TOWN OF GRANT
PORTAGE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

RECYCLING ORDINANCE
ORDINANCE NO. 2026-03

The Town Board of the Town of Grant, Portage County, Wisconsin, by this ordinance, adopted on proper notice with a quorum vote of a majority of the Town Board present and voting, at the Town of Grant Board Meeting on April 21st, 2026, hereby adopts this Recycling Ordinance to take effect April 21st, 2026. At such time, Town of Grant Recycling Ordinance No. 09-03, dated July 1, 2009, shall be discontinued.

SECTION 1: TITLE

This ordinance shall be known as the Town of Grant Recycling Ordinance.

SECTION 2: PURPOSE

The purpose of this ordinance is to promote recycling, composting, and resource recovery through the administration of an effective recycling program, as provided in Wis. Stat. § 287.11, and Wis. Admin Code NR Ch. 544.

SECTION 3: STATUTORY AUTHORITY

This ordinance is adopted as authorized under Wis. Stat. § 287.09(3)(b).

SECTION 4: ABROGATION AND GREATER RESTRICTIONS

It is not intended by this ordinance to repeal, abrogate, annul, impair, or interfere with any existing rules, regulations, ordinances, or permits previously adopted or issued pursuant to law. However, whenever this ordinance imposes greater restrictions, the provisions of this Ordinance shall apply.

SECTION 5: INTERPRETATION

In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this Ordinance shall be held to be the minimum requirements and shall not be deemed a limitation or repeal of any other power granted by the Wisconsin Statutes. Where any terms or requirements of this Ordinance may be inconsistent or conflicting, the more restrictive requirements or interpretation shall apply. Where a provision of this Ordinance is required by Wisconsin Statutes, or by a standard in Wis. Admin Code NR Ch. 544, and where the ordinance provision is unclear, the provision shall be interpreted in light of the Wisconsin Statutes and the Wis. Admin Code NR Ch.544 standards in effect on the date of the adoption of this Ordinance, or in effect on the date of the most recent text amendment to this Ordinance.

SECTION 6: SEVERABILITY

Should any portion of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected.

SECTION 7: APPLICABILITY

The requirements of this Ordinance apply to all persons within the physical boundaries of the Town of Grant.

SECTION 8: ADMINISTRATION

The provisions of this Ordinance shall be administered by the Town of Grant or its designees.

SECTION 9: DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Ordinance:

1. "Attendant" means any person or persons employed by the Town of Grant who is on the premises of the Transfer Station at 8840 Griffith Avenue for the purpose of carrying out the duties set forth by the governing Town Board.
2. "Bi-metal container" means a container for carbonated or malt beverages that is made primarily of a combination of steel and aluminum.
3. "Container board" means corrugated paperboard used in the manufacture of shipping containers and related products.
4. "Foam polystyrene packaging" means packaging made primarily from foam polystyrene that satisfies one of the following criteria:
    a. Is designed for serving food or beverages.
    b. Consists of loose particles intended to fill space and cushion the packaged article in a shipping container.
    c. Consists of rigid materials shaped to hold and cushion the packaged article in a shipping container.
5. "Glass container" means a glass bottle, jar, or other packaging container used to contain a product that is the subject of a retail sale. This term does not include ceramic cups, dishes, oven ware, plate glass, safety and window glass, heat-resistant glass such as Pyrex, lead-based glass such as crystal, or TV tubes.
6. "HDPE" means high density polyethylene, labeled by the resin code #2.
7. "LDPE" means low density polyethylene, labeled by the resin code #4.
8. "Magazines" means magazines and other materials printed on similar paper.
9. "Major appliance" means a residential or commercial air conditioner, clothes dryer, clothes washer, dishwasher, freezer, furnace, boiler, dehumidifier, microwave oven, oven, refrigerator, stove, or water heater.
10. "Mixed paper" means paper accepted for recycling other than newspapers, magazines, or office paper. Mixed paper includes envelopes and papers received via mail, telephone books, TV guides, and various schoolwork ledgers and notebook paper.
11. "Multiple-family dwelling" means a structure containing 5 or more residential units, including those that are occupied seasonally.
12. "Newspaper" means a newspaper and other materials printed on newsprint.
13. "Non-residential facilities and properties" means commercial, retail, industrial, institutional, and governmental facilities and properties. Non-residential facilities and properties includes any location at which goods or services are provided or manufactured, including locations under construction, demolition, or remodeling, or used for special events such as fairs, festivals, sport venues, conferences, and exhibits. This term does not include multiple-family dwellings.
14. "Office paper" means a variety of high-grade printing and writing papers. This term does not include industrial process waste, newspaper, or packaging.
15. "Other resins or multiple resins" means plastic resins labeled by the resin code #7.

