

Introduction

Manistee County as required by Public Act 641, 1978, as amended, has adopted a Solid Waste Management Plan and all Townships, by resolution also adopted the Manistee County Solid Waste Management Plan as its guideline for addressing the solid waste management issues of the County.

According to the solid waste management plan, Manistee County, and the City, Townships and Villages, are responsible for funding and providing recycling, composting, and hazardous waste collection programs in Manistee County.

Public Act 138 of 1989, as amended by Public Act 069 of 2005, allows by resolution of the County Board of Commissioners, the imposition of a surcharge on households within the County up to a maximum of a \$25.00 fee per year per household to provide for waste reduction programs for the collection of consumer source separated materials, as defined by Act 641, PA 1978, as household hazardous wastes, tires, batteries, and yard clippings.

Adequate funding is necessary for a continued recycling program plan consistent with the County Solid Waste Management Plan.

The revenues collected for this program are held with the County Treasurer and used solely for recycling.

Program Overview

Public Act 69 (PA69) allows Michigan Counties and Townships and municipalities to enter into an inter-local agreement to fund a residential recycling drop-off program. Participation in the Manistee County PA69 Recycling Program provides an easy to use, convenient and cost-effective drop-off program, public education, and minimal Township administration.

Participating Townships

Nine of the 14 Townships in Manistee County currently participate in the PA69 Recycling Program. The Manistee County Board of Commissioners approved the recycling assessment at \$18.00 per improved residential parcel.

Participating Townships:

- Arcadia Township
- Bear Lake Township/Village of Bear Lake
- Brown Township
- Cleon Township/Village of Copemish
- Dickson Township/Brethren
- Maple Grove Township/Village of Kaleva
- Marilla Township
- Onekama Township/Village of Onekama
- Springdale Township

Recycling Drop-off Sites

There are 6 recycling drop-off locations that are accessible year-round to residents of participating PA69 Recycling Program Townships. The sites are accessible during daylight hours, 7 days per week. Use of these sites are for only PA69 Recycling Program Township residents since they are funding the recycling program. Use of the PA69 Recycling Program drop-off sites by residents of non-participating Townships increases the volume of material collected thereby increasing the frequency and cost to empty the recycling containers. Residents of non-participating Townships have recycling opportunities available to them either within their Township or at the Manistee landfill and are encouraged to recycle during normal hours of operation. All are encouraged to recycle cardboard in Packaging Corporation of America (PCA) Recycling Trailers located throughout the County to financially support local school programs.



PA69 Recycling Program Bin

PA69 Recycling Program Drop-Off Locations	Acceptable Materials
Arcadia Township Hall 3422 Lake Street/Arcadia	Plastic/Metal/Glass/Paper/Cardboard
Brown Township Hall 8233 Coates Hwy/Manistee	Plastic/Metal/Glass/Paper/Cardboard
Cleon Township/Copemish Brown Street and Cleon Road (CO604)/Copemish	Plastic/Metal/Glass/Paper/Cardboard PCA Trailer for Cardboard at Betsie Valley School
Dickson Township/Brethren Behind Fire Hall on Wingert Street/Brethren	Plastic/Metal/Glass/Paper/Cardboard PCA Trailer for Cardboard at Old Brethren High
Maple Grove/Kaleva Bay Area Recycling for Charities 14407 Industrial Drive/Kaleva	Plastic/Metal/Glass/Paper PCA Trailer On-site for Cardboard
Onekama Township Hall 5435 Main Street/Onekama	Plastic/Metal/Glass/Paper PCA Trailer On-site for Cardboard

Business Recycling

The recycling drop-off sites are used frequently by local businesses however, since businesses are not assessed the recycling fee this well-intentioned activity adds increased costs to the program. To help offset the costs of business use of the recycling sites a Business Sponsorship Program is available to encourage voluntary financial support of the PA69 Recycling Program. Sponsoring businesses receive promotional benefits in exchange for their annual contribution. Information about the Business Recycling Sponsorship Program is available from the Recycling Coordinator.

Past and Current Sponsors:

Big Apple Bar and Restaurant, Arcadia
Camp Arcadia, Arcadia
Camp Tosebo, Onekama
Iron Fish Distillery, Thompsonville
M Bank, Kaleva
Manistee Veterinary Clinic, Manistee
Rosie's Country Cafe, Thompsonville



Benefits of the PA69 Recycling Program to Townships

Minimal Township Program Administration

The PA69 Recycling Program is being administered by Manistee County. Recycling collection service is negotiated and contracted by the County. Administration includes scheduling of service to recycling containers, receipt and payment of invoices, all record keeping and data reporting.

Improved Use of Township Staff

With the establishment of the PA69 Recycling Program, Townships can reduce expenditures in staff time to oversee and manage a township-run recycling program. The responsibility of administering the recycling program lies with Manistee County.

Site Monitoring and Maintenance

Communities hosting a PA69 Recycling Program drop-off site can rest assured that the recycling site will be monitored and maintained to high standards. PA69 Recycling Program sites are provided with recycling containers that are labeled with Manistee County PA69 Recycling Program signage.

