monroe County, which makes it easy and convenient for residents to recycle. All the below listed items are put into one recycling container with some small preparation required. These materials are further sorted at the MRF as discussed above, on a conveyor system. Please read how to prepare these four categories: Plastics, papers, glass, and metals.

## WHAT ITEMS ARE RECYCLED AND HOW DO I PREPARE?

-  All **plastics** with a number 1-7 are accepted. Remove caps and lids. Rinse to clean and flatten to save space. No Styrofoam, plastic film or bags. Look for this symbol on the bottom of the container.
-  **Newspaper, Cardboard, brown grocery bags, magazines and mixed paper.** Junk mail, cereal boxes, box board, glossy ads and envelopes. Tie in bundles, or place in boxes or brown paper bags. Do not include paper toweling, tissue paper or wax paper.
-  **Glass bottles and jars** are recycled, but not window glass, dishes, incandescent bulbs, or ceramics. Remove lids and rinse out food residue from all containers.
-  **Tin/Aluminum cans.** Rinse out food cans and trays and Be sure aerosols are completely empty for recycling.



*Thanks for your recycling efforts!*

