Asking the right questions can help event planners find the right hauler for their event’s needs and ensure their event recycling efforts are a success.
Choosing your hauler

When choosing a hauler for your event, it is important to ask questions to make sure your materials will be properly recycled and the haulers understand what specific needs you have as a special event. Haulers should be able to tell you how they handle materials, if they have event recycling experience, how they will provide tonnage data for materials collected at your event and where the materials go once they leave your event.

The DNR’s recycling specialists recommend that you call at least two or three different recyclers and ask them similar questions. Their answers should give you a sense of how professional their operations are and whether you trust them to provide recycling service for your event.

You may want to use the questions listed on the right when researching your recycling service hauler options for your event.

More information on event recycling, worksheets for recycling planning and vendor communication and signage for bins and attendee communication can be found on the DNR’s website, dnr.wi.gov, by searching “Recycling away from home.”

Questions to ask potential haulers

• Does the hauler accept the types of items you want recycled?
• Does the hauler have experience handling recyclables from special events? If so, which events?
• Can the recycler provide references and contact information for other events similar to yours that it has worked with?
• Does the hauler service your geographic area and events of your event’s size?
• Where are the materials taken for processing once the hauler collects them?
• Is the recycling facility the materials are going to licensed with the Wisconsin DNR?
• How many roll-off dumpsters will the event need based on the estimated attendance?
• Where will roll-off containers be delivered and located on-site?
• How often will dumpsters be emptied? What day of the week? At what approximate time of day?
• Does the hauler pickup after business hours and on weekends? If so, is there an additional charge?
• Should recyclables be mixed or separated by material? Is a separate dumpster needed for cardboard only?
• How will the hauler measure and report the tonnage of materials it collects from your event? How will you ensure you get the report on time? Is it in your contract?