



TUSCOLA COUNTY RECYCLING

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Email: recycle@tuscolacounty.org

Website: www.tuscolacounty.org

Tel: (989)672-1673

Address, 987 Ellington Street (M24)

Caro, MI 48723



Inside this issue:

Annual Report	4
Education Report	5
Financial Report	6
Materials recycled in 2023	7
Where does the recycling go	8
Satellite trailer programs	9
Household hazardous waste	10
Recycling Advisory Committee	11
Materials collected	12– 14
2023 Improvements	15
Future objectives	16

2023 Annual Report

About Tuscola County Recycling Facility:

We began operations in 1996 as a millage funded operation. The operation began at a one-acre site that was leased from the Village of Caro. The County, and the Village funded building the structure that housed the program.

In 2017 the County purchased the former Riverview Recycling location, which is just north of the original site. The building was remodeled and operation began in 2020. The new site is 10-acres which will allow for future growth.

Three full-time, and three part-time employees operate the Facility. The Recycling Coordinator is also the Tuscola County Maintenance Director.

When the millage was approved, a Recycling Advisory Committee was also put in place. Some of the duties of the committees are to help ensure that the millage funding is being handled correctly, and to provide feedback to the Recycling Coordinator. The Committee meets every other month, on the first Thursday.

What we do:

Tuscola County Recycling is open to all County residents. The Facility accepts material Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Residents can bring their recyclables to us, and sort their material by using the containers we have set up inside the building, or if they prefer, our employees will assist them.

Over the past twenty-seven years, the facility has added new programs, and additional items for recycling. We hold year round tire collections, and electronics collections, also hazardous waste is accepted from May through September .

In 2023, the Facility also provided trailers to two townships for weekend collections. The locations are Gagetown, and Juniata townships. The trailers are dropped off to the township on Friday, and on Monday, the trailer is brought back to the Facility for processing. Townships provide their own staff for loading the trailer.

The Facility provides weekly, or by-weekly pick-up to over 100 businesses in Tuscola County.

Permanent collection trailers are at the Tuscola County Medical Care Facility in Caro, Kingston High School, Hills and Dales Hospital in Cass City, and Dollar Tree in Caro. These trailers are brought back to the Facility weekly, or bi-weekly for processing.

There is a staffed trailer brought to Mayville on Thursdays, and Cass City on Fridays. Our staff provides recycling service at these locations, from 9:00am-12:30pm.

Scrap Tires

With funding provided by Tuscola County Mosquito Abatement, we were able to provide four Township/Village collection events. This is a free collection event for County residents, who can bring their used tires for recycling. The Township/Village provides the labor for their event, in which they are provided a semi-trailer for the tires. The tires are then picked up by CM Rubber Technologies, They will clean, and shred the tires turning them into landscape mulch, or playground surfacing.

Material Collected

2023 was a good year for us in the sense of recyclables collected. We processed over 1 million pounds, or just under 4,353 pounds per day. This is all sorted by hand; we do not have any mechanical sorting equipment. So the days here are quite busy. Once the materials have been sorted, they are then bailed for shipment.

Materials Management Plan

In 2023 the state of Michigan passed part 115 laws to help the state reach better recycling rates. This is a multi year plan to achieve a higher recycling rate by 2032. Tuscola County along with Huron, Sanilac, and Lapeer counties entered meetings intending to reach a multi county plan. The goal of the plan is for the four counties to work together with Tuscola county being the hub for Huron, and Lapeer counties increased recycling collections.

Thank you to all of the County residents, and businesses that recycle with us.

Education Report



Education report

Tuscola County Recycling Facility education program, for 2023, was facilitated mostly thru; social media, our website, fliers, brochures, and advertisements in the local newspapers.

I had the honor of presenting at the Michigan Recycle Coalition state conference. The topics covered how Tuscola County MRF, Midland Recyclers, and BizAid recycling each operate as smaller recycling facilities, in Michigan. There were 62 adults in attendance many of which come from other small facilities in Michigan. The idea of the session was to network with other facilities like Tuscola County to help us make connections to facilities who may have the same struggles, and goals.