16. "Person" includes any individual, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, association, local governmental unit as defined in Wis. Stat. § 66.0131(1)(a), state agency or authority, or federal agency.
17. "PETE" or "PET" means polyethylene terephthalate, labeled by the resin code #1.
18. "Plastic container" means an individual, separate, rigid plastic bottle, can, jar, or carton, except for a blister pack, that is originally used to contain a product that is the subject of a retail sale.
19. "Postconsumer waste" means solid waste other than solid waste generated in the production of goods, hazardous waste as defined in Wis. Stat. § 291.01(7), waste from construction and demolition of structures, scrap automobiles, or high-volume industrial waste as defined in Wis. Stat. § 289.01(17).
20. "PP" means polypropylene, labeled by the resin code #5.
21. "PS" means polystyrene, labeled by the resin code #6.
22. "PVC" means polyvinyl chloride, labeled by the resin code #3.
23. "Recyclable materials" includes lead acid batteries; major appliances; waste oil; yard waste; aluminum containers; bi-metal containers; corrugated paper or other container board; foam polystyrene packaging; glass containers; magazines; newspaper; office paper; rigid plastic containers, including those made of PETE, HDPE, PVC, LDPE, PP, PS, and other resins or multiple resins; steel containers; and waste tires.
24. "Solid waste" has the meaning specified in Wis. Stat. § 289.01(33).
25. "Solid waste facility" has the meaning specified in Wis. Stat. § 289.01(35).
26. "Solid waste treatment" means any method, technique, or process designed to change the physical, chemical, or biological character or composition of solid waste. "Treatment" includes incineration.
27. "Transfer Station" means the Town facility designed for residents to discharge their solid waste
28. "Waste tire" means a tire that is no longer suitable for its original purpose because of wear, damage, or defect.
29. "Yard waste" means leaves, grass clippings, yard and garden debris and brush, including clean woody vegetative material no greater than 6 inches in diameter. This term does not include stumps, roots, or shrubs with intact root balls.

SECTION 10: SEPARATION OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS

All occupants of single-family and two (2)-to-four (4)-unit residences, multiple-family dwellings and non-residential facilities and properties shall separate the following materials from their post consumer waste:

1. Lead acid batteries
2. Major appliances
3. Waste oil
4. Yard waste
5. Aluminum containers
6. Bi-metal containers
7. Corrugated paper or other container board
8. Foam polystyrene packaging
9. Glass containers
10. Magazines
11. Newspapers
12. Office paper
13. Mixed paper
14. Rigid plastic containers made of PETE, HDPE, PVC, LDPE, PP, PS, and other resins or multiple resins
15. Steel containers

16. Waste tires

SECTION 11: SEPARATION REQUIREMENTS EXEMPTED

The obligation to separate recyclable materials under Section 10 does not apply to:

1. Occupants of single-family and 2-to-4-unit residences, multiple-family dwellings, and non-residential facilities and properties that send their postconsumer waste to a processing facility licensed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources that recovers the materials specified in Section 10 from solid waste in as pure a form as is technically feasible.
2. Postconsumer waste burned as a supplemental fuel at a facility if less than 30% of the heat input to the facility is derived from the postconsumer waste.
3. A recyclable material specified in Section 10 for which a variance has been granted by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources under Wis. Stat. § 287.11(2m) or Wis. Admin. Code NR § 544.14.

