



# April Webinar



## Basic Recycling is Better Recycling



Featuring:  
**Peter Clevering (Homewood Disposal Services)**

**Keri Marrs Barrón & Sarah Tubbs  
(Porter County Recycling)**



*"Driving the Future of Clean Transportation in Indiana"*

Drive Clean Indiana is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization managed by Legacy Environmental Services, Inc., an Indiana Certified Women's Business Enterprise.

With over 25 years of steadfast commitment to the decarbonization of the transportation sector, Drive Clean Indiana lives its mission through:

- Education & Outreach
- Training
- Grant Writing & Funding Acquisition
- Project Management
- Development of Stakeholder Partnerships

Drive Clean Indiana is Indiana's only U.S. Department of Energy-appointed Clean Cities & Communities coalition.





Porter County  
**RECYCLING**  
**& WASTE REDUCTION**

**Keri Marrs Barron**

**Executive Director**

**Sarah Tubbs**

**Public Relations Coordinator**

**Waste Reduction Education for Porter County**



# Vision

**Every person in Porter County engages in an effective waste reduction lifestyle.**

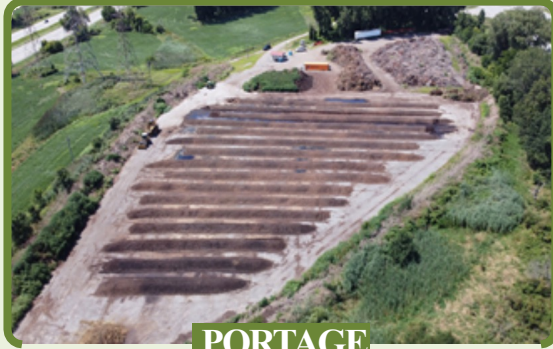
# What is Recycling?

**Recycling is the process of collecting and processing materials (that would otherwise be thrown away as trash) and remanufacturing them into new products.**

## Why Recycle?

- **Recycling reduces our need for new raw materials.**
- **Recycling conserves energy.**
- **Recycling reduces pollution.**
- **Recycling stops valuable materials from entering landfills.**

"ArcGIS Web Application." Arcgis.com, 2026.  
portercogov.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html  
Accessed 9 Feb. 2026.



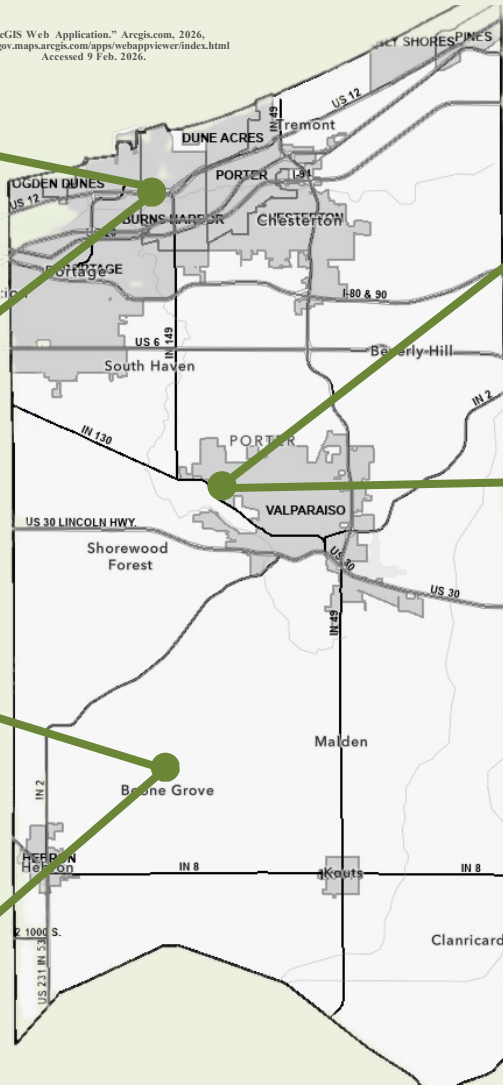
**PORTAGE**



**VALPARAISO**



**BOONE GROVE**



# Compost Sites

# Drop-Off Recycling

There are seven (7) drop-off recycling locations in Porter County that the District manages:

