

2021 Winnebago County Solid Waste Department Annual Report



Winnebago County
Solid Waste Management

Winnebago County Solid Waste is a comprehensive, integrated solid waste management program located in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Our mission is to provide competitive, cost-efficient Solid Waste Management services for solid waste and recyclable materials from our Municipal partnerships and other Winnebago County customers.



Solid Waste Management Board

The Solid Waste Management Board (SWMB) was created in 1975 by the Winnebago County Board to provide solid waste management services to all communities, businesses, and industry in Winnebago County. At that time, its sole function was to operate the Snell Road Landfill.

Since its inception, the SWMB has been progressive and responsive to community needs while remaining cost-conscious and environmentally-responsible. Winnebago County Solid Waste (WCSW) has expanded into a comprehensive, integrated solid waste management program consisting of:

- Sunnyview Landfill Residential Drop-off Area
- Solid Waste/Recycling Transfer Station
- Universal Waste Recycling Programs for Tires/Batteries/Appliances/etc.
- Electronic Waste and Lamp/Bulb Recycling Program
- Seasonal Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility
- Landfill Gas Collection/Utilization Systems
- Closed Landfill Environmental Monitoring/Maintenance
- Ken Robl Conservation Park Operation/Maintenance

To further the goal of being cost-conscious and environmentally-responsible, Brown, Outagamie, and Winnebago Counties joined forces in 2002 forming the Tri-County Regional Partnership to secure contracts for solid waste and recycling services with municipalities throughout the Tri-County area. The savings realized by the three counties over the 25-year term of the Tri-County Regional Partnership was projected to be over \$50 million.

To reach the projected savings target, the Tri-County Regional Partnership has combined resources to designate and contribute to Regional Landfills and operate a Regional Single Stream Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Appleton. More recently, the Tri-County Regional Partnership has shifted its focus to increase waste diversion rates, improve program efficiency, and offer more robust services to meet customer needs.

In early 2020, the Tri-County Regional Partnership completed a study and found that the partnership saved our users within the Tri-County area approximately \$48 million since inception by allowing the shared services to keep tipping fees low for all our users. Due to the success of the partnership, an amended Tri-County Solid Waste Disposal Agreement was prepared and approved by all three counties' committees/boards in the Fall of 2020, extending the Tri-County Regional Partnership through December 2042. Key features of the amended disposal agreement involve the flexibility of a dual landfill operation at Brown and Outagamie Counties, 15 additional years of regional landfill airspace, and continued cost sharing of services to further improve operational efficiencies.



Landfill/Transfer Operations & Diversion Programs

The Winnebago County Sunnyview Landfill Co-Disposal Site reached capacity in July 2012, after functioning as the Regional Landfill since 2005. WCSW has since focused on operation of a solid waste and recycling transfer station, shipping waste materials to the Regional Landfill in Outagamie County and single-stream recycling (SSR) to the Tri-County Recycling Facility in Outagamie County as part of the Tri-County Regional Partnership. In 2021, WCSW directed nearly **192,300 tons of waste and nearly 14,600 tons of SSR** to the Regional Landfill and Tri-County Recycling Facility, respectively.

WCSW maintained collaboration with University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh (UWO) Biogas Systems to supply grass and yard waste feedstock for a commercial scale dry fermentation biodigester located in Oshkosh. In 2021, WCSW directed **1,624 tons of ground feedstock material to the UWO digester** (down from 2,825 tons in 2020). This joint effort allows WCSW to manage incoming yard wastes through a sustainable program while supporting faculty and student research in biogas technology.

Closed Landfill Environmental Monitoring & Maintenance

The Sunnyview (Co-Disposal and Sludge Sites) and the Snell Road Landfills are closed and require ongoing monitoring and maintenance to comply with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) permits. Closed landfill monitoring requires continued analysis of underground and surface conditions along with air quality to assess landfill site compliance.