We were able to have seven tours, at the facility, for 237 students, and 33 adults.

Two recycling presentations were given to 14 students, and 62 adults.

We were able to collaborate with the Caro Garden Club for their youth sculpture contest. This contest is a National Garden Clubs, Inc. contest. Grades fourth thru eighth are eligible to enter the contest with a sculpture created from recycled materials. Two events were held in 2023, for 8 students, and 15 adults. Students were given a recycling presentation, and then provided with the recyclable materials needed to create their sculptures. All the sculptures were judged and were eligible for local, state, and national level prizes.

We set up two displays at the Caro Community Library to showcase both what we recycle at the facility, and many items that are made from recycled content. We also hosted a crafting from treasure sculpture class that was attended by 25 adults, and 3 students.

We also had the opportunity to set up three times at the Caro Farmers market for the kids day events. We handed out recycling information, recycling craft items, and offered games to be played that were made from recycled content items.

Future education goals will include further public outreach programs for all ages, and information geared towards recycling knowledge for all of our residents.

Financial Summary

Revenue Highlights:

Millage	\$258,184.82
Wind revenue	\$54,982.16
Sales of Material/Services	\$40,822.32
Interest	\$7,816.08
Paper shredding services	\$2,209.80
Household hazardous waste	\$2,248.40
Electronic hazardous waste	\$3,154.00
Tire drive	\$2,238.50
Sign Lease	\$1,850.00
EGLE clean sweep grant	\$24,819.80
EGLE scrap tire cleanup grant	\$0
Donations	\$80.25
Misc.	\$1,186.00

Total revenues for 2023 \$399,772.33

2023 Fund Balance:

Fund Balance \$219,370.02

Expense Highlights:

Salaries	\$191,362.65
Fuel	\$6,839.00
Advertising	\$1,587.00
Utilities	\$6,767.60
Household Hazardous Waste	\$11,293.09
Electronic Hazardous Waste	\$1,328.00
Equipment repairs	\$10,392.29
Supplies, printing, postage	\$5,780.38
Tire Drive	\$2,638.50
Insurances	\$3,784.72
Indirect costs	\$7,876.25
Misc.	\$117,622.93

Total Expenditures for 2023 \$367,272.41

Materials recycled

For the year 2023 we collected 1,079,517 pounds or 540 tons of recyclable material.

As much as the Facility tries to recycle everything that comes to us, unfortunately we can't. The Facility has one six yard dumpster that is emptied once a week. We estimate that 312 cubic yards, or 15,600 pounds of materials are sent to the landfill. Most of this material is household trash brought in with the recyclables.

Based on the 2022 Midwest average of \$62.02 per ton, for tipping fees at landfills. An estimated \$33,498.08, in fees, were saved, on the 540 tons of material recycled, at the Facility.

