

St. Croix County
Code of Ordinances

**CHAPTER 21 –
MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE:
REDUCTION, RECOVERY & RECYCLING**

Effective March 3, 2026

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CHAPTER 21 – ST. CROIX COUNTY MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE:
REDUCTION, RECOVERY & RECYCLING

21.1 INTRODUCTION

A. TITLE, AUTHORITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE

1. TITLE

This ordinance shall be cited as “Chapter 21 - St. Croix County Municipal Solid Waste: Reduction, Recovery and Recycling Ordinance” and hereinafter referred to as the “ordinance.”

2. AUTHORITY

- a. This ordinance is enacted pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Ch. 287, 289 and 59 and Wisconsin Administrative Code Ch. NR 544.
- b. The versions of the Wisconsin Statutes and the Administrative Code cited in (a.) which are in effect at the time of adoption of this ordinance, together with any subsequent amendments thereto or recreations of said statutes and code provisions, constitute authority for this ordinance.

3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall be effective on March 3, 2026.

B. PURPOSES

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 Ch. NR 544.

C. APPLICABILITY AND EXEMPTIONS

1. APPLICATION OF THIS ORDINANCE

- a. This ordinance applies to the responsible unit under Wisconsin Statutes § 287.09(1), including but not limited to:
 - 1) All persons that live, work or play within the responsible unit.
- b. This ordinance shall not apply or be enforced in those municipalities of St. Croix County which retain their own responsible unit designation and authority.

2. COMPLIANCE

All persons shall manage municipal solid waste which is owned, controlled or possessed by them, in compliance with this ordinance.

3. INCORPORATION OF PROVISIONS BY REFERENCE

- a. This ordinance incorporates by reference the following rules, regulations and laws, as set forth in the Wisconsin Statutes and the Wisconsin Administrative Codes governing recycling and municipal solid waste:
 - 1) Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 287, 289, and 291.
 - 2) Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapters NR 500 - 555 and NR 660 - 679.
- b. These rules, regulations and laws shall apply until amended or renumbered and then shall apply as amended or renumbered.

4. EXEMPTIONS

- a. The following are exempt from this ordinance:
 - 1) Domestic wastewater which is regulated by the St. Croix County Sanitary Ordinance, Chapter 12.
 - 2) Sludge as defined in Wisconsin Administrative Code NR § 500.03(212).
 - 3) Animal waste which is regulated by Chapter 11 of the St. Croix County Code of Ordinances – Manure Storage Facilities.
 - 4) Clean Fill.
 - 5) The demolition debris resulting from the burning of an existing structure for practice and instruction of fire fighters or testing of fire-fighting equipment, subject to Wisconsin Administrative Code NR § 502.11(2)(c).
 - 6) Food Waste.
 - 7) Livestock Mortality Composting subject to Wis. Stat. § 95.50 and Wisconsin Administrative Code NR § 502.12(5)(d), (10) and (11).

D. INTERPRETATION

1. ABROGATION

- a. It is not intended by this ordinance to repeal, abrogate, annul, impair or interfere with any existing easements, covenants, deed restrictions, agreements, rules or permits previously adopted or issued pursuant to law. However, whenever this ordinance imposes greater restrictions, the provisions of this ordinance shall apply.
- b. Nor is it the intent of this ordinance to abrogate, impair or interfere with the legal rights of any person as may be guaranteed by the state and federal constitutions, statutes and administrative rules.

- c. The provisions of this ordinance shall be held to be the minimum requirements and shall not be deemed a limitation or repeal of any power granted by the Wisconsin Statutes.
- d. Where a provision of this ordinance is required by Wisconsin Statutes or Wisconsin Administrative Code, the ordinance provision shall be interpreted in light of the Wisconsin Statutes and the Wisconsin Administrative Code in effect at the time of interpretation.

2. LIBERAL CONSTRUCTION

The provisions of this ordinance shall be liberally construed in favor of St. Croix County and shall not be construed to be a limitation or repeal of any other power now possessed or granted to St. Croix County.

3. SEVERABILITY AND NON-LIABILITY

If any section, clause, provision or portion of this ordinance is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected.

E. LIMITATION OF ACTION

1. CLAIMS

This ordinance shall be subject to the notice of claims and claim requirements of Wisconsin Statutes § 893.80(1).