**PORTAGE COMPOST SITE (OPEN MARCH THROUGH DECEMBER)**

6451 U.S. HWY 12 - PORTAGE, IN

**PORTAGE STREET DEPARTMENT**

2303 HAMSTROM RD, PORTAGE, IN

**VALPARAISO COMPOST SITE**

2150 W. LINCOLNWAY - VALPARAISO, IN

**CHESTERTON STRACK & VAN TIL**

1600 PIONEER TRAIL - CHESTERTON, IN

**KOUTS TOWN GARAGE**

406 S. KOUTS ST. - KOUTS, IN

**HEBRON MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

125 N. MAIN ST. - HEBRON, IN

**BURNS HARBOR STREET DEPARTMENT**

310 NAVAJO TRAIL - BURNS HARBOR, IN

**BOONE GROVE**

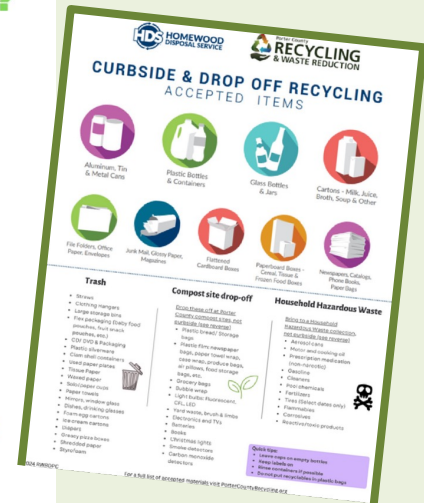
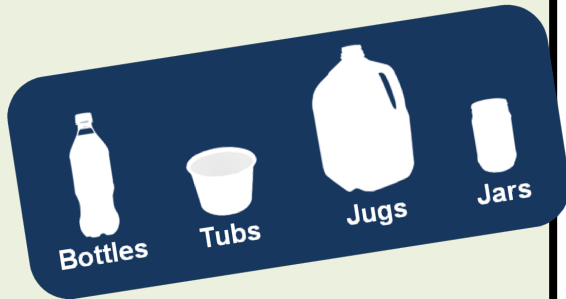
319 WEST 550 SOUTH - VALPARAISO, IN

JUST EAST OF BOONE GROVE FIRE DEPARTMENT

**DON'T HAVE A  
RECYCLING BIN?  
RECYCLE  
HERE!!**



@recycleportercounty  
PorterCountyRecycling.org



# Electronic Recycling

**Anything with a power cord or operated by batteries  
(minus large appliances and freon)**

**Drop Off Locations:**

**Boone Grove, Portage, and Valparaiso Compost Sites**



# Battery + Smoke Detector Recycling

Visit website ([PorterCountyRecycling.org](http://PorterCountyRecycling.org)) to see all  
accepted locations

You can also bring these to any compost site or our  
Household Hazardous Waste Collections



# Light-Bulb Recycling

**Tubes and CRLs contain mercury + can harm wildlife and groundwater if simply taken to landfills**

You can also bring these to any compost site or our Household Hazardous Waste Collections





**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE**



# Special Collections

Different collections occur every year between May and October

**TIRES**



**SHARPS**



**PAPER SHREDDING**



# Have Medical Sharps?

**Recycle them** at the locations below for  
**free!**  
Bring them in a enclosed hard container.

## **Portage Location:**

**Portage Health Department**  
3590 Willowcreek Road, Suite C, Portage, IN

Open M-F 8:30am-4:30pm

## **Valparaiso Location:**

**Valparaiso Health Department**  
155 Indiana Ave, Suite 104 Valparaiso, IN

Open M-F 8:30am-4:30pm



# RECYCLE empty, clean & dry plastic bags & wraps at store drop-offs

## NOT in Curbside Recycling



Produce Bags



Plastic Shipping Envelopes



Bread Bags



Dry Cleaning Bags



Case Wrap



Air Pillows



Bubble Wrap



Newspaper Bags



Food Storage Bags



Product Overwrap

Also look for any packaging with this How2Recycle label



how2recycle.info

**NO candy bar wrappers • chip bags • six-pack rings • degradable bags • prewashed salad bags**



Carryout bags too!