Cardboard 613,777 pounds

Paper 173,794 pounds

Plastic 32,003 pounds

Oil 11,655 pounds

Metal 44,661 pounds

Styrofoam 4,530 pounds

Batteries 1,857 pounds

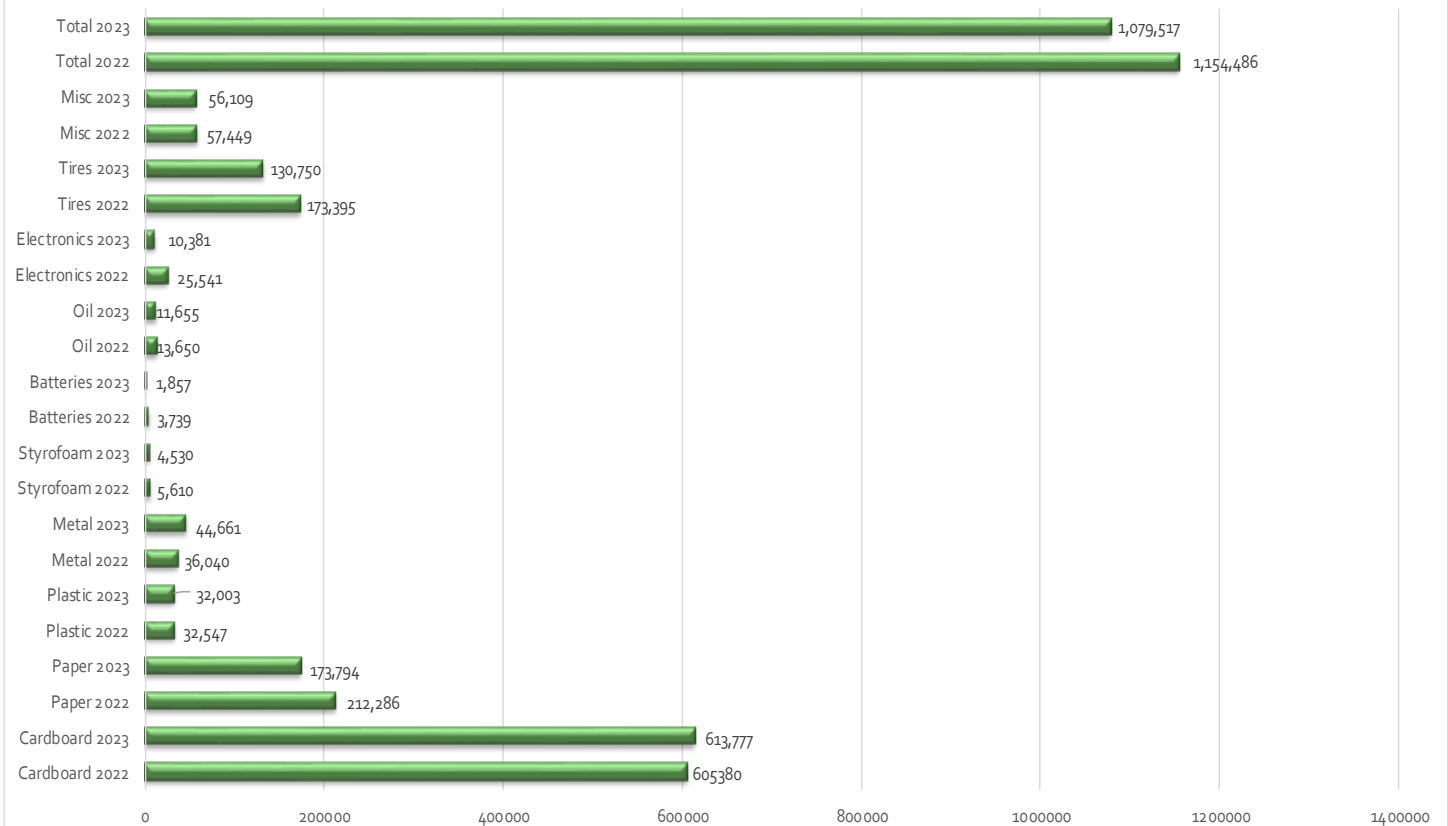
Electronics 10,381 pounds

Tires 130,750 pounds

Misc 56,109 pounds

Total Weight 1,079,517 pounds

Tuscola County Recycling Two Year Comparison



Where does the recycling go?



M i c h i g a n

- ★ State Capitals - - - International Boundaries Toll Roads and Bridges Major Rivers
● County Seat - - - State Boundaries Interstate Highways Intermediate Rivers
● Cities 500,000+ - - - County Boundaries U.S. Highways Lakes
● Cities 100,000-499,999
● Cities 50,000-99,999
● Cities 10,000-49,999
● Cities 0-9,999



Satellite Trailer Programs



TUSCOLA COUNTY
RECYCLING

MONTHLY TOWNSHIP DROPOFF SITES

DROP OFF SITE COLLECTION DAYS – 2023

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS FOR THE DROP OFF TRAILER SITES