SECTION 12: CARE OF SEPARATED RECYCLABLE MATERIALS

To the greatest extent practicable, the recyclable materials separated in accordance with Section 10 shall be clean and kept free of contaminants such as food or product residue, oil or grease, or other non-recyclable materials, including but not limited to household hazardous waste, medical waste, and agricultural chemical containers. Recyclable materials shall be stored in a manner which protects them from wind, rain, and other inclement weather conditions.

The Town of Grant has the right to reject, including but not limited to, any of the following materials:

1. Hazardous wastes, including household hazardous wastes, toxic wastes, free liquid in any containers including paints and solvents, and pesticides (excluding non-agricultural pesticide containers if properly cleaned, uncontaminated, and approved by the Town Board).
2. Medical wastes.
3. Asbestos.
4. Sludge wastes.
5. Industrial or commercial wastes from any industrial or commercial facility or operation.
6. Waste from pollution control equipment.
7. Residue and debris from clean-up of a chemical discharge or from any facility using chemicals in commercial, agricultural, or industrial processes.
8. Ash waste.
9. Hazardous and toxic demolition and construction wastes, and demolition and construction wastes containing asbestos, bio-medical wastes, or septage.
10. Animal fecal wastes.
11. Dead animals.
12. Brush or trees treated with chemical preservatives.
13. Explosive materials.
14. Any other contaminated recyclable materials as determined by the Town Board or its contractor.

No person may knowingly place any of the above-noted wastes or contaminated materials in any recyclable material collection without written permission of the Town Board. This prohibition applies to any contractor for the Town.

SECTION 13: MANAGEMENT OF LEAD ACID BATTERIES, MAJOR APPLIANCES, WASTE OIL, AND YARD WASTE

Occupants of single-family and 2-to-4-unit residences, multiple-family dwellings, and non-residential facilities and properties shall manage lead acid batteries, major appliances, waste oil, and yard waste as follows:

1. Lead acid batteries shall be traded in at the place of business where purchased, or may be accepted at the Transfer Station.
2. Major appliances may be dropped off at a site specified by resolution of the Town Board for a fee.
3. Waste oil shall be placed in the designated container as instructed by the attendant.
4. Yard waste, excluding branches and limbs less than 6 inches in diameter, shall be composted by residents at their own expense. Branches and limbs less than 6 inches in diameter shall be placed in designated areas as instructed by the attendant.
5. Fluorescent light bulbs may be dropped off at the Transfer Station at the designated disposal station with a fee.

SECTION 14: PREPARATION AND COLLECTION OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS

Except as otherwise directed by the Town of Grant or its designee, occupants of single-family and 2-to-4-unit residences shall do the following for the preparation and collection of the separated materials specified in Section 10:

1. Aluminum containers shall be clean, free of any hazardous or toxic waste, and placed in the receptacle designated by the attendant.
2. Bi-metal containers shall be clean and free of any hazardous or toxic waste; labels and lids shall be removed. Lids may be recycled by placing them in the can, pinching the can top out-of-round, and placing in the receptacle designated by the attendant.
3. Corrugated paper or other container board shall be clean, dry, and free of any hazardous or toxic waste; it shall be flattened and reduced to a manageable size for handling.
4. Foam polystyrene packaging shall be clean, dry, and free of any food residue, hazardous, or toxic waste, and placed in the receptacle designated by the attendant. Do not place foam polystyrene in plastic bags. Currently this packaging may be disposed with solid waste until recycling options are available locally.
5. Glass containers shall be clean, free of any hazardous or toxic waste, and have lids removed. Keep glass intact for safe handling.
6. Magazines or other materials printed on similar paper shall be clean, free of hazardous or toxic waste, and placed unbundled in the designated receptacle.
7. Newspapers or other materials printed on newsprint shall be clean, free of hazardous or toxic waste, and placed in the designated receptacle.
8. Office paper shall be clean, free of hazardous or toxic waste, and placed in the designated receptacle.
9. Mixed paper shall be clean, free of hazardous or toxic waste, and placed in the designated receptacle.
10. Rigid plastic containers shall be clean, free of any hazardous or toxic waste, have lids removed, and be placed in the designated receptacle.
11. Steel containers shall be clean, free of any hazardous or toxic waste, have lids removed, and be placed in the designated receptacle.
12. Waste tires may be collected once or twice annually for a fee determined by the Town Board. Waste tires may be burned with energy recovery in a solid waste treatment facility.

SECTION 15: RESPONSIBILITIES OF OWNERS OR DESIGNATED AGENTS OF MULTIPLE-FAMILY DWELLINGS

1. Owners or designated agents of multiple-family dwellings shall do all of the following to recycle the materials specified in Section 10 (5) – (15):

    a. Provide adequate, separate containers for the recycling program. The number of recycling containers shall equal or exceed the number of trash containers, and at least one of the following conditions shall be met:
        i. The minimum total volume of recycling container space is equal to 20 gallons per week per dwelling unit;
        ii. The ratio of trash container volume to recycling container volume is at most 2:1; or

    An alternative method is used that does not result in the overflow of a recycling container during the period between collection of materials and delivery to a recycling facility.

    b. Notify tenants in writing at the time of renting or leasing the dwelling and at least semi-annually thereafter about the established recycling program.

    c. Provide for the collection of the materials separated from solid waste by the tenants and the delivery of the materials to a recycling facility.

    d. Notify tenants which materials are collected, how to prepare the materials to meet processing requirements, collection methods or sites, and locations of drop-off collection sites to recycle materials not collected on-site. Contact information: Town of Grant Town Hall, 9011 County Highway WW, Wisconsin Rapids, WI, (715) 423-9193.

2. The requirements of subsection (1) do not apply to owners or designated agents of multiple-family dwellings if the postconsumer waste generated within the dwelling is treated at a processing facility licensed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources that recovers for recycling the materials specified in Section 10 (5) – (15) from solid waste in as pure a form as is technically feasible.

SECTION 16: RESPONSIBILITIES OF OWNERS OR DESIGNATED AGENTS OF NON-RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES AND PROPERTIES

1. Owners or designated agents of non-residential facilities and properties shall do all of the following to recycle the materials specified in Section 10 (5)-(15):

    a. Provide adequate, separate containers for the recycling program. The total volume of recycling containers shall be sufficient to avoid overflow during the time period between collection of materials and delivery to a recycling facility.

    b. Notify in writing, at least semi-annually, all users, tenants, and occupants of the properties about the established recycling program.

    c. Provide for the collection of the materials separated from the solid waste by users, tenants, and occupants, and the delivery of the materials to a recycling facility.

    d. Notify users, tenants, and occupants which materials are collected, how to prepare materials to meet processing requirements, collection methods or sites, and locations of drop-off collection sites to recycle materials not collected on-site.

2. The requirements of subsection (1) do not apply to owners or designated agents of non-residential facilities and properties if the postconsumer waste generated within the facility or property is treated at a processing facility licensed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources that recovers for recycling the materials specified in Section 10 (5) – (15) from solid waste in as pure a form as is technically feasible.

SECTION 17: PROHIBITION ON DISPOSAL OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS

No person may dispose of in a solid waste disposal facility, or burn in a solid waste treatment facility, any of the materials specified in Section 10 that have been separated for recycling, except that waste tires may be burned with energy recovery in a solid waste treatment facility.

