

# **T**own Recycling

## **Center News**

By Axel Bogdan



If you visited the Kinnickinnic Town Hall lately, you may have noticed new signs at the recycling center. Why were they installed? The answer is as simple as it is disappointing. Misuse of the recycling containers has increased over time. Examples include paint buckets, broken lawn chairs, a trampoline, and even large boxes of rotting meat products. The recycling containers have been abused by irresponsible individuals for personal waste disposal. A batch of recycling that is contaminated with trash is considered garbage in its entirety and needs to be disposed of at extra cost to the Town, i.e., the tax payer.

We noticed a significant increase in recycling volume over the last few years, especially for paper and cardboard. We encourage recycling, but not just because it is the law. The recycling containers are conveniently available 24/7. While

normally considered good news, (Kinnickinnic has an excellent recycling record in the county), high volumes of cardboard boxes that looked like commercial/industrial packaging often filled up a container and prevented residents from dropping off even small quantities. This in return caused some people, despite their good intention, to leave their recycling next to the container. The hauler will only pick up the containers, leaving any loose debris behind to be scattered by the wind. The result is a less appealing appearance of the whole property, especially along the bushes south of the recycling center.

To encourage the appropriate use of our recycling containers, new signs have been installed to reiterate that the containers are for household quantities only and not for commercial or industrial use. For the time being, the Town intends to keep the recycling center open to residents and will continue to monitor the situation. Since curbside recycling pickup is available in the Town of Kinnickinnic, there is no requirement for the Town to provide recycling services. Continued misuse of this resource may result in removal of containers. Recycling is mandatory, so residents would have to make other appropriate arrangement.

An excellent recycling resource is St. Croix County's Resource Management Division. The department can be reached at 715-531-1930 or via their website:

<https://www.sccwi.gov/420.Recycling>

You can find a garbage and disposal guide, a calendar of events, contact information for garbage and recycling haulers, and much more.

For questions and constructive suggestions, feel free to contact the Town Clerk at 715-425-8082.

Axel Bogdan is a Town of Kinnickinnic Supervisor