

## Topic: Business Recycling

### Articles:

#### Labels Available to Help Workplace Recycling

Businesses are vital to the health of our city. In turn, recycling is vital to the health our land, air and water. The commercial sector generates more than half of the total waste in Dakota County, and according to a recent statewide study about 75 percent of the waste thrown away is actually recyclable. A strong recycling program at your business conserves natural resources, can help your bottom line and demonstrates your organization’s commitment to sustainability and the community.

The State of Minnesota recently amended its recycling laws, requiring most businesses to recycle by January 1, 2016. The law (Minn. Statute 115A.151) requires commercial building owners operating or leasing to a retail establishment, restaurant, educational or professional service, health care service or any other business with a North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) code between 42 and 81 in a metropolitan county *AND* contracting for disposal of at least four cubic yards of solid waste per week to recycle at least three materials, such as paper, glass, plastic, metal and organics (food waste and soiled paper).

Business owners should check with their waste hauler for details on specific recycling material acceptance, and if they offer separate organics recycling.



**Free recycling labels.** Similar to many business tactics, recycling is successful by following tried-and-true best practices. Make recycling convenient by placing recycling and trash bins together at easily accessible areas with clear signage on containers. To help with this, Dakota County is offering container labels in a variety of sizes and types to meet different business needs. Businesses can order free recycling and trash labels at [www.dakotacounty.us](http://www.dakotacounty.us), search *business labels*.

To start or improve workplace recycling, visit [www.dakotacounty.us](http://www.dakotacounty.us) and search *business recycling*, or contact Renee Burman at [Renee.Burman@co.dakota.mn.us](mailto:Renee.Burman@co.dakota.mn.us) or 952-891-7042.

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