

**Recycling  
1989-90**

RECYCLING CONSENSUS 1989-1990  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF APPLETON

The Appleton League of Women Voters adopted a local study on recycling and solid waste management in April, 1989. Consensus was reached February 6 and 7, 1990, with eighteen members participating.

The study committee toured the Outagamie County Sanitary Landfill; the recycling facilities of Waste Management, Thousand Islands Environmental Center, and Bubolz Nature Preserve; and paper and plastic recycling companies. The committee held two sets of units and a general meeting. Senator Joseph Strohl addressed the general meeting, which was cohosted with the Fox Valley Sierra Group, the Fox River Audobon Society, and the Bubolz Nature Preserve. A meeting on composting is planned for May.

League members recommend:

I. The following criteria should be applied to waste management decisions:

A. Environmental Quality: Protecting the environment from damage or degradation is of primary importance.

1. Reduction of the amount of waste entering the waste stream will reduce the materials and energy needed. Actions might include the prevention of sale, or substitution of less environmentally damaging goods.

Local bans on materials such as certain plastics or consumer items were less desirable than state or national bans.

2. Reuse of materials should be encouraged.

Hot lunch and meal site programs should consider reusable materials. Reusable cloth diapers should be encouraged.

3. Alternatives for safe disposal of materials should be provided if banned from landfill disposal or incineration:

a. Clean Sweep programs provide safe disposal of toxic materials which should not enter the general waste stream.

b. Items which should be diverted from landfills include: white goods, waste oil, tires, and batteries. A minority would add a local ban on styrofoam.

Fees when purchasing or discarding these items could be used to pay for their handling. Collection mechanisms should be provided to prevent dumping.

c. Yard wastes should continue to be diverted from landfills.

B. Flexibility: The volatile recycling markets make rigid policies inadequate.

1. Private recycling concerns should not be undercut, since they may be more responsive to rapid fluctuations in prices and demand for materials.

2. Recycling should be encouraged along a continuum of action by voluntary or mandatory means, at central sites or curbside, with recyclables collected separately or commingled. The preferred solution for greatest volume and accessibility would be mandatory curbside collection.

**C. Economics:**

1. Charges should reflect real costs:
  - a. Tipping fees should include current costs of landfill operations, as well as preparing for long range costs of closing, maintenance, and new construction.
  - b. Items requiring special handling should have a fee assessed which goes toward that cost.
2. Incentives:
  - a. Tax, transportation, and other incentives should encourage recycling.
  - b. Modest monetary and publicity incentives could be used to encourage recycling.
3. Disincentives:

Fees per bag might be appropriate.
4. Regional cooperation could minimize costs.
  - a. If an incinerator is needed, it should be regional, environmentally safe, and carefully sized. Recyclables should be diverted first.
  - b. Equipment for special processing of waste could be shared.

**D. Education:**

1. Promotion of recycling and waste reduction should be encouraged.
2. Information on local government waste management policies should be broadly communicated in the media, as well as targeted to more specialized groups (ie. recycling brochures in newcomers' packets.)
3. Regular Clean Sweep programs should be publicized.

**II. Action at the State and National Level:**

The Appleton League supports the strong state and national positions on solid waste management. Additionally, Appleton League members support transportation, taxation and value-added policies that encourage the donation and use, rather than destruction of goods.

Study Committee: Sue Kinde, Joe Drusch, Beth English, Marlys Fritzell, Helen Heil, Ann Lindstrom, Deb Matz, Pat McConnell, Vickie Milde, Nancy Pourciau, Sue Sifton, Gretta Volk, and M.J. Wurster.

	<u>Home</u>	<u>Work</u>
COMMITTEE:		
Sue Kinde	734-5759	832-6769
Joe Drusch	730-8454	
Beth English	735-9917	
Marlys Fritzell	731-0736	
Deb Matz	731-1129	
Vickie Milde	730-0596	
Sharon Persich	725-0259	(will help from Madison)
Nancy Pourniau	734-6296	
Sue Silton	739-4898	832-6570
Ginnie Swanson	731-4032	
Bev Wieckert	739-2773	(will help from home, phone, etc)
MJ Wurster	738-0695	
Will help.		
Gretta Volk	735-9672	
Elaine Bruehl	739-3969	(731-6041Bubolz Nature Preserve)

Questions from Deb:

Study questions: Do we support:

- local or regional recycling/solid waste management?
- curbside or drop-off site for effective compliance?
- Mandatory or voluntary recycling program?

What about recyclable market stability?

How should supply fluctuations be handled?

Is recycling enough? Or is something else needed?

What is current landfill info? (life span, tipping fees, etc.)?

Do we support increasing landfill tipping fees to make recycling more attractive?

Should we interview coordinators of all the recycling programs?

Should we coordinate efforts with other recycling supporters?

How should the public be educated?

## LWV RECYCLING STUDY

February 6-7, 1990

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

#### I. State Recycling Bill:

Status of the bill: reintroduced January 1990

Do you favor banning the items listed in the proposed state bill?

- a. banned from sale in the state; b. banned from landfills;
- c. banned from incinerators.

Would you favor banning anything else?

11. What issues have we wished we could take action on?

III. Do our existing state and national positions let us take this action?

### CONSENSUS QUESTIONS:

#### I. At the local level would you support:

- a. voluntary recycling
- b. mandatory recycling
- c. recycling at a central site
- d. recycling at curbside
- e. other

2. Would you support local incentives to recycling? What incentives?

3. Should local government divert the following materials from the landfill if they are not banned in the state legislation?

How should they be handled?

- a. white goods
- b. waste oil
- c. tires
- d. batteries
- e. styrofoam
- f. disposable diapers
- g. other

4. Do you support county Clean Sweep hazardous waste disposal programs?

5. Do you support county participation in an incinerator?

6. Do you support additional recycling action positions not covered by state and national positions?

- a. dealing with markets
- b. tax laws
- c. other

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RECYCLING STUDY 1989-90

The study of the condition of solid waste management and recycling programs. Emphasis will be on:

- 1) The state and condition of current landfills;
- 2) How effective are current recycling programs;
- 3) What is the most effective way to get compliance; and
- 4) What effect will yard waste laws have on the residents.

Comments at the Annual Meeting suggested we take action under the state and national positions we already have, while learning new information. It was suggested we become aware of incineration, since the county is considering that method. We can also build on the Neenah-Menasha, and Oshkosh studies.

Meetings we have tentatively agreed to:

Wednesday, October 11: General Meeting on Recycling[Actual: Oct 18]  
December 5,6: Units  
February 6,7: Units  
May 22: Composting

AGENDA:

1. What do we need to know?
2. How will we gather the necessary information?
3. How shall we best communicate with our members?
4. What action is likely?

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