In 2021, WCSW continued groundwater, gradient control, leachate and surface water monitoring and WDNR reporting for Sunnyview and Snell Road Landfills. Monthly landfill gas monitoring, quarterly surface emissions monitoring and reporting were also completed to maintain WDNR air permit compliance for Sunnyview and Snell Road Landfills. WCSW also continued horizontal groundwater extraction system monitoring and WDNR reporting at Snell Road Landfill.

A maintenance project was completed at the Snell Road Landfill in 2021 which consisted of gas, leachate and airline piping installation to new LIB wells, LIB wellheads and leachate extraction pump installations, repair of a sagging landfill gas header and the replacement of an airline control valve. The completed work will improve gas and leachate extraction capabilities to maintain WDNR compliance.



Landfill Gas Collection & Utilization

Landfill gas, a renewable energy source is generated as trash and organic materials decompose. Methane, a primary component of landfill gas is captured at the Sunnyview and Snell Road Landfills and burned to generate power and heat.

The WCSW Landfill Gas Facility operates a total of four engine/generators (4.0 MW of generation capacity) to burn the collected landfill gas and produce power and heat. The electricity produced from landfill gas is sold to a local utility. Landfill gas is also used at the Winnebago County Highway Department for direct use in two boilers. Excess landfill gas is burned in candlestick flares to maintain WDNR air permit compliance. Electricity and direct use landfill gas revenues exceeded \$1.7 million in 2021 to offset operational expenses.

In 2021, WCSW used landfill gas to generate enough electricity to power approximately 2,000 residential homes!

Ken Robl Conservation Park

WCSW continued the operation and maintenance of the Ken Robl Conservation Park located at the closed Snell Road Landfill, in partnership with the Winnebago County Parks Department. Additions in 2021 enhanced the accessibility, educational quality, and beauty of our Ken Robl Conservation Park trail and natural areas. Three (3) local scouts designed and implemented park elements for their Gold Award/Eagle Scout final projects.



A special thank you to students:

Michael LaMore (Oshkosh Troop 615, Lourdes Academy junior) for building wooden Leopold benches.

Jade Laibly (Oshkosh Troop 2253, Oshkosh West junior) for building five (5) recycled plastic benches, designing an educational park brochure, and developing a troop fun patch scouts can earn when visiting the park.

Renee Ruman (Oshkosh Troop 6641, Oshkosh North senior) for creating 16 wildlife educational signs and building nesting boxes to be installed around the park's ~1 mile walking trail.

Two (2) of the benches were dedicated to honor former long-term SWMB and County Board members, Ken Robl and James Lauson.



Enhanced Recycling Services

Did you know the WDNR has designated certain wastes as banned from landfill disposal because they contain toxic components or highly reusable materials?

WCSW is a WDNR-certified E-Waste Collector and offers a year-round, competitively priced electronics recycling program to residential customers. In 2021, WCSW received

264,364 pounds of household electronics

for recycling (down from 305,406 pounds in 2020).

WCSW also offers a lamp/bulb recycling program for residential customers: **5,971 bulbs** were recycled in 2021 (slightly up from 5,447 bulbs in 2020).

WCSW continues to accept tires, freon and non-freon appliances, used oil, oil filters, oil absorbents, antifreeze, lead-acid batteries, rechargeable batteries, scrap metal and propane tanks from residential customers for recycling at the Sunnyview Landfill Facility.



Holiday String Lights Recycling Program

CHRISTMAS STRING LIGHTS RECYCLING

Winnebago County Drop-Off Locations

BLACK WOLF

Black Wolf Town Hall (380 E Black Wolf Ave, Oshkosh, WI 54902)

NEENAH

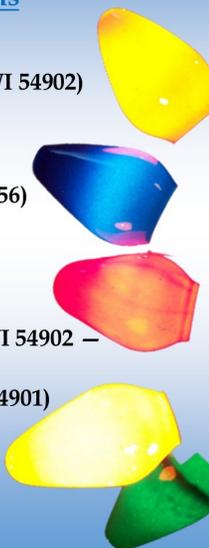
Neenah City Hall (211 Walnut St, Neenah, WI 54956)
Krueger Hardware (999 Winneconne Ave, Neenah, WI 54956)
Fox Crossing Utilities Building (2000 Municipal Dr.,
Neenah, WI 54956)

