



2024 PROGRAMS & RESOURCES

FOR RRRASOC COMMUNITY MEMBERS

THE RRRASOC PROGRAMS & RESOURCES GUIDE

is designed to inform residents of RRRASOC member communities about local tools, programs, and services to best manage their unwanted household items and discards. Keep this document handy for readily available recycling information.

IN THIS PACKET YOU'LL FIND:

- 1 Recycling Directory
- 2 Drop-Off Sites
- 3 Recycling Guidelines
- 4 2023 Metrics
- 5 HHW
- 6 Battery & Bulb
- 7 Plastic Bags & Meds
- 8 More Resources



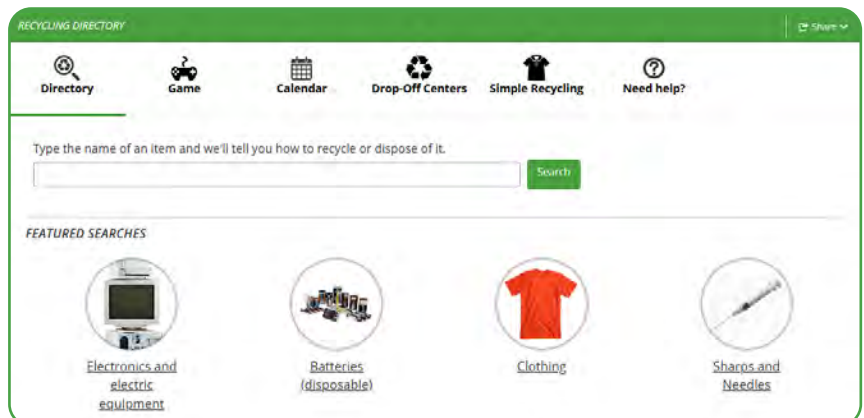
WHY RECYCLE?

Recycling keeps materials that could be reused, repurposed, or donated out of landfills. This reduces air and water pollution, saves energy, and even benefits our economy by creating jobs! Most importantly, recycling helps us conserve our natural resources, which reduces the need to extract resources from our planet.

Feel good by doing your part to keep our community, environment, and planet healthy! Every contribution, no matter how small, brings us one step closer to a circular, sustainable economy.

RECYCLING DIRECTORY

Don't know what to do with an item? Check out the Recycling Directory at **RRRASOC.org**! Simply type in the material that you have, and learn the best way to dispose of it. This helpful web tool also has a calendar of upcoming events, recycling drop-off sites, and more!



RECYCLING DROP-OFF SITES

RRRASOC recycling drop-off sites are conveniently located in both Southfield and Novi, and are open during daylight hours 7 days a week. Upon arrival, feel free to pull your vehicle up to a collection bin and recycle your **empty, loose, and clean** recyclables.

When you arrive, please check that your items match the signage. Check the **Recycling Guidelines** on the next page to ensure you're recycling the right items.



SOUTHFIELD

RRRASOC Materials Recovery Facility

20000 W. Eight Mile Rd.
Southfield, MI

EMPTY



Remove all packaging material from boxes and flatten them to save space in the bins.

CLEAN



Leftover food and liquids contaminate recycling. Make sure your recyclables are clean and dry!

LOOSE



Loose items are efficiently processed at the automated recycling facility. Empty items from boxes and bags.



NOVI

Department of Public Works

26300 Lee BeGole Drive
Novi, MI

ON-SITE PAPER SHREDDER

Are your documents adding up? Try the industrial self-serve paper shredder at the Southfield Drop-Off Site, available weekdays from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This FREE personal document shredding service is for RRRASOC community members only.

Acceptable items include loose paper documents and stacks of paper up to 1/4 inch thick. For more information, visit RRRASOC.org/paper-shredder. This service is for personal documents only – no businesses.