21.2 STANDARDS & COLLECTION

A. GENERAL STANDARDS

1. PROPERTY STANDARDS

- a. It shall be the duty of any person owning or occupying any property to maintain the premises in a clean and orderly manner, free from any municipal solid waste, unless managed as required in this section, § 21.2.

2. BURNING OF YARD WASTE AND UNTREATED WOOD

- a. Unless prohibited by local regulation, any person may burn yard waste and clean wood, including but not limited to wood that has not been painted, stained, sealed or treated, and is generated by a single family or household if the following standards are met:
 - 1) Properly notify and receive approval, including any necessary permits, from the local governing municipality and/or fire department.
 - 2) Conduct all allowed burning of yard waste and clean wood in a safe manner, when wind and weather conditions are such as to minimize adverse health and/or fire hazard effects and in conformance with local and state fire protection regulations.
- b. Persons may burn clean wood that has or has not been generated on their own property for recreation, heating or food preparation.
- c. All burning shall be controlled to prevent property damage. All damage caused by burning is the responsibility of the person who is conducting the burn.
- d. Enclosed or indoor burning for heating residential or nonresidential facilities is exempt from this section.

3. COMPOSTING AND BURYING

- a. All persons who own, lease or occupy residential property may manage, bury or compost yard waste and compostable organic materials from their own or another's property if they are used as a soil amendment or mulch on the property where it is composted or managed. It shall not create a nuisance, public health risk or environmental hazard and shall be in accordance with this ordinance.

4. AUTHORITY TO REMOVE

- a. A hauler may collect municipal solid waste when authorized by the municipality, property owner, tenant or designated agent.
- b. In accord with lawful authority, St. Croix County may remove or cause to be removed from property subject hereto, all municipal solid waste and litter which is not deposited in lawful containers and the placement of which is a violation of this ordinance. In accord with Wisconsin Statutes § 66.0627, St. Croix County shall

consider this to be a current service rendered on behalf of the property from which the municipal solid waste is removed and may impose a special charge therefore which will be placed on the tax roll, if not paid by the owner upon being billed for said service.

B. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

1. LITTERING AND MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE ACCUMULATION

- a. No person shall litter.
- b. No person shall accumulate on land subject to his or her ownership or control or allow a third person to accumulate, any municipal solid waste, which accumulation violates this ordinance.

2. BIOHAZARD AND RENDERING WASTE FACILITY

- a. No person shall accept biohazard or rendering waste from offsite, unless all necessary local, county, state, and federal permits have been obtained.
- b. Any biohazard, rendering, or carcass waste produced onsite shall be handled in a way to prevent disease, water contamination, vermin access, and odors. Such waste shall be properly disposed of within 3 business days.

C. TRASH and RECYCLABLE MATERIAL MANAGEMENT: GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. SEPARATION OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS

Occupants of single family and 2-to-4-unit residences, multiple-family dwellings and non-residential facilities and properties shall separate the following materials from postconsumer waste:

- a. Lead acid and lithium-ion batteries
- b. Electronics
- c. Major appliances
- d. Waste oil, oil filters and absorbent material
- e. Yard waste
- f. Waste tires
- g. Foam polystyrene packaging
- h. Aluminum, bi-metal, and steel containers
- i. Corrugated paper or other container board
- j. Glass containers
- k. Magazines, newspaper, and office paper

- I. Rigid plastic containers made of PETE, HDPE, PVC, LDPE, PP, PS, and other resins or multiple resins

2. SEPARATION REQUIREMENTS EXEMPTED

The separation requirements of above recyclable materials do not apply to the following:

- a. 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 above from solid waste in as pure a form as is technically feasible.
- b. Solid waste which is burned as a supplement fuel at a facility if less than 30 % of the heat input to the facility is derived from the solid waste burned as supplement fuel.
- c. A recyclable material specified above for which a variance has been granted by the Department of Natural Resources under Wis. Stat. § 287.11(2m) or Wis. Admin. Code NR § 544.14.

