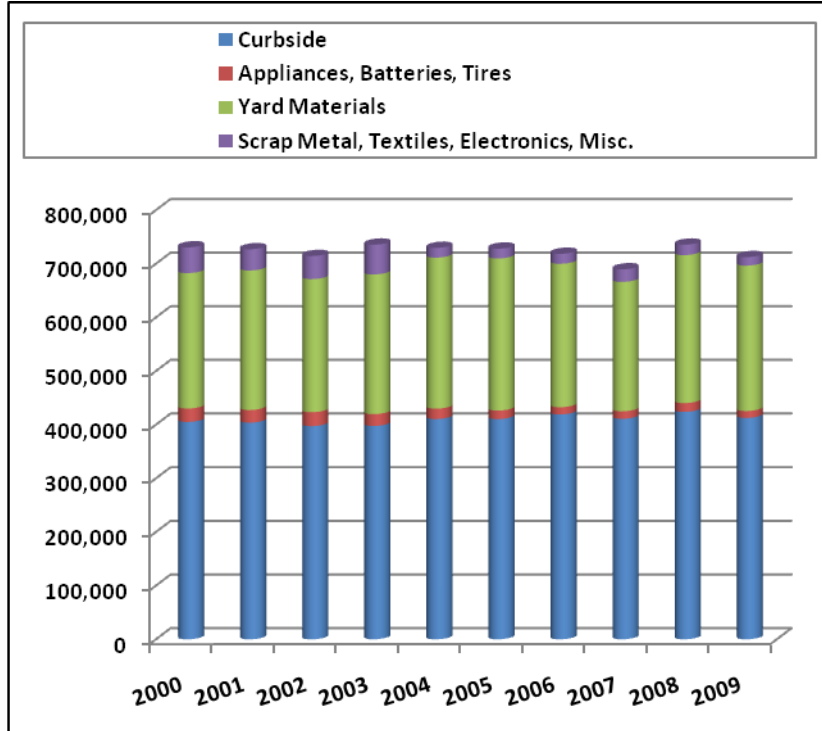


Wisconsin Recycling Fact Sheet

April 2011

By Associated Recyclers of Wisconsin, Solid Waste Association of North America - Badger Chapter, Wisconsin Counties Solid Waste Management Association, Wisconsin Council on Recycling



Tons Diverted From Landfills¹ 2000-2009

Curbside recyclables:
4,091,926

Appliances, Batteries, Tires:
188,513

Yard materials:
2,641,252

Scrap Metal, Textiles, Elec., Misc
300,209

Total Tons Diverted
7,221,910

- Wisconsin's Recycling Law has been in place since 1990
- Local units of government, called Responsible Units of Recycling (RUs), implement the law
- RUs that conduct Effective Recycling Programs are provided financial assistance from the state
- Primary components of an Effective Program: 1) an ordinance requiring recycling and enforcement for violations; 2) a public information and education initiative; 3) a method in which recyclables are collected from residents; 4) must meet per capita recycling rates²
- Recycling financial assistance is currently funded by a \$7/ton Recycling Tipping Fee charged for landfill disposal projected for FY2012 at \$35 million and a Business Recycling Surcharge projected at \$22 million²
- Total fund revenues collected in 2009 = \$55.2 million³
- Total aid disbursed to RUs = \$29.3 million³
- Total actual net costs for RUs to conduct recycling and yard waste programs = \$99.1 million³
- Recycling in Wisconsin has saved landfill space equivalent to the size of five average landfills since 1990⁴
- Waste diversion in Wisconsin supports 97,000 jobs and contributes to the \$5.4 billion dollar environmental industry.⁵
- 83% of Wisconsinites favor or strongly favor Wisconsin's recycling law⁶

1. <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/wm/recycle/recycleldfrept/table1ru.pdf>
 2. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
 3. Informational Paper 71-Legislative Fiscal Bureau
 4. <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/wm/recycle/facts-figures.htm>
 5. <http://www.arow-online.org/PDF/EconomicImpactStudy2000.pdf>
 6. <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/wm/publications/aneupub/WA1222.pdf>