

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD RESOLUTION OPPOSING  
ELIMINATION OF MUNICIPAL RECYCLING REQUIREMENTS AND OPPOSING  
ELIMINATION OF RECYCLING GRANT PROGRAMS:**

1           **WHEREAS**, recycling provides a whole host of environmental benefits, including  
2 preserving natural resources, less air pollution, energy savings, reduced greenhouse gas  
3 emissions, reducing mining wastes and conserving landfill space; and  
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5           **WHEREAS**, recycling also provides extensive economic benefits, providing material  
6 feedstock for manufacturing, business development, state and local tax revenue and four times  
7 more jobs than the disposal industry; and  
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9           **WHEREAS**, the University of Wisconsin Survey Center, commissioned by the Wisconsin  
10 Department of Natural Resources (2006), demonstrated that 93% of Wisconsin residents favor  
11 or strongly favor the Recycling Law and 96% of Wisconsin households are "committed" to  
12 recycling; and  
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14           **WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin mandated recycling in 1990 under 1989 Wisconsin  
15 Act 335 and Administrative Code NR 544; and  
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17           **WHEREAS**, Towns, Villages, Cities and Counties, hereafter Municipalities, responded  
18 by becoming Responsible Units for Recycling and as such, invested millions of dollars in  
19 education, collection and processing infrastructure for Effective Recycling Programs; and  
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21           **WHEREAS**, Brown, Outagamie and Winnebago Counties invested in Material Recovery  
22 Facilities (MRFs) and constructed a MRF in each County to serve the recycling processing  
23 needs of its residents in anticipation of the 1995 landfill bans; and  
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25           **WHEREAS**, to improve the efficiencies and cost effectiveness of the three Counties'  
26 programs, Brown, Outagamie and Winnebago County developed and signed a Cooperative  
27 Agreement in 2002 which consolidated recycling processing operations and eliminated one  
28 MRF; and  
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30           **WHEREAS**, in 2009 to further enhance operational efficiencies and to invest in needed  
31 technological improvements, Brown, Outagamie and Winnebago Counties consolidated all  
32 processing operations into a single new, jointly-owned \$9.8 million dollar single stream recycling  
33 MRF; and  
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35           **WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin originally proposed to cost share 66% of the  
36 Municipalities' costs for establishing and maintaining Effective Recycling Programs; and  
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38           **WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin has imposed levy limits on Municipalities putting  
39 many under severe financial constraints; and  
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41           **WHEREAS**, the 2011-2013 Executive Budget Bill proposed by Governor Walker (AB 40  
42 and SB 27) seeks to eliminate the requirement that Municipalities operate a recycling program;  
43 eliminates all financial assistance for Municipal recycling programs; converts the Recycling and  
44 Renewable Energy Segregated Fund to a newly created Economic Development Fund and  
45 directs revenue collected on the landfill tipping fee surcharge into this Fund and;  
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47           **WHEREAS**, since 1990, the State has taken over one hundred forty million dollars  
48 (\$140,000,000) away from the Recycling and Renewable Energy Segregated Fund to pay for  
49 other State programs; and

50           **WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin has used monies raised to support Municipal  
51 Recycling Programs as part of a failed attempt to balance the State's budget and proposes to  
52 do so again, while also becoming the first State in the Nation to repeal a mandatory recycling  
53 program; and

54           **WHEREAS**, the strength of Wisconsin's recycling program comes from its mandate,  
55 ensuring sufficient feedstock for economical recycling collection, processing and manufacturing  
56 by both public and private sector entities and to eliminate this mandate and accompanying  
57 financial assistance in such a dramatic way (as of July 1<sup>st</sup>) will devastate Wisconsin's recycling  
58 program; and

59           **WHEREAS**, the Winnebago County Solid Waste Management Board stands united in its  
60 resolve with recycling program partners, Brown and Outagamie Counties in these matters;

61           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Winnebago County Solid Waste  
62 Management Board opposes the elimination of the requirement that a Municipality operate a  
63 recycling program; and


64           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Winnebago County Solid Waste Management  
65 Board opposes the elimination of the financial assistance program for municipal recycling during  
66 the 2011-2013 biennium; and

67           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Winnebago County Solid Waste Management  
68 Board supports the use of the landfill tipping fee surcharge as the source of funding for financial  
69 assistance to Municipalities, as it was intended, and contends whether this fund is termed the  
70 Recycling and Renewable Energy Segregated Fund or the Economic Development Fund its  
71 purpose is realized due to the significant economic impact of recycling in the State; and

72           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Winnebago County Solid Waste Management  
73 Board cannot condone the collecting of the landfill tipping fee surcharge without financial  
74 assistance for municipal recycling programs; and

75           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Brown  
76 County, Outagamie County, Wisconsin Counties Association, Wisconsin Towns Association,  
77 League of Wisconsin Municipalities, Winnebago County State Representatives and State  
78 Senators, Joint Committee on Finance and Governor Scott Walker.

79 Solid Waste Management Board

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93 Authorized Signature

3/10/11  
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Date