3. MANAGEMENT OF LEAD ACID BATTERIES, MAJOR APPLIANCES, WASTE OIL, TIRES 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, electronics, major appliances, waste oil, and yard waste as follows:

- a. Lead acid and Lithium-Ion batteries shall be directed to the hazardous waste vendor, commercial recycling operations, or retail stores.
- b. Electronics shall be directed to county collection events, commercial recycling operations or retail stores.
- c. Major appliances shall be directed to county collection events or commercial recycling operations.
- d. Waste oil shall be directed to the hazardous waste vendor or retail stores.
- e. Waste tires shall be directed to county collection events or retail recycling operations.
- f. Yard waste shall be home composted, picked up by a contracted hauler, brought to a commercial operation or to municipalities that provide composting for their residents.

D. PREPARATION AND COLLECTION OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS

1. COLLECTION

- a. Except as otherwise directed by St. Croix County's Community Development Department, occupants of single family and 2-to-4-unit residences shall do the

following for the preparation and collection of the separated materials specified below:

- 1) Aluminum, bi-metal and steel containers shall be emptied, rinsed, then collected curbside or brought to a recycling drop-off center.
 - 2) Corrugated paper or other container board shall be flattened, then collected curbside or brought to a recycling drop-off center.
 - 3) Foam polystyrene packaging shall be placed in the trash until such time that the variance is lifted.
 - 4) Glass containers shall be emptied, rinsed, metal lids separated, then collected curbside or brought to a recycling drop-off center.
 - 5) Magazines, newspaper and office paper shall be collected curbside or brought to a recycling drop-off center.
 - 6) Rigid plastic containers #1, #2 and #5 shall be emptied, rinsed, plastic caps put back on, then collected curbside or brought to a recycling drop-off center.
 - 7) Rigid plastic containers #3, #4, #6 and #7 shall be placed in the trash until such time that the variance is lifted.
- b. All persons who own, lease or occupy property shall provide temporary storage for any trash and recyclable materials.
 - c. All trash and recyclable materials shall be deposited in separate containers to be placed at collection locations or, if not in containers, shall be placed at collection locations, on private or public property, agreed to by the property owner and hauler.
 - d. Construction and demolition material containers shall be emptied at least once every four months or more frequently to prevent a nuisance, public health risk or environmental hazard and shall be in compliance with this ordinance.

2. CONTAINERS

- a. Containers shall be of a size that will hold the volume of trash or recyclable materials generated between each collection.
- b. Containers shall be durable, and resistant to leaking, rusting and breaking.
- c. Containers for trash which are placed in an exterior location shall have fitted or attached covers. Covers shall generally be kept closed to prevent problems caused by precipitation, animals or wind.
- d. Within six months of the effective date of this ordinance, all containers shall be plainly labeled if they are:
 - 1) Intended for collection of trash or recyclable materials; and
 - 2) In public or private locations; and
 - 3) Accessible to those in a shared space; and

- e. The label in d. above shall be located on the most highly visible side or lid of the containers with bold lettering no smaller than 1.5 inches in height conveying the message, "RECYCLABLES ONLY" or "TRASH ONLY". A description of the types of recyclable materials accepted is encouraged. The hauler's name and phone number should be displayed.
- f. The following containers are exempt from a.- e. above:
 - 1) Containers used inside private residences.
 - 2) Containers maintained for personal use and not intended to be placed for collection by a hauler.
 - 3) Containers not in a shared space.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES OF OWNERS OR DESIGNATED AGENTS OF MULTIPLE-FAMILY DWELLINGS

Owners or designated agents of multiple-family dwellings shall do all of the following to recycle the materials specified in §21.2D.1.a.1)-7):

- a. Provide adequate, separate containers for the recycling program established in compliance with the ordinance. The number of recycling containers shall equal or be greater than the number of trash containers and at least one of the following shall be met:
 - 1) The minimum total volume of recycling container space is equal to 20 gallons per week per dwelling unit.
 - 2) The ratio of trash container volume to recycling container volume is at most 2:1.
 - 3) An alternative method that does not result in the overflow of a recycling container during the time 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 the 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 in order to meet the processing requirements, collection methods or sites, and locations of drop-off collection sites to recycle materials not collected on-site.

