Note: *italics indicates text that was added for notes during the meeting*

City Recycling Coordinators Meeting

June 11, 2025 – 2:00-3:30 pm

Agenda

1) Wasted Food Prevention Plan Overview 2:00 p.m.
    a. Jenny Kedward, Hennepin County

    From Hennepin Zero Waste Plan: needed a Wasted Food Prevention Plan

    - *The two biggest contributors to wasted food is restaurants and residents*
    - *New target: cut edible food in half*
    - *Landfill food waste ban*
    - *Date labeling advocacy (federal)*
    - *Adjust variable rate pricing*
    - *Plan includes efforts to work in schools, food rescue, commercial*
    - *Residential: trash or cash campaign, increased kitchen confidence (through classes), food sharing networks, community group grants*
    - *Stop food waste challenge: goal is 850 participants for 2025*
        - *Format: 1. create profile, 2. select actions, 3. check in regularly and share with others. Entered in to win prizes.*
        - *Partners are able to help do presentations, help promote efforts, provide incentives, challenge other cities to participate, host a screening*
        - *For Hennepin staff: Recommendation: give cities more heads up when planning future campaigns*
    - *Read the plan here: https://www.hennepin.us/-/media/hennepinus/your-government/projects-initiatives/solid-waste-planning/wasted-food-prevention-plan.pdf*

2) Zoning conversation: Saint Louis Park
    - *Has outdated language in current ordinance that doesn't align with current organics drop sites. Undergoing zoning updates: wondering if others have language to share. Wanting to put in that it's an accessory use at a park.*
    - *A few cities are in the process of doing the same – waiting on word from their own zoning people and don't have anything to add.*

3) Upcoming County programs, grants and events
    a. Fix It Clinics - Fix-It Clinics | Hennepin County
        i. Saturday June 14, at Ridgedale Library, Minnetonka
        ii. Saturday, July 12, at St. Joan of Arc, Minneapolis

    b. HHW Events - Household hazardous waste collection events | Hennepin County
        i. St. Louis Park, June 27 & 28
        ii. Minneapolis, August 8 & 9
        iii. Orono/Wayzata, September 19 & 20

c. Community Recycling Ambassador Program
    i. Saint Louis Park Library, Tuesdays, Sep 9 – Oct 11th: Please help spread the word! Become a Community Recycling Ambassador | Hennepin County
d. Yard sign drop off
    i. June 16-28, 2025: *Please help spread the word! Kirsten is sending a media kit in follow up email:*
    Yard signs | Hennepin County
    Bloomington
    South Hennepin Recycling and Problem Waste Drop-Off Center
    1400 West 96th Street, Bloomington, MN
    Open Tuesday to Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
    Proof of residency, such as a driver's license or utility bill, is required.

    Brooklyn Park
    Hennepin County Recycling Center and Transfer Station
    8100 Jefferson Highway, Brooklyn Park, MN
    Open Tuesday to Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
    Proof of residency, such as a driver's license or utility bill, is required.

    Minneapolis
    Minneapolis North Transfer Station
    2710 Pacific Street North, Minneapolis, MN
    Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
    Collection container will be outside of the gate

    Minnetonka/Hopkins
    Minnetonka/Hopkins Recycling Center
    11522 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka, MN
    Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

e. Recycling Exists & Food Waste Campaigns
f. Grants *: all grants can be found under "grants for recycling and waste prevention here:* Resources for city recycling programs | Hennepin County
    i. Bin and Bag Grants – *Businesses and Multifamily: open, participants can request up to $3,000 of containers and bags for their business or multifamily property. Let our staff know if you have any questions.*
    ii. Waste Reduction Grants – Businesses: *closed until 2026. Currently reviewing these grants.*
    iii. Buidling Reuse Grants - ***Resources to deconstruct publicly owned properties***
    As construction season kicks-off in Minnesota, this is a reminder that Hennepin County has resources available to help cities deconstruct rather than demolish buildings. Hennepin County has agreements with two Minneapolis-based deconstruction organizations to reduce the cost of deconstructing building materials on publicly owned properties. The discounted rate depends on the amount of building materials deconstructed for reuse. Please keep this in mind for future projects involving the demolition of a city-owned building! Contact