OSHKOSH

Field Operations Facility (639 Witzel Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54902 –
Ohio Street entrance)
Sunnyview Landfill (100 W. County Rd. Y, Oshkosh, WI 54901)

WINNECONNE (Village)

Winneconne Municipal Center (30 South 1st Street,
Winneconne, WI 54986)



Offered for the second year in a row, WCSW facilitated a Holiday String Lights drop-off recycling program with four participating municipalities. Holiday String Lights that end up in recycling bins pose one of the largest issues to our Tri-County Recycling Facility during the holidays. Known as a “tangler,” **Christmas Lights and other ropes, cords, hoses, or textiles** wrap around sorting equipment, may damage it, and force the facility to periodically stop operations to clean equipment. In 2021, the program collected 300 pounds of light strings for proper recycling! Keep an eye out for even more drop-off locations in the program next year.

In 2021, 2142 pounds of useable product was made available free to the public in the Product Exchange Room.



Household Hazardous Waste Facility

In 2021, WCSW contracted with Veolia Environmental Services for operation of the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility open on select days from May through October. This is a free service for Winnebago County residents with household sourced material and no appointments are necessary.



In 2021, the WCSW HHW Facility was used by

813 customers who properly disposed of nearly 46,000 pounds of household chemicals and cleaners, paints and stains, pesticides and insecticides

(2020 totals: 774 customers with 40,095 pounds of HHW).

There were 24 collection dates in 2021. Winnebago County's two satellite collections were scheduled in April 2021 (Village of Fox Crossing and Village of Winneconne). However, they were cancelled due to COVID-19 precautions and limited County/Municipal staff.

Sharps Disposal Program

In 2021, WCSW continued partnership with Winnebago County Public Health, Outagamie County Recycling & Solid Waste, and Outagamie County Public Health to administer the Outagamie & Winnebago County Sharps Disposal Program. The cooperative effort focused on developing strategies to increase public awareness of proper sharps disposal, expand sharps disposal opportunities, and reduce the risk of accidental needle sticks within the community and for solid waste/recycling collection workers and sorters.

In 2021, Roundy's Pick 'n Save Pharmacies continued to host the program's free residential sourced sharps collection services. Over **1,280 lbs. of medical sharps** were received at the Neenah and Oshkosh locations in 2021 (up from 1,019 lbs. in 2020). Program details are available at www.winnebagopublichealth.org.





Community Recycling Updates

Through the Tri-County Regional Partnership, WCSW continues to support the development of comprehensive educational materials, trendy advertising and useful on-line resources to encourage recycling within the households, schools and businesses of Winnebago, Outagamie and Brown counties.

WCSW maintains a Facebook account to highlight achievements, promote special events and share tips that focus on resource recovery, sustainability and recycling. The WCSW Facebook page had over 4,100 followers in 2021. At the end of 2021, WCSW expanded its social media portfolio, launching an Instagram page (@WinnCoWI.SolidWaste) in the hope of engaging members of the younger population in recycling conversations. WCSW is looking forward to continued creativity and innovation in the way it promotes waste diversion and recycling education across the community.

Is that Really Recyclable?

In 2021, Brown, Outagamie and Winnebago County Staff continued to distribute their Waste Wizard search tool via magnets and stickers with a new-and-improved color scheme. The Waste Wizard is a searchable database with disposal and recycling instructions for thousands of common items. Magnets and stickers are distributed at local events, given to municipal halls or can be ordered by request for any organization, group, or special event. This database is specific to Tri-County Recycling's single-stream recycling facility, services offered at each County's drop-site location, and many of the services offered by municipalities within the Tri-County region.

Is that really recyclable? Now the answer is just a few clicks away!