The requirements specified in 1. do not apply to the 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 Department of Natural Resources that recovers for recycling the materials specified in §21.2D.1.a.1)-7) from solid waste in as pure a form as is technically feasible.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF OWNERS OR DESIGNATED AGENTS OF NON-RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES AND PROPERTIES

- a. Owners or designated agents of non-residential facilities and properties shall do all of the following to recycle the materials specified in §21.2 C.1.h.-l.:
 - 1) Provide adequate, separate containers for the recycling program established under this section. 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.
 - 2) Notify in writing, at least semi-annually, all users, tenants and occupants of the properties about the established recycling program.
 - 3) Provide for the collection of the materials separated from the solid waste by the users, tenants and occupants and the delivery of the materials to a recycling facility.
 - 4) Notify users, tenants and occupants which materials are collected, how to prepare materials in order to meet the processing requirements, collection methods or sites, and locations of drop-off collection sites to recycle materials not collected on-site.
- b. The requirements specified in 1) do not apply to the 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 Department of Natural Resources that recovers for recycling the materials specified in §21.2 D.1. a.1)-7) from solid waste in as pure a form as is technically feasible.

5. SPECIAL EVENTS

All special events shall do the following:

- a. Provide containers to collect municipal solid waste for recycling and disposal that conform to the standards in §21.2 D.2. above.
- b. Ensure that the users know where the recyclables and trash need to be placed.

E. SEPARATED MATERIALS

Residents, businesses and other organizations must recycle designated materials, as well as provide for the recycling of these materials by their clients or customers.

1. PROHIBITIONS ON DISPOSAL OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS SEPARATED FOR RECYCLING

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 §21.2 C.1.h.-l. that have been separated for recycling, except waste tires may be burned with energy recovery in a solid waste treatment facility.

2. MUNICIPAL RECYCLABLES COLLECTION

- a. A member municipality with a population of over 5,000 shall be required to provide curbside collection of recyclable materials to single-family and 2-4 unit residences at least once per month.
- b. Annually, the member municipality shall file a report with the Community Development Department, on forms provided by the Department, identifying all the following for the preceding year:
 - 1) The tons of recyclable materials collected.
 - 2) Associated costs for operating their recycling program.
 - 3) Any other information requested by Community Development Department regarding recycling activities.

21.3 HAULER STANDARDS

A. HAULER REQUIREMENTS

1. OPERATIONAL STANDARDS

- a. All haulers operating in St. Croix County shall comply with the requirements of this ordinance.
- b. All haulers shall obtain and keep any WI DNR and/or WISDOT licenses prior to operating as a hauler within the responsible unit.

2. COLLECTION AND MANAGEMENT

- a. Haulers shall transport recyclable materials, set out for recycling, to a self-certified material recovery facility as defined in Wisconsin Administrative Code NR § 544.16 and Wisconsin Statute § 287.27(1) that sorts, packages and otherwise prepares recyclable materials for sale.
- b. The hauler shall conduct collections in a manner which ensures that no separated recyclables are contaminated with trash.
- c. Requires containers used for collection of recyclables to be clearly labeled.

3. REPORTING

Haulers are to provide residential (single family and 2-4 unit) recycling tonnage information to all RUs, with or without a contract by Feb. 1.

- a. Data should include name of Material Recovery Facility(ies) used.
- b. If scale weights are unavailable (mixed loads), estimated weights are acceptable.
- c. RUs will receive one recycling tonnage figure, not broken out by material.
- d. Haulers are required to notify RUs of any change MRF(s) used within one week.

4. NOTIFICATION TO CUSTOMERS

- a. Upon the initial provision of municipal solid waste collection services to new customers and annually thereafter, the hauler shall notify its customers of their need to comply with the provisions set forth in this ordinance. At a minimum the notice shall include:
 - 1) Reasons to reduce and recycle municipal solid wastes.
 - 2) A list of recyclable materials, banned materials, and separated materials that shall be separated from trash.
 - 3) How recyclable materials are to be prepared to meet processing requirements, i.e., put plastic caps back on plastic bottles, flatten, co-mingle.
 - 4) Locations and hours of operation of drop-off collection sites for recyclable materials not collected on-site.

- b. On or before February 1st of each year, the hauler shall deliver to the Community Development Department a true and correct written copy of the notification sent to each customer type, i.e. residential, multi-family or non-residential during the previous year.

21.4 ADMINISTRATION & ENFORCEMENT

A. ADMINISTRATION

1. ADMINISTRATOR

- a. The St. Croix County Recycling Specialist shall be responsible for the administration and enforcement of this ordinance.