Find drop-off locations at [PlasticFilmRecycling.org/drop-off](http://PlasticFilmRecycling.org/drop-off)



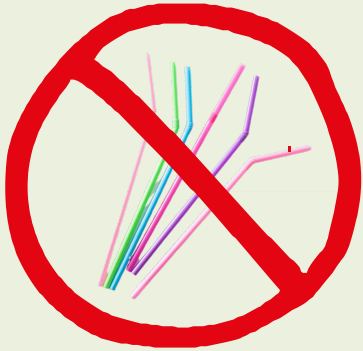
# Event Recycling

**Having a big event? Celebration? Graduation? Festival?**

Let us help with recycling by borrowing a FREE Clearstream recycling container to collect bottles and cans



# Behavioral Changes



Reuse



# Contact Us



219-465-3694



[info@portercountyrecycling.org](mailto:info@portercountyrecycling.org)



@recycleportercounty



[portercountyrecycling.org](http://portercountyrecycling.org)



**HOMEWOOD**  
**DISPOSAL SERVICE**

**Recycling, Clean Fuels &  
Environmental Stewardship**

# Key Points

- Recycling Basics
- CNG & RNG Fuels
- Battery Disposal
- Indiana Recycling





## About Homewood Disposal Service

## About Homewood Disposal Service

- Residential, Commercial, Construction, Industrial Waste and Recycling
- Serving Chicagoland & NW Indiana Since 1956
- Family Owned –  
“The Kind of Service Others Only Promise”





# BASIC RECYCLING

IS BETTER RECYCLING

- Focus on Basic Recyclables
- Simple Recycling Education

A photograph of three workers in a recycling plant. They are wearing high-visibility yellow safety vests and hard hats. They are standing on a metal walkway overlooking a conveyor belt filled with various types of waste, including cardboard boxes and plastic. The background shows industrial machinery and structural elements of the facility.

# THE RECYCLING PROCESS

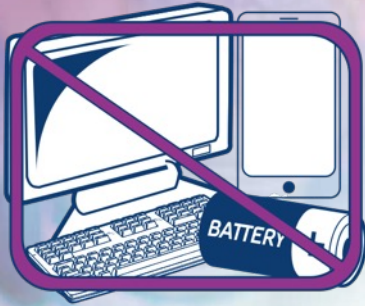
JOURNEY BEHIND THE SCENES

# Accepted Recyclables

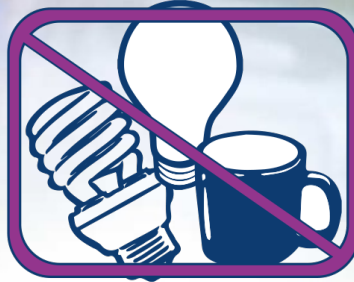


**BASIC**  
RECYCLING  
IS BETTER RECYCLING

# Do Not Recycle



**NO LITHIUM BATTERIES**  
**NO ELECTRONICS**  
**NO BATTERIES**



**NO WINDOW GLASS**  
**NO LIGHT BULBS**  
**NO CERAMICS**



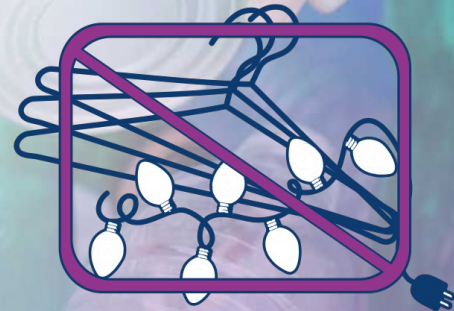
**NO MEDICAL WASTE**  
**NO AEROSOL CANS**



**NO FOOD WASTE**  
**NO FOOD RESIDUE**



**NO PLASTIC GROCERY BAGS**  
**NO GARDEN HOSES**  
**NO STYROFOAM**



**NO HANGERS OR WIRE**  
**NO CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**



# Loose, Clean, Right

- Do Not Bag Recyclables
- Lightly Rinse Containers
- Don't Recycle Plastic Bags

# What is CNG?

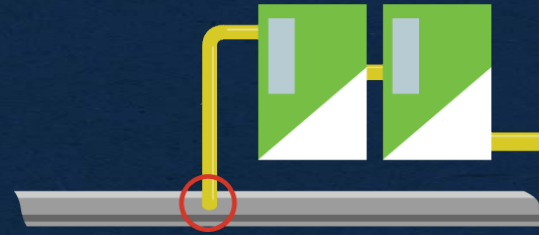
- A Clean-Burning Fuel
- Compressed Natural Gas
- Alternative to Diesel Fuel
- Lower Emissions Than Diesel Fuel