Contamination Concerns

Plastic bagged-recyclables and loose plastic bags, wraps and films continue to be the Tri-County Recycling Facility's #1 contaminant. From impacting the ability for bagged materials to be recycled to clogging up recycling equipment, **plastic bags in single-stream recycling carts cause huge problems** and impact the success of our program. To ensure our equipment and sorters can perform at maximum efficiency, WCSW works diligently to educate residents on alternatives to using plastic bags for transporting recyclables to dumpsters or carts.



Financial Reports

Winnebago County Solid Waste Management Fund

Comparative Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position For the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020

		<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
REVENUES			
	Intergov Rev	\$ 23,226	\$ -
	Public Services	9,063,865	8,258,811
	Intergov Services	1,284,077	2,023,820
	Interfund Revenue	92,661	90,568
	Interest	1,508,801	(275,895)
	Misc	43,579	119,607
	Other Financing Srcs	-	10,866
	Total	\$ 12,016,209	\$ 10,227,777
EXPENSES			
	Labor	\$ 1,308,164	\$ 1,189,873
	Travel	2,523	3,597
	Capital Outlay	1,125,055	413,875
	Close to Assets	(1,125,555)	(413,875)
	Office	55,138	23,992
	Operating	166,218	77,932
	Repairs & Maint	575,061	466,238
	Utilities	359,996	345,387
	Contractual Services	6,376,328	5,833,725
	Insurance Expenses	91,207	104,376
	Deprec & Amort	201,999	521,765
	Debt Payments	16	-
	Total	\$ 9,136,150	\$ 8,566,885
NET POSITION - INCREASE/(DECREASE)		\$ 2,880,059	\$ 1,660,892
NET POSITION - JANUARY 1		\$ 38,720,888	\$ 41,600,949
NET POSITION - DECEMBER 31		\$ 41,600,947	\$ 43,261,841

Financial Reports (continued)

Winnebago County Solid Waste Management Fund

Retained Earnings Reservation

Year End December 31, 2021 (compared to 2020)

<i>DESCRIPTION</i>	Fund Goal Authorized by the SWMB	
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Designated Emergency Funds:		
Regulatory Compliance	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000
Remediation/Liability	500,000	500,000
Litigation	200,000	200,000
Interim Construction	1,000,000	1,000,000
Capital Outlay	500,000	500,000
PFAS Leachate Pretreatment & Disposal	500,000	2,000,000
Future Landfill Airspace Development	9,300,000	10,000,000
Operational Cash Flow	1,500,000	1,500,000
Debt Service - Recycling	300,000	600,000
Solid Waste - Rate Stabilization	3,500,000	3,500,000
Recycling - Rate Stabilization	700,000	700,000
Research & Development Planning	1,000,000	1,000,000
Snell Road Landfill LTC >20 yrs	6,000,000	6,000,000
Sunnyview Landfill LTC >40 yrs	2,500,000	2,500,000
Landfill End Use Development/Maintenance	1,000,000	1,000,000
<i>TOTAL RESERVED</i>	\$ 29,500,000	\$ 32,000,000
 <i>BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31</i>	 \$ 32,267,007	 \$ 34,350,577

2020 - 2021 Tonnage Summary

Winnebago County Solid Waste Department

<i>SOLID WASTE</i>		<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Transfer Station		99,608	92,653
Direct Hauls		26,692	25,388
ADC/Beneficial Use		68,306	74,257
Total Tons		194,606	192,298
 <i>RECYCLING</i>			
Transfer Station		13,385	10,883
Direct Hauls		2,312	3,690
Total Tons		15,697	14,573