2. POWERS AND DUTIES

- a. The Recycling Specialist shall have the following powers and duties:
 - 1) Assure full and complete compliance with this ordinance and related Wisconsin Statutes and the Administrative Code.
 - 2) Advise any person concerning the provisions of this ordinance and assist them in understanding the ordinance requirements.
 - 3) Keep records of all inspections made, reports and other official actions.
 - 4) Have access to premises for the purpose of performing official duties as prescribed by law, subject to §21.4 C.1. below.
 - 5) Investigate and enforce violations of this ordinance.
 - 6) Issue and enforce orders to any person to assure proper compliance with all provisions of this ordinance.
 - 7) Develop fees in accordance with this ordinance and approved by the St. Croix County Community Development Committee.
 - 8) Apply for and distribute grants obtained through the WI DNR Recycling Grant Program and other grant programs.
 - 9) Develop and provide forms for member municipalities' annual reports and other information required to administer the municipal solid waste and recycling program(s).
 - 10) Perform other duties regarding the recycling, reduction, recovery and disposal of municipal solid waste as considered appropriate by the Community Development Committee or the State of Wisconsin.
 - 11) For purposes of inspections and application, obtain and execute special inspection warrant under Wisconsin Statute § 66.0119.

B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. AUTHORITY

- a. The St. Croix County Board of Supervisors has assigned the authority and responsibility for policy direction for municipal solid waste and recycling programs to the St. Croix County Community Development Committee.

2. ORGANIZATION

- a. All meetings and hearings of the Committee shall be conducted in conformance with Wisconsin Statute §§ 19.81 through 19.98, the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law and amendments and revisions thereto.
- b. Subject to approval by the County Board, the Committee may adopt such rules and regulations governing its procedures as it considers necessary or advisable and not in conflict with the Wisconsin Statutes.

3. POWERS AND DUTIES

- a. The Committee shall have the following powers and duties:
 - 1) To hold public hearings pursuant to petitions for amendments to a plan and/or ordinance.
 - 2) To recommend to the St. Croix County Board of Supervisors amendments to the municipal solid waste and/or recycling ordinances under Wis. Stat. §§ 59.70(2)(h) and 287.09(3)(b) or such further ordinances as it deems appropriate to fulfill the County's designation as responsible unit.
 - 3) To approve or deny appeals from administrative decisions. All decision on appeals shall be in writing and shall state the reasons for the decision and shall be mailed to the applicant within 10 working days of the decision.
 - 4) To provide direction and legislative policy to the Community Development Department regarding the recycling and municipal solid waste programs.
 - 5) To establish fees.

C. INSPECTIONS

1. PURPOSE

- a. To determine whether a person subject to the provisions of this ordinance is in compliance therewith, the Community Development Department, subject to the provisions in b.-c. below, and after receipt of a complaint, reserves the right to inspect municipal solid waste at or in the following:
 - 1) Collection sites and facilities to which multiple loads of municipal solid waste are brought.
 - 2) Sites:
 - a) Exterior to a residential dwelling or on undeveloped property, if municipal solid waste on the site is suspected of posing a threat to public health, safety or the environment, or creates a nuisance, an eyesore, an unsanitary condition, or a fire hazard, or is being burned or buried; or
 - b) In the shared spaces of a multi-family property; or
 - c) On non-residential property.

- b. Before engaging in any such inspection, the county's representative shall seek permission from the owner or authorized agent thereof for access to inspect.
- c. The county's representative(s) shall present to the owner or their authorized agent appropriate credentials, identifying them as a representative of St. Croix County for these purposes.