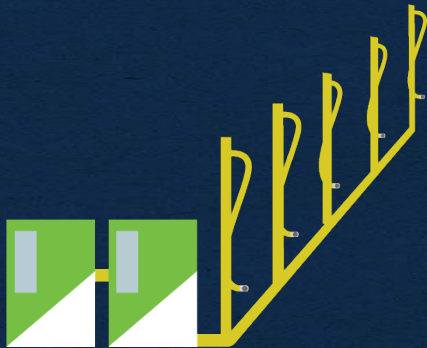
# How Does CNG Work?



1. Vehicles like this garbage truck are specially built to run on CNG fuel.



2. Compression devices are installed and connect to existing natural gas pipes.



3. Natural gas is compressed and ready to be used as CNG fuel.



4. Trucks hook up to hoses, fuel up, and are ready to go each morning.

# Benefits of CNG

- Lower Emissions
- Cost-effective
- Cleaner Air



# Homewood CNG Fleet

- 147 CNG-Powered Trucks
- 1 million + DGE  
(Diesel Gallon Equivalent) of CNG  
used in 2025



# HDS Energy Stations

- Public Stations for CNG fueling
- Supporting Local Fleets and Clean Air



# What is RNG?

RNG is the Next Level in Eco-Minded Alternative Fuel

- RNG is a Renewable Natural Gas
- Captures Methane from Landfills or Dairy Operations



# How RNG Works

- Waste decomposes
- Methane is captured
- Processed into vehicle fuel

The process not only captures methane, but reuses it as a fuel.

2X Eco Benefits



# Battery Disposal

- Never Place Batteries in Garbage or Recycling
- Batteries Will Cause a Fire in Garbage Trucks



**BATTERY DISPOSAL & RECYCLING**

# Battery Types

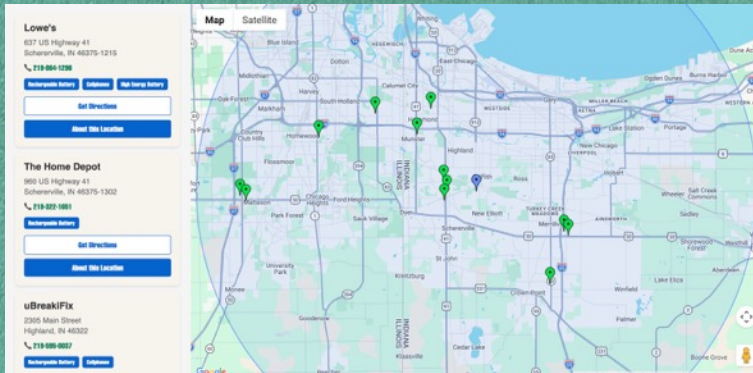
- Alkaline
- Button cell
- Lithium-ion
- Rechargeable



# Proper Battery Recycling

- Retail drop-offs
- Hazardous waste sites
- Tape lithium terminals
- New Illinois Battery Law

[www.batterynetwork.org](http://www.batterynetwork.org)



# Recycling in Indiana

- 20-30% of Material Collected is Not Recyclable
- Rate Varies by Community
- Homewood Disposal Sorts Much of the Recycling From NW Indiana
- Education Improves Outcomes





# Drive Clean Indiana Partnership

- Promotes Clean Transportation
- Supports Alternative Fuels

# Upcoming DCI Events

- [April 18, 2026 - NWI Earth Day Celebration](#)
- [April 29, 2026 - MACOG Partners for Clean Air Luncheon](#)
- [May 1, 2026 - EV Display at Goshen's Green Day Celebration](#)
- [August 25, 2026 - DCI 14th Annual Clean Air Golf Outing](#)
- [November 18, 2026 - DCI Crossroads Clean Tech Conference](#)

Visit  
[DriveCleanIndiana.org/events](https://DriveCleanIndiana.org/events)  
for more information



14TH ANNUAL



**GOLF**

**OUTING**

**2026**

**Tuesday, August 25, 2026**

**White Hawk Country Club**

**Crown Point, IN**

**11 a.m. CT Shotgun Start**

**Register today to reserve your spot! Foursomes sell out fast!**

**REGISTER  
NOW**



THANK  
YOU!