Olivia.Cashman@hennepin.us with any questions or to discuss a potential project.

iv. Green Partners Grants: *closed for 2025. Our staff are reviewing applications now.*

v. Not included in the agenda: *Organics drop off grants open again!: Katie can announce if on the meeting. If not:*
$35,000 available, up to $15,000 per site
The grant period will last 24 months
It must be open to all county residents
Eligible expenses: hauling and disposal, dumpsters or carts, construction (enclosure, pad, etc.), county-approved promotions, other supplies and services approved by the county

g. SCORE payments – we have finalized the first SCORE payments and will be sending out emails in the next week with your city's first payment amount. Payment should be made to the city's by mid-July.

4) Additional items

a. Reminder that Carol (our Hennepin County designer) is out in November – get us your personalized requests by September/October at the latest
b. ARM Updates: Thursday, June 12th, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. Inver Glen Library
c. REC Meeting: TBD
d. Next CRC meeting: Wednesday September 10, 2-3:30 pm – *Any suggestions for tours at our next meeting? If not, we'll plan on virtual*

5) Round table updates – *(Recent highlights, upcoming events, questions for the group, etc.)*

a. Bloomington: *releasing parks service RFP, planning to have staff empty carts into dumpster, hauler will service the dumpsters. Negotiated garbage disposal in contract, getting new rates. Trying to have rate structure to incentivize residents downsizing trash cart size. Q: Herc tipping fee and SCORE funds. Organics challenge in May after doing a direct mailer. See attached doc to learn how to become a host site for a YSEALI fellow.*
b. Brooklyn Park/HRG: *Rolled out curbside organics April 1st. Reuse donation event in partnership with Bridging Sep 13th*
c. Champlin: *Rolling out organics in July. Already seeing signups before service starts. Offering bags for pickup. Tabling at farmers market events this summer.*
d. Corcoran: no update
e. Dayton: no update
f. Deephaven: no update
g. Eden Prairie: no update
h. Edina: lost Greencorps member – hiring them on as an intern to work on multifamily projects and data collection of drop site. Wants to do the wasted food challenge against
i. Excelsior: no update
j. Golden Valley: rolling out multifamily projects

k. Greenfield: no update
l. Greenwood: no update
m. Hanover: welcome Sarah!
n. Hopkins: no update – Jackie is no longer at the city
o. Independence: no update
p. Long Lake: no update
q. Loretto: no update
r. Maple Grove: no update
s. Maple Plain: no update
t. Medicine Lake: no update
u. Medina: no update
v. Minneapolis: *funding available to community groups to do grants and recycling awareness campaign. Have a consultant to get office zero waste work – tell the city best option to move forward. Not expecting funding for a few more years. Close to 70% multifamily properties have had to verify they have recycling. Encouraging students to drop off food during move out. about 3/4ths re-homed during the swap. Much of the rest went out on Buy Nothing or the organizers absorbed. Very few items trashed. Total # of items 2, 412. (Minneapolis, that is)*
w. Minnetonka: *had first of two community drop off days, 1,000 vehicles last weekend. Citywide organics rollout in March. 2300 people signed up.*
x. Minnetonka Beach: no update
y. Minnetrista: no update
z. Mound: no update
aa. Orono: no update
bb. Osseo: no update
cc. Plymouth: no update
dd. Richfield: *half marathon in the city doing reusables, updates to solid waste code. Doing a winter gear swap on September 13th. Doing an organics audit.*
ee. Robbinsdale: *Brady is back!*
ff. Rockford: no update
gg. Rogers: no update
hh. Shorewood: *finished drop off events, doing a community survey to identify if folks wanted a single trash hauler/curbside organics. Recycling committee doing tour at BPTS in July.*
ii. Spring Park: no update
jj. St. Anthony: Doing annual cleanup events including cardboard. Went well.
kk. St. Bonifacius: no update
ll. St. Louis Park: did a gardening swap, 100 attendees, almost 600 people at collection event, 336 people at shred event. Doing art contest to put on drop sites carts.
mm. Tonka Bay: no update
nn. Wayzata: no update
oo. Woodland: up no update