D. ENFORCEMENT

1. PROCEDURES

- a. For the purpose of ascertaining compliance with the provisions of this ordinance, any authorized officer, employee or representative of St. Croix County may inspect recyclable materials separated for recycling, postconsumer waste intended for disposal, recycling collection sites and facilities, collection vehicles, collection areas of multiple-family dwellings and non-residential facilities and properties, and any records relating to recycling activities, which shall be kept confidential when necessary to protect proprietary information. No person may refuse access to any authorized officer, employee or authorized representative of who requests access for purposes of inspection, and who presents appropriate credentials. No person may obstruct, hamper, or interfere with such an inspection.
- b. Any person who violates a provision of this ordinance may be issued a citation by St. Croix County Community Development Department to collect forfeitures. 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.
- c. Penalties for violating this ordinance may be assessed as follows:
 - 1) Any person who violates §21.2.E.1 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.
 - 2) Any person who violates a provision of this ordinance, except §21.2.E.1, may be required to forfeit not less than \$10 or more than \$1,000 for each violation.
- e. The Recycling Specialist or his/her authorized representative or any County law enforcement officer, may institute any appropriate action or proceeding against violators of this ordinance as provided by law or this ordinance, including issuing citations [St. Croix County Citation Ordinance - Chapter 1] or commencing a lawsuit seeking forfeitures and/or injunctive relief.
- f. The Recycling Specialist shall generally use the following, in the order listed, to address violations of this ordinance:
 - 1) Issue a written notice of violation and order that specifies the nature of the violation and the corrective action to be taken.

- 2) Issue a citation, pursuant to Wisconsin Statute § 66.0113 or consult with legal counsel regarding potential civil litigation in conjunction with citation enforcement or in lieu thereof for forfeitures, monetary damages or injunctive relief.

2. PENALTIES

- a. Any person who is adjudicated for violating this ordinance shall pay a forfeiture in accordance with the forfeiture schedule set by the Community Development Committee and/or be subject to injunctive relief.
- b. Each day a violation exists is a separate violation.
- c. Each unit violation is a separate violation.
- d. Additionally, the person adjudicated for violation of this ordinance shall pay court costs and reasonable attorney's fees.
- e. The remedies provided herein shall not be exclusive of other remedies.
- f. Extraordinary fees, which may also include the cost of obtaining professional work or opinions including, but not limited to, engineers, hydrogeologists or public health professional, shall be charged to the person adjudicated for violation of this ordinance.
- g. As a substitute for and in addition to forfeiture or injunction, the County may commence civil actions for damages to recoup any and all costs of cleanup, together with the enforcement costs and fees (including attorney's fees) incurred in the removal of the municipal solid waste or litter in accordance with this ordinance.

3. APPEALS OF ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS

- a. All administrative decisions shall be in writing.
- b. Any person aggrieved by a written administrative decision made by the Recycling Specialist, or his/her authorized representative, may appeal the decision to the St. Croix County Board of Adjustment.

4. PROCEDURE FOR APPEAL

- a. An aggrieved person may appeal a decision to the Board of Adjustment within 30 days of the date of a written decision.
- b. An appeal of a decision shall be in writing and shall be filed with the Community Development Department.
- c. The Community Development Department will prepare notices and schedule the appeal with the Board of Adjustment.

21.5 DEFINITIONS

A. PURPOSE

1. INTERPRETATION

- a. For the purpose of administering and enforcing this ordinance, the terms or words used herein shall be interpreted as follows:
 - 1) Words used in the present tense include the future: in the singular include the plural and, in the plural, include the singular.
 - 2) The word "shall" is mandatory, not permissive.
 - 3) All definitions that refer to Wisconsin Statutes shall incorporate any revisions or amendments to statutory language.
 - 4) All definitions other than those referenced below shall be as the normal definition found in a standard dictionary.

B. DEFINITIONS

1. Aluminum Containers: Empty aluminum food and beverage cans and bottles.
2. Banned Materials: The items listed in §21.2 D.1.a. or described in Wisconsin Statute § 287.07 that are prohibited from land disposal and incineration.
3. Bi-metal container: A container for carbonated or malt beverages that is made primarily of a combination of steel and aluminum.
4. Beneficial Reuse: The utilization of a solid waste of an industrial by-product in a productive manner.
5. Cardboard: Paperboard used in the manufacture of boxes and related products. The term does include corrugated cardboard, food boxes, shoe boxes, and like containers.
6. Clean Fill: Trees, limbs, stumps, roots, shrubs with root balls, brush, weeds, wood that has not been painted, stained, sealed or treated; boulders, rock, soils; gravel, stones, unpainted bricks or concrete.
7. Compostable Organic Materials: Unprocessed plant material which microorganisms or soil invertebrates reduce into component compounds, producing carbon dioxide and water as primary by-products.
8. Construction and Demolition Material: Waste resulting from the construction or demolition of buildings, roads, and other man-made structures, including but not limited to, materials such as concrete, brick, bituminous, treated and untreated wood, masonry, glass, rock, and plastic building parts.
9. Container: Includes dumpster, yard box, wheeled cart, can, box, bin, basket, bag or any other similar object intended for the collection of trash or recyclable materials.

