



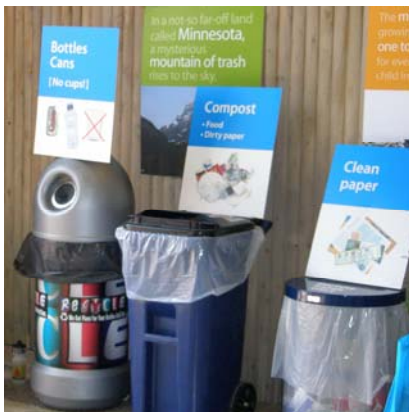
recyclemoreminnesota.org

For more information, contact:
Recycle More Minnesota
www.recyclemoreminnesota.org
(651) 296-6300 / (1-800) 657-3864
info@recyclemoreminnesota.org

Away-from-home recycling: How you can do more on-the-go.

We all know there are many benefits to recycling and that recycling is a good thing. It is good not only for the environment, but for reducing energy consumption and helping Minnesota's economy. Every community in Minnesota has some form of a residential recycling program, whether it's curbside pickup or a city, township or county drop-off site.

But new opportunities to recycle are being created every day. These include recycling at gas stations, car washes, golf courses, and other public places and events. This is typically referred to as "away-from-home recycling." In the last several years this type of recycling has gained a lot of interest because while most of us do a good job of recycling at home, there aren't as many options when we are on the go. Many great organizations are now helping the environment as well as their bottom line by recycling more. Read on to learn about places you can recycle more, away from home.



State Fair:

Public events and away-from-home recycling need to be convenient and easy. That's why the Minnesota State Fair organizers wanted to provide simple, easy opportunities to recycle plastic bottles and cans at the "great Minnesota get-together." The bins used were shaped like large pop bottles and have been "popping up" at other locations throughout the state as well. Also at the fair, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's Eco-Experience Building collected several tons of material that would have otherwise been thrown away.



“Message in a Bottle” Away-from-Home Recycling Program:

The Recycling Association of Minnesota (RAM) and the Adult Training and Habilitation Center (ATHC) in Hutchinson, MN teamed up with local businesses to provide the public with easy recycling opportunities at gas stations, golf courses, car washes, and laundromats in McLeod and Carver counties.

The program gives adults with disabilities ongoing work, waste is diverted from landfills, and a small portion of the proceeds goes toward supporting recycling education. Business owners are happy to have increased foot traffic, not to mention taking out the garbage less often. This highly successful program is now available in the cities of Duluth, St. Cloud, and Mankato, as well as in McCloud, Carver, Wright, Ramsey, and Hennepin counties.



St. Paul Festival Association:

You can now recycle at some of the most widely attended public events in St Paul! Look for recycling bins at Grand Old Day, Cinco De Mayo Festival, Highland Park Festival and The St. Paul Winter Carnival among other events in St. Paul.

There are many other success stories of recycling away from home. To read more about what is going on nationally, visit the EPA website*. There are increasing opportunities for recycling away from home every day. It takes little effort and we all reap the benefits.

* Link: <http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/conservation/rrr/rogo/stories/index.htm>

About Recycle More Minnesota

The Recycle More Minnesota campaign is a joint effort between the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the Recycling Association of Minnesota to help increase awareness about recycling throughout the state. Established in 2008, we are working with our partners to promote recycling at home, work and on the go, with the goal of increasing the state recycling rate to 50% by 2011 through educational and social marketing efforts.

Help us track the use of this campaign!

This toolkit was provided by the MPCA and RAM as a part of the Recycle More Minnesota education campaign. Please help us track the use of this campaign. Please send an e-mail to info@recyclemoreminnesota.org with a description of how and when the materials were used and, if published, the estimated circulation of the publication. If you have any questions about the campaign, please contact us at (651) 296-6300.