PREPARING YOUR RECYCLABLES:



Keep them
EMPTY, CLEAN,
and **DRY**



DON'T BAG
THEM; leave
them loose



Break down
cardboard boxes
to save space



Return grocery
bags to stores
for recycling

PAPER



Flattened Cardboard, Clean Pizza Boxes, & Wrapping Paper

No grease or food;
no glitter or foil on wrapping paper.



Paperboard Boxes, Paper Cups, & Paper Bags

No foam/foam-lined cups;
throw away stirrers, lids, and straws.



Milk, Juice, & Soup Cartons

Throw away straws, lids, and caps.
Ice cream cartons are not accepted.



Office Paper, Folders, Mail, Magazines, Newspaper, Paperback & Phone Books

Staples and labels are okay. No clips,
spiral notebooks, or hardcover books.

PLASTIC



Garden Plastics

Remove soil and plants.



Plastic Jugs, Bottles, & Containers: #1, #2, #4 – #7

Leave lids and caps on. No packaging foam.



Bulky #2 Plastics

Includes hampers, totes, milk cartons,
cat litter buckets, etc.

METAL



Steel/Aluminum Bottles & Cans

Paint cans are not accepted.



Pots & Pans

Remove glass lids before recycling.
Ceramics are not accepted.

GLASS



Glass Bottles & Jars

All colors accepted. No window panes, mirrors,
dishware or bakeware.

NOT ACCEPTED CURBSIDE OR AT THE DROP-OFF SITES:

Check these items on the Recycling Directory at RRRASOC.org for more info



Plastic Bags & Wrap
Food storage bags, snack
bags, bread bags, etc.



Yard Waste
Leaves, twigs, grass, etc.



Electronic Waste
Phones, TVs, laptops, etc.



Hazardous Waste
Paint, cleaners, pesticides, etc.



Shredded Paper
Use RRRASOC shredder



Tangles
Hose, hangers, wire, string
light, extension cords, etc.



Batteries
Alkaline, lithium-ion, etc.



Polystyrene Foam
"Styrofoam", packing
peanuts, takeout boxes, etc.



Waxed Cardboard
Freezer boxes



Food Waste
Fruits, veggies, meat, etc.



Medical Waste
Needles, syringes, pills, etc.



**Paper Towels, Facial
Tissue or Toilet Paper**

RRRASOC Services the Following Member Communities:

Farmington, Farmington Hills, Milford, Milford Township, Novi, Southfield, South Lyon, Walled Lake, and Wixom

CONNECT WITH US:



WEB
www.rrrasoc.org



MOBILE APP
for iOS & Android



E-NEWS
Sign up for e-news
at rrrasoc.org



SOCIAL
facebook.com/rrrasoc

RRRASOC COMMUNITIES

SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING

2023 METRICS

HOW WELL ARE WE RECYCLING?



Paper, Plastic, Glass, & Metal Recycled



Clothing Reused



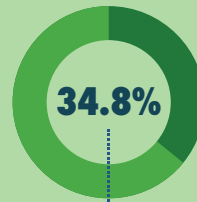
Hazardous Materials Properly Managed



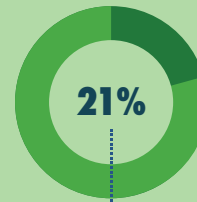
Yard Waste Composted



101,290 TONS
TOTAL SOLID WASTE



TOTAL RECYCLING RATE IN RRRASOC COMMUNITIES, 2023



TOTAL RECYCLING RATE IN MICHIGAN

RRRASOC COMMUNITIES HAD A **HIGHER** RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING RATE THAN THE MICHIGAN AVERAGE.

HOW MUCH DID IT COST?

(per capita)

\$101.51
SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN
(regional average)

RRRASOC COMMUNITIES ONLY SPENT ABOUT **HALF** AS MUCH AS THE REGIONAL AVERAGE!

\$52.37
RRRASOC COMMUNITIES



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS



Energy Saved



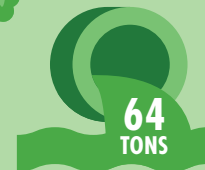
Reduced CO₂e



Trees Saved



Reduced Air/Waterborne Emissions



RRRASOC

THE RECYCLING AUTHORITY

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

WHAT IS HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE?