10. Container board: Corrugated paperboard used in the manufacture of shipping containers and related products.
11. County: The County of St. Croix, a State of Wisconsin quasi-municipal corporation, or any department or representative that is authorized by this ordinance to represent the County in the administration or enforcement of this ordinance.
12. County Collection Event: A county-sponsored or sanctioned activity at which the County or a private entity collects specified recyclables or other banned or separated materials from the public for reuse, recycling or disposal.
13. Curbside Collection: A system for collecting and transporting municipal solid waste and/or recyclable materials for processing and marketing by a hauler.
14. Dwelling: A building or a portion thereof designed or used for residential occupancy, including single family and multi-family units but not including hotels, motels, boarding or rooming houses.
15. Electronic Devices: Devices that require electric current or electromagnetic fields to function and that contain a circuit board. Those devices identified in Wisconsin Statute § 287.07(5) are prohibited from land disposal and incineration and includes items defined in Wisconsin Statute § 287.17(1), such as computers, laptops, printers, copiers, scanners, fax machines, televisions, computer monitors, keyboards, mice, central processing units (CPU's), other computer peripherals, video cassette recorders (VCR's), digital video devices (DVD's), compact disc (CD) players, other video players, cell phones, and phones with video display.
16. Fluorescent Bulbs: Bulbs that produce visible light by fluorescence, especially a glass tube whose inner wall is coated with a material that fluoresces when an electrical current causes a vapor within the tube to discharge electrons, this includes compact fluorescent lamps. Contains trace amounts of mercury.
17. Glass Containers: Empty glass bottles or jars; the term does not include other items made of glass including but not limited to plate glass, ceramics, light bulbs or mirrors, which are made from other recipes.
18. Hauler: Any person who collects, transports or disposes of trash and/or recyclable materials for a fee from any person.
19. Hazardous Waste: Any municipal solid waste that is generated by any person and is defined hazardous by the United States Environmental Protection Agency or in Wisconsin Administrative Code Ch. NR 661.
20. HDPE: High density polyethylene, labeled by the resin code #2.
21. Lead-Acid Batteries: Storage batteries in which the electrodes are grids of lead containing lead oxides that change in composition during charging and discharging, and the electrolyte is dilute sulfuric acid.

22. Litter: Any municipal solid waste deposited or discharged on any property, roadway, right-of-way, waterway or in the municipal solid waste containers belonging to others except in containers appropriately labeled for public use.
23. Magazines: Periodicals made from paper which has a shiny appearance, and other materials printed on similar paper; the term does not include phonebooks or periodicals printed on newsprint paper.
24. Major Appliances: All air conditioners, clothes washers, clothes dryers, dishwashers, water heaters, water softeners, furnaces, trash compactors, conventional ovens, microwave ovens, ranges, stoves, dehumidifiers, refrigerators, freezers and other similar devices.
25. Medical Sharps: Any medical item having a projecting cutting edge or fine point that was used in animal or human patient care or treatment or in medical research or industrial laboratories. The term includes, but is not limited to, hypodermic needles, syringes (with or without the attached needles), Pasteur pipettes, scalpel blades, blood vials, needles with attached tubing, and culture dishes (regardless of the presence of infectious agents). Also included are other types of broken or unbroken glassware that were in contact with infectious agents, such as used slides or cover slips.
26. Member Municipality: A city, village or town in the county responsible unit subject to Wis. Stat. § 287.09(1)(c).
27. Mercury-Containing Devices: Electrical products or other devices, excluding batteries and lamps that contain mercury as a necessary component for their operation, including but not limited to mercury thermostats, thermometers, electric switches and relays, marine float switches, manometers and fluorescent bulbs.
28. Multi-Family: A property containing five or more dwellings, including those which are occupied seasonally.
29. Municipal Solid Waste: Residential, multi-family and non-residential trash, recyclable materials, banned materials, separated materials and construction and demolition material. It does not include domestic wastewater; sludge; animal waste, regulated under St. Croix County Ordinance Chapter 11- Manure Storage Facilities; clean fill; or any process waste which is the direct or indirect result of the manufacturing of a product.
30. Newspaper: A publication printed on newsprint, such as a phonebook or flyer.
31. Non-residential facilities and properties: Commercial, retail, industrial, institutional and government 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.
32. Nuisance: An unreasonable activity or use of property that interferes substantially with the comfortable enjoyment of life, health, safety of another or others, including what are deemed to be both public and private nuisances.

