

REI Grant summary

Education and Outreach

- Adams, Vernon, Jackson, and Monroe Counties worked together to provide an area wide educational program for school districts through a contract with the Midwest Recycling Association. This joint effort also resulted in the development of a business recycling toolkit. Combining resources allowed the counties to contract for professional services they would not have ordinarily been able to afford.
- Pepin County contracted with Dunn County to hire a Recycling Education Specialist. This person developed and distributed educational materials to owners, managers and tenants of apartment buildings. Later, the counties hired a Recycling Education specialist to study and present recommendations on school recycling programs. County staff benefitted from allowing a specialized staff person to do this work, and both counties saved money by combining funds.
- Portage County worked with the Towns of Carson, Eau Pleine and Lindwood to educate citizens about the importance of tire management and conduct tire collections.
- Sixteen Calumet County RUs and a Fond du Lac County town collaborated in educational efforts to educate citizens on yard waste. The communities worked with private retail businesses to produce and distribute educational materials related to home composting.
- Dunn County cooperated with Eau Claire and St. Croix Counties to contract with a printer and produce newsletters. This lowered printing costs and provided Eau Claire with a template for starting their own newsletter.
- Portage, Outagamie and Waupaca Counties collaborated to produce a resource kit targeted toward recycling at construction and demolition (C&D) sites. The counties also implemented an education and enforcement program at these sites.
- The City of Beloit and Towns of Beloit and Turtle worked together to create a business outreach program. The municipalities developed and mailed educational materials to all businesses in their areas.
- Oneida County and the City of Rhinelander worked together to educate businesses on recycling and inspect businesses to determine whether they were in compliance with recycling laws.
- Twelve communities in Kewaunee County worked together to create a waste recycling information and education program to increase diversion of recyclable materials from the landfill. The effort also included development of a Kewaunee

Recycles website to serve as a clearinghouse of information for all RUs in the county.

Combining Resources for facilities and/or equipment

- Burnett and Washburn Counties cooperated in the planning, design and implementation of a portable baling system to be used at various recycling drop-off locations for the baling of cardboard. This new system was expected to save the counties \$23,000 per year in hauling costs.
- Chippewa County and the City of Cornell combined funds to purchase recycling bins for use at community events. To be grant eligible, recycling bins purchased were made of at least 25% recycled materials.
- Adams and Oneida Counties shared screening and bagging equipment to recycle and market compost material more effectively. Adams County provided a portable screening plane, while Oneida County provided a portable bagging device. By sharing this equipment, the counties were able to use grant and revenue funds more effectively.
- Monroe County accepted recyclables from the Town of Glendale and Jackson County. This has allowed Monroe County to reduce the cost per ton to market and process materials and has provided Glendale and Jackson County with a low cost option for processing their recyclables.
- The City of Wisconsin Rapids partnered with the Village of Biron and Towns of Grand Rapids and Saratoga to provide access to their compost facility to residents. Saratoga, Wisconsin Rapids and Biron saved money by not needing to construct their own facility and Wisconsin Rapids benefitted from reduced cost per ton processing.
- The Towns of Grant, Lynn and Washburn worked together to contract for curbside collection of recyclable materials.

Combining staff time

- St. Croix and Dunn Counties combined funds to hire a contractor to focus on recycling in multifamily buildings. The staff person was able to research, evaluate and market recycling options to residents, owners and managers of these housing units.
- Manitowoc County's Public Works department provides processing services and coordinates educational efforts for all participating RUs in the county. This reduces countywide costs and allows RUs to promote consistent messages.