



Dickinson County Recycling Update: May 2018

Residents taking their recyclables to the Dickinson County Solid Waste Processing Facility in Quinnesec, operated by GAD, may have noticed some changes in the bin labels. We recently asked Darrel Finley, Director of Operations, to update us on recycling efforts, marketability of recyclables and do's and don'ts to help maximize the ability to market our recyclables. Bottom line, the market for household recyclables is very challenging from an economic standpoint and some of the materials generate little or no revenue at all. The ultimate goal though, is to reduce the amount of waste going into the landfill and recover some of the resources from the products we discard. **The best thing we can do as residents is to help create a more marketable product by reducing the "contamination" or things that should NOT be in the bins.**

Here are the latest recycling tips:

PLASTIC: #1 and #2 plastic can now be mixed (co-mingled is the official recycling term) in the bins labeled "Plastics". Please rinse out all plastic containers. CLEAN is important! Labels can stay on, but discard lids as they are a different type of plastic. They hope to accept additional types of plastic in the future, but #1 and #2 (identified on bottom of container in recycling symbol) allow them more flexibility in marketing now. Plastic bags are not recycled at the Facility. Some stores take them back. Walmart accepts theirs in a large box near can return area.

GLASS: Will be recycled when economically feasible. All colors, CLEAN please, labels can stay on. Place in "Glass" bin only.

PAPER & CARDBOARD: You can now MIX paper and place in the Paper bins outside. You can mix the following in these outside bins: newsprint, office paper, catalogs, magazines, cereal boxes (non-corrugated cardboard.) Please, NO cardboard that has FOOD on it (pizza boxes, fast food containers, etc.) Corrugated cardboard boxes are baled and marketed separately. Place corrugated cardboard in the large building across from the outside bins.

STEEL CANS: There is a large bin for STEEL CANS at the south end of the recycling bins. CLEAN please, and labels OK. Larger steel items can be placed in bins up the hill nearer the waste collection area. See below.

SCRAP METAL: Large and small metal items are accepted at the facility. Appliances are accepted only with certificate of freon removal. No item with hazardous materials will be accepted. No fluorescent light fixtures with ballast. ABSOLUTELY NO GAS TANKS. Most of the steel is marketed locally to Schneider Iron and Metal.

ALUMINUM CANS: Aluminum cans are accepted (no aluminum foil or pie plates) in a separate bin on the east side of the big processing building, near the scale window.

MOTOR OIL & LEAD ACID CAR BATTERIES: Enter large processing building (same as cardboard) through small door on north side. Pour uncontaminated oil in designated brown storage tanks in the building. Take home and re-use or dispose of oil containers in waste—they can not be recycled or left at the processing facility.

DRY CELL BATTERIES (Alkaline batteries, rechargeable, lithium button, NIMH): All dry cell batteries need to go into the Hazardous Waste Collection. The scale attendant will collect small amounts and have them put into the proper place. Larger amounts should be brought to a Hazardous Waste Collection (see below.) Power tool rechargeable batteries can be returned to the store of purchase.

HAZARDOUS WASTE (Oil-based paint, pesticides, cleaners, solvents, dry cell batteries, etc): May be brought to the Facility on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 9am – 10am. Stop at the scale window for directions. Dates for larger Saturday collections will be publicized in the paper or info is available by calling the GAD at the Facility (774-5680.) Latex paint is not hazardous waste- open paint cans and allow to air dry, then dispose of cans in trash collection.

TIRES: There is typically a fee for recycling tires based on size...stop at the scale window for directions and fee. See the public notice below for important info regarding a tire recycling grant for several area municipalities that starts May 29, 2018 through Nov 1, 2018 or until funds are used up. Note the “proof of residency” requirement.

**NOTICE TO RESIDENTS OF
THE CITIES OF IRON MOUNTAIN, KINGSFORD, NORWAY AND TOWNSHIPS OF BREITUNG and
NORWAY**

The above governmental units have received SCRAP TIRE CLEANUP GRANTS from the MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (MDEQ). Beginning Tuesday, May 29, 2018, residents can drop off loose passenger tires at the Dickinson County Baler site located just south of the US-2 141 Junction behind the Thomas Theater (Cinema 8) during normal operating hours 8:00 to 3:30 Monday through Friday and 9:00 to Noon on Saturday. The grant will cover the cost of disposal of passenger tires. No heavy truck, semi, tractor, solid tires or tires with rims. If rims are attached, a \$10.00 per tire will be charged to the individual. A property tax receipt and picture ID are needed to verify residency, and a signature will be required to attest that the tires came from the address as stated. The grant will run through November 1, 2018 or until the grant funds are depleted.

Cities of Iron Mountain, Kingsford and Norway
Townships of Breitung and Norway.

Compiled by the Dickinson Conservation District, May 2018.

Recycling information changes frequently. Don't hesitate to contact GAD at the Dickinson County Solid Waste Processing Facility for current info or with questions: 906-774-5680.