Winnebago County Solid Waste Management Board Members

Pat O'Brien, Chair

David Albrecht, Vice Chair

Paul Eisen, Secretary

Thomas Borchart

Mike Easker

Gerald Konrad

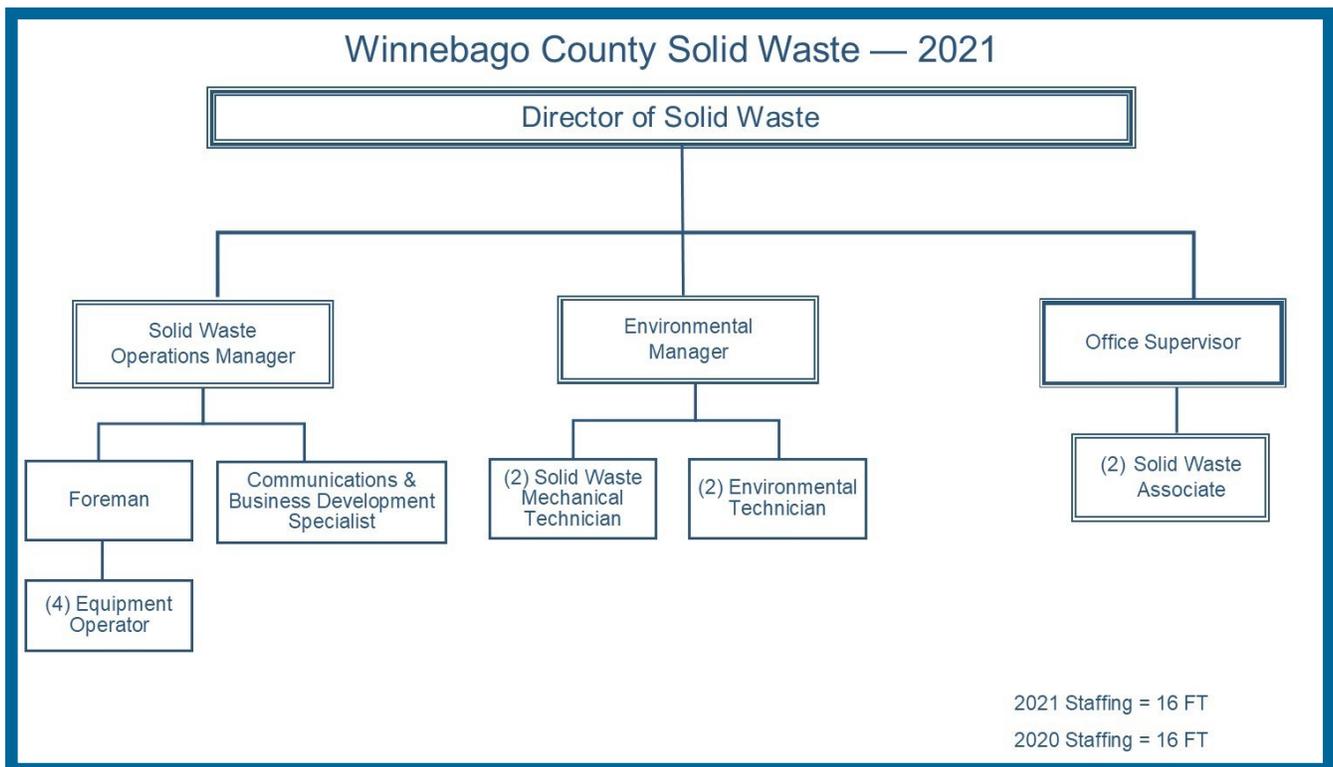
Kevin Konrad

Susan Locke

Doug Nelson

The SWMB consists of five County Board Supervisors and four citizens from the County whom are appointed by the County Executive. SWMB Members serve staggered three-year terms. The SWMB directs operation of the Landfill Residential Drop-off Area, Solid Waste/Recycling Transfer Station, Diversion Programs, Household Hazardous Materials Collection Facility, Closed Landfill Environmental Monitoring/Maintenance and Landfill Gas-to-Energy Facilities in Winnebago County.

Table of Organization





Winnebago County

Solid Waste Management

100 West County Road Y • Oshkosh, WI 54901
Telephone (920) 232-1800 • Fax (920) 424-1189

John M. Rabe, Director of Solid Waste

Visit us on the web at:

www.WinnebagoCountySolidWaste.com

www.facebook.com/WinnCoWI.SolidWaste

www.instagram.com/WinnCoWi.SolidWaste