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) includes a variety of everyday household items, such as cleaners, oil-based paints, herbicides, insecticides, and solvents that are harmful to human health and to the environment if thrown into a regular landfill.

RRRASOC community members may bring HHW, electronics, paper for shredding, medications, and more to **HHW Collection Events**, where they are recycled or safely disposed. This program is offered in conjunction with our HHW processing partner, **ERG Environmental Services**. Learn more about ERG's drop-off and pickup services at www.ergenvironmental.com.



HOUSEHOLD

- Bleach
- Moth Balls
- Aerosol Cans
- Medications
- Batteries
- Solvents

GARAGE

- Used Oil
- Brake Fluids
- Gasoline
- Car Batteries
- Antifreeze
- Thermometers

GARDEN

- Pesticides
- Herbicides
- Insecticides
- Weed & Feeds
- Deck Wash
- Pool Chemicals

WORKSHOP

- CFL Bulbs
- Oil-Based Paint
- Paint Thinner
- Primer
- Propane Tanks
- Lighter Fluid

ELECTRONICS

- Computers
- Monitors
- Printers
- Corded Devices
- Keyboards
- Televisions

2024 HHW COLLECTION EVENT SCHEDULE

April 13 9am-2pm	Wixom Dept. of Public Works 2041 Charms Rd., Wixom
April 20 9am-2pm	RRRASOC MRF - Truck Entrance 20875 Mapleridge Ave., Southfield
May 4 9am-2pm	Oakland Community College - Orchard Ridge Campus Lot 8 27055 Orchard Lake Rd., Farmington Hills
May 18 9am-2pm	Milford Civic Center 1100 Atlantic St., Milford. Enter from west, off Mont Eagle St.
July 13 9am-2pm	Wixom Dept. of Public Works 2041 Charms Rd., Wixom
October 5 9am-2pm	Novi Dept. of Public Works 26300 Lee BeGole Drive, Novi
October 26 9am-2pm	RRRASOC MRF - Truck Entrance 20875 Mapleridge Ave., Southfield

For more information about HHW and accepted items, visit:
RRRASOC.org/household-hazardous-waste/what-is-hhw.

BATTERY & BULB DISPOSAL

BATTERIES

Did you know that improper battery disposal can result in dangerous explosions or fires and can put our collection crews, recycling workers, and even residents at risk of injury? Batteries cannot be collected at curbside or at the drop-off sites as they are considered HHW. Take your batteries to an upcoming **HHW Collection Event** near you - find upcoming dates on [page 5](#) of this guide or at RRRASOC.org/about-us/event-schedule.



RECHARGEABLE

Nickel-Cadmium, Nickel Oxy-Hydride, Lithium Ion, Nickel Zinc



ALKALINE

Non-Rechargeable, Dry-Cell



LEAD-ACID

Automotive, Marine, Deep Cycle, etc.



LITHIUM SINGLE-USE

Labeled "Li". Not to be confused with rechargeable Lithium-Ion.



BUTTON CELL

Some are rechargeable, while others are not. Check markings.

LI-ION BATTERIES: HANDLING

When removing a Li-ion battery from a device, be sure not to disassemble, puncture, or crush it. Keep it in a well-ventilated, dry area out of direct sunlight. Store each battery in a separate bag.



CALL2RECYCLE

There are dozens of battery drop-off locations within RRRASOC communities! Visit call2recycle.org/locator to find a participating retailer!

WHY IS RECYCLING FLUORESCENT BULBS IMPORTANT?

Fluorescent bulbs contain mercury, a substance that is extremely harmful to the environment and human health. Recycling fluorescent tubes and bulbs at **HHW Collection Events** allows for the safe capture of the mercury. Other components such as glass and metals are recycled.

BULBS

Many lightbulbs contain mercury or other toxic components and should be disposed of at a local retailer who accepts batteries or an upcoming **HHW Collection Event**.



COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHTS (CFL)



FLUORESCENT TUBES



HALOGEN

Safe for home disposal.



HIGH INTENSITY DISCHARGE (HID)

Mercury Vapor, Metal Halide, High Pressure Sodium



INCANDESCENT

Safe for home disposal.



LED

LIGHT BULBS: HANDLING

Package your bulbs so that they do not break when transporting them. Fluorescent tubes can be taped together.

PLASTIC BAGS & WRAP DISPOSAL



WHAT COUNTS AS A PLASTIC BAG OR WRAP?

Plastic bags and wraps include items such as grocery bags, bread and newspaper bags, cereal bags, food storage bags, bubble wrap, packing material and product overwrap. They are made of one type of material and are elastic when stretched.



WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

This type of material is not recyclable at curbside or at the recycling drop-off sites (see [page 2](#)) because it can get tangled in the sorting machinery at the RRRASOC *Materials Recycling Facility* (MRF), leading to inefficient operations and costly repairs.



WHERE CAN I RECYCLE THEM?

Plastic bags and wrap can be recycled at a local participating grocery store or retailer. Find a plastic bag collection bin by visiting the Store Drop-Off page on the How2Recycle website: how2recycle.info/sdo.



MEDICATION & SHARPS DISPOSAL



The proper disposal of unused or expired medications is both a safety and environmental concern. Promptly disposing of medications reduces the risk of people consuming or handling medications improperly or illegally.

Check with your local pharmacy to see if they have a drug take-back program, drop off unwanted medicine at a local police department, or bring it to an upcoming **HHW Collection Event** (see [page 5](#)).

Visit RRRASOC.org/household-hazardous-waste/medicine for more information regarding proper medicine disposal.

“Sharps” include devices with sharp points or edges that can puncture or cut skin, such as needles, syringes, lancets, auto injectors, razors, and knives. Use an FDA-approved sharps container when possible. Otherwise, a rigid plastic container that can be sealed and labeled **“SHARPS”** is a good alternative. When full, place the sealed container into your household garbage, **NOT** your recycling.

VISIT RRRASOC.ORG TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE RESOURCES

SIMPLE RECYCLING PICKUP SERVICE

Clothing and textiles are 100% recyclable, but 85% still ends up in landfills. RRRASOC community members can recycle unwanted clothing, shoes, accessories, kitchenware, tools, toys, and books with *Simple Recycling*.



This service provides an easy, free, and convenient way to keep textiles and other reusable items out of landfills. Schedule an at-home curbside pickup by completing the form which can be found on the *Simple Recycling* tab of the RRRASOC Recycling Directory on our homepage (see [page 1](#)). Visit our Clothing & Textile Recycling page for more instructions and a list of acceptable items.

PRESENTATIONS

RRRASOC provides interactive recycling presentations for schools, Girl/Boy Scout troops, senior centers, robotics groups, and various clubs & organizations located within any of its nine member communities.

For more information, visit RRRASOC.org/education/presentations or contact us at education@rrrasoc.org!



MULTIFAMILY RECYCLING

For recycling info pertaining to multifamily living (apartment, duplex, etc.), look no further than our *Multifamily Recycling* page for resources that all RRRASOC community members can take part in, regardless of residence: RRRASOC.org/multifamily-recycling.

MOVING & ESTATE CLEANOUT SOLUTIONS

If you have items you are looking to get rid of during move in or move-out, or are cleaning out an estate, consider their reusable value before tossing them in the garbage! Find local secondhand stores, charities, libraries, and more who will accept gently-used items at RRRASOC.org/recycling/reuse-repurpose.



STAY CONNECTED

Follow us on Facebook and sign up for our *FREE* e-newsletter to receive the latest RRRASOC news, tips, and updates right from your email. This includes service interruptions, important event dates, opportunities, and more! Sign up for the e-newsletter at RRRASOC.org and find us on Facebook @ **Recycling Authority**.