*Clear glass bottles & jars * Newspaper, junk mail, office paper & phone books *Magazines & catalogs
* Corrugated Cardboard, boxboard (cereal boxes), *Steel cans *Aluminum cans
* #1 & #2 plastic bottles * Polystyrene #6 (includes egg cartons) * #5 plastic tubs, trays, bottles

Please rinse out all bottles, cans, and jars

TOWNSHIP	DAY	HOURS	LOCATION
JUNIATA	1st TUESDAY, 3rd SATURDAY	3:00PM-7:00PM 8:00AM-12:00PM	JUNIATA TOWNSHIP HALL 1971 S. RINGLE ROAD, CARO CALL (989) 673-4332
Village of Gagetown/ Elmwood Township	1st Saturday of the month	9:00 AM– 12:00 PM	4761 State Street Gagetown, MI 48735

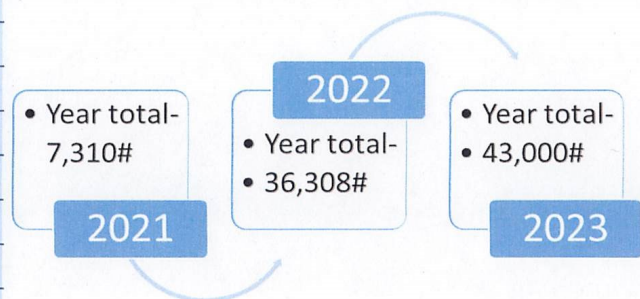
*Both Juniata, and the Village of Gagetown/
Elmwood Township participated in monthly
recycling collections, in their townships.*

*We also provided two satellite trailers with
weekly drop off locations. We were in Mayville,
on Thursdays, and Cass City,
on Fridays.*

Satellite Trailer Program

For the month of
Jan- Dec 2023

	Mayville	Cass City	Totals
	<u>Weights</u>	<u>Weights</u>	
January	2000	2260	4,260
February	960	580	1,540
March	1580	2420	4,000
April	1700	1560	3,260
May	1300	1740	3,040
June	2140	2880	5,020
July	1020	1480	2,500
August	1920	1840	3,760
September	2020	2760	4,780
October	1240	2620	3,860
November	2000	1480	3,480
December	1240	2260	3,500



Household Hazardous Waste Collection



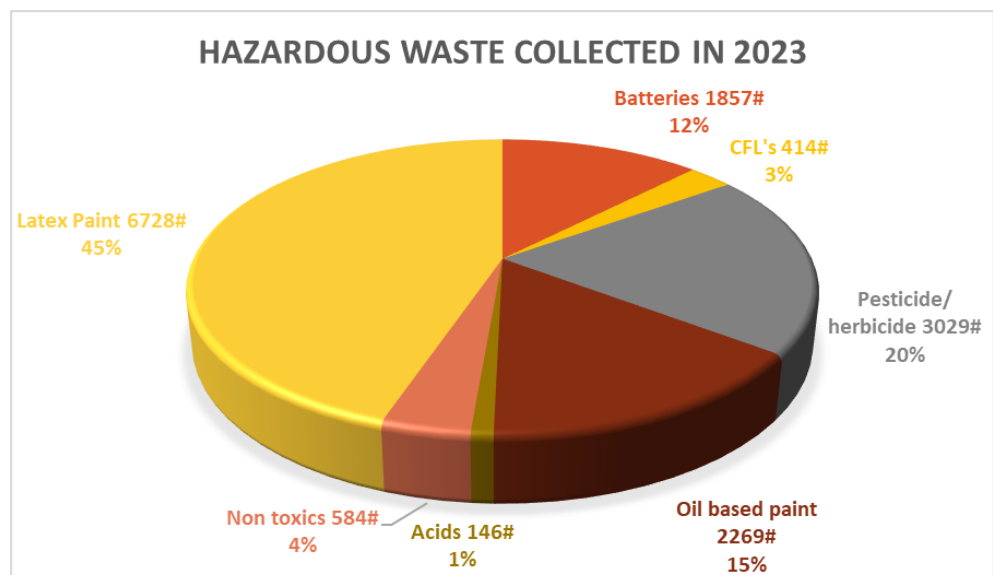
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

- *Collection dates for hazardous materials will be **May 1 through October 1**
- *Anyone with more than a box full, must call ahead for arrangements. Space is limited.
- *All material subject to available storage space
- *Flammable liquids such as gas, and mixed oil will only be accepted when ERG, the collection company, is at the recycling facility to do a pickup. You will need an apt. for this.
- *All paints (oil based or latex), and stain have a \$2.00/can, or \$10.00/ bucket fee.
- *The paint and stain will be recycled into a new paint product.

