

“SINGLE –STREAM” RECYCLING ...

NOW offered in your community

Let’s start with the basics – “What is single-stream recycling?”

Single-stream isn’t anything fancy. It simply refers to a new system that takes the two recycling “streams” – mixed paper and commingled containers (aluminum, tin, plastic, and glass) – and puts them together in one bin or cart, “single-stream.” It’s still important to follow the same guidelines applied to the two-bin program, except you put the two streams together. Single stream does **NOT** mean trash materials are mixed with your recyclables, only that your paper and container recyclables may be mixed together.

Why change to single-stream?

It makes recycling simple. Using just one collection bin for all your recyclable items increases the ease and convenience of recycling so that more people participate and more resources are saved.

“How are the materials separated?”

The new Tri-County (Brown, Outagamie, and Winnebago) single-stream recycling facility (located at and operated by Outagamie County) is equipped with new sorting machines to automatically sort many of the materials. With the new equipment, there are screens that separate paper from containers. Even though machines do much of the separating, there will be manual sorting as well.

How can we prevent contamination with single-stream?

It is still very important to rinse your containers to remove food and liquid. This is especially important with single-stream where paper shares your recycling bin or cart. We need YOUR help in demonstrating that a community full of educated, conscientious recyclers can make single-stream recycling a success.

Are other communities using single-stream recycling?

Yes. Other communities are diverting up to 50% of their waste from the landfill. These communities have achieved these goals in part by switching to single-stream. Some Wisconsin communities currently using single-stream include Fond du lac, Whitewater, Madison, Stevens Point, Menomonee Falls, and many others.

*The beauty of **single-stream** recycling is that all paper, cardboard, aluminum, tin, plastic and glass may now be mixed together (in container(s) not larger than 33 gallons or heavier than 50 pounds) **OR** you may continue to separate your recyclables as you have in the past and the recycling driver will combine it in the truck.*