33. Occupant: A person or persons who either permanently or temporarily resides in a dwelling.
34. Office Paper: High grade printing, copying and writing papers, as well as envelopes and mail.
35. Person: Any human being; municipality or other governmental or political subdivision or other public agency; public or private corporation, business, partnership, firm, association or other organization; receiver, trustee, assignee, agent or other legal representative of any of the foregoing; or other legal entity.
36. PETE or PET: Polyethylene terephthalate, labeled by the resin code #1
37. Plastic Containers: Polyethylene terephthalate (PETE), plastic #1 and high-density polyethylene (HDPE), plastic #2 plastic bottles which have a pourable neck. The term does not include bottles that have contained pesticides, herbicides or used waste oil; or other plastic containers (plastics #3-4, #6-7).
38. Postconsumer waste: Solid waste other than solid waste generated in the production of goods, hazardous waste, as defined in Wis. Stat. § 291.01(7) Wis. Stats., waste from construction and demolition of structures, scrap automobiles, or high-volume industrial waste, as defined in Wis. Stat. § 289.01(17)..
39. Public Place: Facilities or properties open for public use or occupation, whether permanently or temporarily and whether owned or occupied by governmental entities or private persons.
40. Recyclable Materials: Aluminum/steel/tin containers, glass containers, cardboard, magazines, newspaper, office paper, plastic #1-2 containers.
41. Recycling Facility: A facility that accepts recyclable materials and may perform some processing activities.
42. Responsible Unit: The County and all municipalities in the County which have not retained responsible unit status under Wisconsin Statute § 287.09(1) as well as those municipalities which have retained responsible unit status for themselves, but which have contracted with the County to fulfill their duties as a responsible unit.
43. Separated Materials: The items listed in §21.2 D.1.a.
44. Solid Waste: Any garbage, refuse, sludge from a waste treatment plant, water supply treatment plant or air pollution control facility and other discarded or salvageable materials, including solid, liquid, semisolid or contained gaseous materials resulting from industrial, commercial, mining and agricultural operations, and from community activities, but does not include solids or dissolved materials in domestic sewage, or solid or dissolved materials in irrigation return flows or industrial discharges which are point sources subject to permits under Chapter 283, or source material, as defined in Wis. Stat. § 254.31(10), special nuclear material, as defined in Wis. Stat. § 254.31(11), or bi-product material, as defined in Wis. Stat. § 254.31(1).
45. Solid waste facility: The meaning specified in [Wis. Stat. § 289.01\(35\)](#).

46. Solid waste treatment: Any method, technique or process which is designed to change the physical, chemical or biological character or composition of solid waste. "Treatment" includes incineration.
47. Special Events: Entertainment, educational, musical, school-related, family and cultural events involving the assembly of people.
48. Steel and Tin Containers: Empty ferrous-metal, tin or steel for food and beverage.
49. Trash: Any person's putrescible or non-putrescible waste or discarded material. Recyclable materials, banned materials and construction and demolition materials are not included in this definition.
50. Used Oil Absorbent Materials: Materials that have been used to absorb waste oil.
51. Used Oil Filters: A filter that has been used for automotive engine oil, as defined in Wisconsin Statute § 287.15 (1)(a) and (e).
52. Waste Oil: Any petroleum-derived or synthetic oil that has been used or spilled.
53. Waste Tire: A tire that is no longer suitable for its original purpose because of wear, damage or defect as defined in Wisconsin Statute § 289.55(1)(c).
54. Yard Waste: Leaves, grass clippings, yard and garden debris and brush, including clean woody vegetative material no greater than six inches in diameter in size. It does not include stumps, roots or shrubs with intact root balls.