Note— this will take place of the two free hazardous waste collections that were held in previous years.



Household hazardous waste collected in 2023, from May 1st thru October 1st, equaled 15,089 pounds. All of the hazardous waste is handled through ERG of Livonia, MI.



Recycling Advisory Committee



RECYCLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

**Tuscola County Purdy Building
Board Room
4:30 P.M.**

**February 2, 2023
April 6, 2023
June 1, 2023
August 3, 2023
October 5, 2023
December 7, 2023**

2023 Recycling Advisory Committee members

Commissioner Matt Koch

Patty Frazer

John Johnson

Sherry Burns

Mike Warchuck

Terry Jones

Roger Allen

Materials to be shipped



Gaylords of paper,
bales of shredded
paper, bales of
plastic bottles, and
bales of cardboard
ready for shipping.



Electronics, and tire recycling



These tire collections are made possible by the funding from Tuscola County Mosquito Abatement



2023 FREE TIRE COLLECTIONS

These collections are limited to Tuscola County residents only (no out of county residents, no business, and no commercial tires). Residents are limited to bringing only seven (7) tires per vehicle. Tires must be no taller than 48" in height and up to 12" in width. Please make sure tires are clean, and they are not attached to an axle. Please bring help to unload your tires. Please contact Tuscola County Recycling for additional information at 989-672-1673, or email recycle@tuscolacounty.org

***City of Vassar**, on July 19, 2023, in the rear parking lot, of the Vassar City Hall, East side of lot, 287 E. Huron Ave Vassar, MI 48768. Collection held from 9:00AM– until 3:00PM.

***Denmark Township Hall**, on July 22, 2023, at the Zwerk Farms, 7647 Sanilac Road (M46) Vassar, MI 48768. Collection held from 8:00AM– until 1:00PM.

***Millington Township**, on August 26, 2023, at the Millington Township Hall, 8553 State Street Millington, MI 48746. Collection held from 9:00AM– until 1:00PM.

***Village of Cass City**, on September 16, 2023, at the Municipal Building parking lot, behind the police office, 6506 Main Street Cass City, MI 48726. Collection held from 9:00AM– until 1:00PM

The following tires are not allowed at these collections, per the tire company: tracks, loader, airplane, golf cart, forestry, logging, earthmover, mining, and solid fork truck tires, or any tractor tires over 12" wide and over 48" high

Electronics, and tires are collected year round at the facility. In 2023, 130,750 pounds of tires were recycled. Four free tire collections were held in the county that were sponsored by Tuscola County mosquito abatement. 10,381 pounds of electronics were recycled.

Collected products ready for shipments



Recycling vinyl siding



Recycling clear glass bottles



Recycling Styrofoam



Recycling aluminum cans

Improvements made in 2023



We are thankful for the Tuscola County Sheriff Departments work crew for cleaning up both sides of our fence along the front of the facility.

Also, improvements were made to the driveway to fix where there were deteriorated areas, and also to fix the slope of the parking area to divert water away from the building instead of into the building.

The improvements are appreciated by the public, and all of the employees.

Future Objectives:

- *Research the types of new materials that can be accepted.
- *Continue educating the residents on the importance of proper recycling.
- *To divert as much material, as possible, from landfills.
- *Work with County businesses to continue their recycling efforts, and increase the number of businesses we service.
- *Work with the schools, within the County, to recycle their materials.
- *Continue giving residents responsible solutions for disposing of their hazardous waste, electronics, tires, waste oil, and antifreeze.