SECTION 18: ENFORCEMENT

1. For the purpose of ascertaining compliance with the provisions of this ordinance, any authorized officer, employee, or representative of the Town of Grant may inspect recyclable materials separated for recycling, postconsumer waste intended for disposal, collection sites and facilities, collection vehicles, collection areas of multiple-family dwellings and non-residential facilities and properties, solid waste disposal facilities and solid waste treatment facilities, and any records relating to recycling activities. Such records shall be kept confidential when necessary to protect proprietary information. No person may refuse access to any authorized officer, employee, or authorized representative of the Town of Grant who requests access for purposes of inspection and who presents appropriate credentials. No person may obstruct, hamper, or interfere with such an inspection.
2. Any person who violates a provision of this Ordinance may be issued a citation by any member of the Town Board to collect a forfeiture. The issuance of a citation shall not preclude proceeding under any other ordinance or law relating to the same or any other matter. Proceeding under any other ordinance or law relating to the same or any other matter shall not preclude the issuance of a citation under this paragraph.
3. Penalties for violating this ordinance may be assessed as follows:
    a. Any person who violates Section 17 or does not have a valid permit for alternate means of disposal may be required to forfeit $50 for a first violation, $200 for a second violation, and not more than $2,000 for a third or subsequent violation.
    b. Any person who violates a provision of this ordinance other than Section 17 may be required to forfeit not less than $10 nor more than $1,000 for each violation.
    c. The penalties provided in this Section shall not be construed as prohibiting the Town from seeking other methods of enforcing this Ordinance as allowed by law, including, but not limited to the use of an injunction.

SECTION 19: RECYCLABLE MATERIAL COLLECTION SCHEDULE

The Town Board may establish the dates and times of authorized placement and collection for recyclable materials, wastes, or other materials where these materials are to be collected in the Town by the Town, by any contractor of the Town, or by any permitted collector of the Town. The Town Clerk shall post notice of the collection schedule in three places within Town boundaries at least one week before any recyclable material collection schedule is changed.

SECTION 20: PERMITTING

4. No person may engage in the use, operation, or business of collecting solid waste or recyclable material for consideration within the Town without being licensed or permitted by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources under Wis. Admin. Code NR Ch.502.
5. No person in the Town may continue to place recyclable material for collection at any location in the Town that includes unauthorized recyclable materials.

SECTION 21: FEE RESPONSIBILITY

Any fees due and owing as a result of recycling services furnished to persons within the Town of Grant shall be the responsibility of the property owner or occupant generating the waste.

SECTION 22: TOWN RECYCLING PROGRAM

The Town shall have a recycling program in which its residents shall participate in. Any person may request to be waived from participating in the Town recycling program at the Town's discretion. Any requester shall contract with a private or public licensed waste hauler or transporter for proper disposal of the designated recyclable materials. The requester shall furnish to the Town Clerk a copy of a contract for recycling services from a licensed or permitted entity.

SECTION 23: RELEASE OF CLAIMS

By using the Transfer Station, the user/resident releases all claim to the deposited items, including any and all claims to monetary proceeds, but is not released from responsibility for any materials that are hazardous or toxic under state or federal law, or that are otherwise not compliant with the terms of this ordinance.

REPEAL OF FORMER ORDINANCE

Town of Grant Recycling Ordinance No. 09-03, dated July 1, 2009, is hereby repealed and discontinued upon the effective date of this ordinance.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall take effect in full force after a it has been publicly noticed according to Wis. Stat. § 60.80(5), April 23rd, 2026.

Adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Grant, Portage County, Wisconsin.

Sharon Schwab Date: 4/21/26

Town Board Chair Sharon Schwab

Doug Steltenpohl Date: 4-23-26

Town Board Supervisor Doug Steltenpohl

Date: 4/21/26

Town Board Supervisor Scott Provost

Date: 4/23/26

Town Clerk Stefanie Schlapa