The County hires local site monitors to routinely inspect the recycling sites, at a minimum on a weekly basis. Their responsibilities include tending to the contents of containers to maximize space and minimize contamination and to maintain a clean, litter free drop-off site. The local site monitors communicate regularly with the Recycling Coordinator to report any challenges or attention required by the County.

Public Education

Resident education is essential to the success of recycling programs. Currently recycling education is limited or non-existent among Townships with a recycling program that do not participate in the County PA69 Recycling Program. Professional, coordinated recycling education and support is a benefit of participation. Providing consistent, accurate information and guidelines for the recycling program helps to reduce contamination and increase participation. Manistee County has a contracted Recycling Coordinator to manage the program and provide education services to participating municipalities.

PA69 Recycling Program Townships receive the following educational services and support:

- Recycling information on the Manistee County website – www.manistecountymi.gov
- The Waste Advisor on-line search tool
- Recycling site signage or informational message center
- Recycling Volume and Financial Reports
- Recycling Guidelines flyer
- Monthly E-newsletter
- Presentations to groups and organizations
- Educational display booth at events upon request
- Volunteer opportunities for residents
- Recycling information available through Manistee 211
- Access to the Recycling Coordinator and technical assistance to support program needs
- Centralized information about available recycling and special waste handling



Message Center at Brown Township Recycling Site

Standardization, Access, and Equity

Providing residents with a cost-effective, standardized recycling program that is accessible county-wide is the goal of the PA69 Recycling Program. When most Townships are participating, recycling will be accessible throughout the county, be open to all residents regardless of the township they reside in, and the costs will be shared across the program.

Power in Numbers

Currently non-participating Townships are independently negotiating recycling services. Pricing for the exact same service varies from Township to Township. As more Townships participate in the PA69 Recycling Program, the economies of scale will provide leverage to the County when negotiating for contracted collection services and increase the shared benefit of cost savings.

Increased Opportunities

The PA69 Recycling Program offers an opportunity to establish a cooperative spirit through the strategic development of a sound and comprehensive recycling program.

The current political climate in Lansing encourages cooperative programs and will link future funding to the level of cooperation in a region. The PA69 Recycling Program can serve as a model of cooperation and demonstrate the shared benefits of a county-wide program.

Through public education and outreach, the PA69 Recycling Program will serve as a catalyst to expand resource recovery efforts and environmental initiatives.

Other Benefits

- The recycling program supports the local economy by bringing residents into business districts of Townships.
- The PA69 Recycling Program supports local schools. The recycling container for glass, metals and plastic share the same location as the Packaging Corporation of America (PCA) cardboard recycling trailers at Onekama Township and the Village of Kaleva. Promotion for the PA69 Recycling Program includes the PCA School Fundraiser Program.
- The recycling program has attracted recycling businesses to the County.
- Visitors from larger metropolitan areas are accustomed to recycling. The availability of recycling while away from home is a positive reason to vacation in Manistee County.
- Recycling is an activity that is viewed as protecting the environment and therefore aligns with the image of Manistee County as a paradise of vast natural beauty.
- Recycling is a key component of Manistee County Solid Waste Plan and the PA69 Recycling Program supports the goals and objectives of the plan.

Dedicated Recycling Coordinator

A Recycling Coordinator is the main point of contact for the PA69 Recycling Program. They are available to meet with a Township representative and to make a board presentation about the program and its benefits. Contact the Manistee County Administrators office for more information, 231-398-3500.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do we become a participating Township?

1. To participate in the Manistee County PA69 Recycling Program requires Township Board approval to allow the imposition and collection by the County Treasurer of an annual surcharge of \$18.00 per residential parcel to cover costs of waste reduction programs and collection of consumer source separated material, as defined by Act 641, PA 1978.
2. After Township Board approval, an inter-local agreement is signed by the Chair of the County Board of Commissioners and the Township Supervisor.
3. It is recommended that a Township representative is designated as the main recycling contact to ensure consistent communication regarding the program.

Is there a deadline to sign on?

Ideally, Township Board approval should be made by September 30 to allow sufficient time to be included in winter tax bills. However, Townships can sign on at any time throughout the year.

When is the surcharge collected?

The special assessment for recycling is billed to Township residents with winter taxes. In some circumstances, Townships may pay the equivalent of the total recycling program fee from their General Fund directly to the County.

Are all residential parcels included in the special assessment?

Only improved residential parcels are included.

Will the \$18.00 fee be increased?

Every effort is made to avoid increasing the per parcel recycling fee and an increase will not be made without a thorough analysis of the program and solid grounds to substantiate the need for an increase. Any increase to the recycling fee must be approved by the Manistee County Board of Commissioners.

How are the PA69 recycling funds used?

The revenues collected for this program are held with the County Treasurer and used solely for the recycling program. Much of the costs are operational and associated with collection service, recyclable material processing, and site monitoring. Program management, operational oversight, and public education account for the remaining costs.

