

RECYCLING NEWS UPDATE

PROGRAM UPDATE

As the State of Wisconsin continues their budget stalemate, there are no certain answers as far as the recycling program and the level of funding that will be available. We currently anticipate that the funding as being proposed would remain fairly consistent as it has in the past. As the state continues to struggle with transportation funding, it still may take more time in order to get a final answer as to how much funding the state will provide for the recycling program and grant funding. We will be continuing to move forward and will submit a grant application for the upcoming year as we have done for several years. These grant dollars are very important for the recycling program and help offset the costs of the program. Without the funding, we wouldn't be able to have such programs such as the compost site, brush chipping, etc. It is our hope that funding will remain at the same level as previously and we will be able to maintain these programs.

For garbage and recycling containers, there has been a change in the policy as to replacement containers, new containers or additional containers. If there is a change that is needed for the garbage and recycling containers, you must contact the clerk's office at 920-853-3241 or email me at hilbertclerk@villageofhilbert.com. Once I receive the request, I will forward it onto Advanced Disposal and they will process the request. They will no longer take requests directly from the resident. The hope with this change is a much smoother process for the container change outs because they are in the process of outsourcing their customer service department so if you call, you may get a different person each time. This change will also standardize the process because currently, each municipality does it their own way. We have been processing the container changes this way for a period of time already and it seems to be working just fine.

COMPOST SITE

When using the compost site, please remember to read the signs and dump the compost material and/or brush on the proper piles. We still continue to have periodic issues at the compost site with people outside the village taking material or bringing material to the site. If you see this going on, please get a license plate for the vehicle and turn it into the clerk's office. We want to curb this type of activity to help save costs to the village. When this happens, it only costs you, the taxpayer. We have also been sifting compost material at the site and this is available free of charge to any village resident. It is also available for non residents but they would have to pay a fee of \$5.00 per yard. If you know of someone interested in the material and they are not a village resident, please have them contact the clerk's office. Please remember that the free compost is for VILLAGE RESIDENTS ONLY! Please do not take the compost material and give it to a non resident. Remember that this program does cost money and you are the ones paying the property taxes to offset that cost. Recently, we have been experiencing more instances where improper material is being "dumped" at the compost site. Within the last couple of weeks, we have had everything from garden hoses, garbage bags, timbers and stumps "dumped" at the site. We need to remember that this is not a dump for garbage. The only materials that can be taken to this site are yard materials (also called "yard waste") which includes items such as leaves, grass clippings, brush branches, etc. that are under 4" in diameter. Brush does not include the stumps from trees or root balls bushes. This has been an ongoing issue and it has actually become a more frequent occurrence. This current trend is going to force us to invest taxpayer dollars to fence off the entire area and to pay someone to monitor the site which means it would only be open certain hours instead of unlimited access. Let's all do our part to clean this up and remember that you have garbage containers for your garbage. Keep it out of the compost site! We also offer an annual drop off site in the spring for items that do not fit in your regular garbage so there really is no excuse for this. DO YOUR PART!!!

LEAF PICK UP

Boy, it doesn't seem that it is that time of year that we should be talking about leaf pick up but fall is upon us already! It is hard to believe how the year has gone by so fast already. As in previous years, the village will go around the village to pick up the leaves at curbside this year. Please place the leaves in the terrace area between the curb and sidewalk. Do not place them in the roadway. This could hinder storm water drainage. Please do not wait too late in the fall season to rake the leaves out to the curb. We will pick them up as long as we can but when the weather goes south along with the birds your leaves may not be able to be picked up at all. Please keep this in mind as we go through this season.

BRUSH PICK UP

Please remember that the village still continues to do brush pick up at your residence for large amounts of brush. If you only have a couple of branches and are able to transport them to the compost site, we ask that you do. This helps curtail costs of driving around the village picking up small amounts of brush. **IN ORDER TO HAVE THE BRUSH PICKED UP ON YOUR PROPERTY, YOU MUST CALL THE CLERK'S OFFICE TO BE PLACED ON THE LIST. IF YOU DO NOT CALL THE CLERK'S OFFICE TO GET ON THE BRUSH PICK UP LIST, WE WILL NOT PICK UP THE BRUSH AT YOUR PROPERTY.** The maximum diameter of brush that the village will accept at the compost site or on site at your property is 4". If you are removing a large tree, please call prior to cutting down the tree.

The Recycling Committee