

# Multifamily recycling requirements

## 1 Have recycling service

Contract with a trash hauler for recycling collection services, or self-haul recyclables to a recycling facility. Recycling containers must have a capacity equivalent to at least 0.1 cubic yard per week for each dwelling unit.

Recycling containers must be large enough to collect all recyclables. Work with your hauler to increase service levels if carts or dumpsters are overflowing.

## 2 Recycle designated materials

Provide recycling containers in buildings and outdoors to collect the Designated List of Recyclables from employees and residents. These designated materials must be collected and recycled:

- Paper
- Cardboard
- Cartons like milk & juice cartons
- Metal cans
- Glass bottles & jars
- Plastic bottles, containers and jugs numbered 



Keep the Designated List of Contaminants out of recycling such as food and liquids, plastic bags and film, shredded paper and Styrofoam™. 



## 3 Co-locate recycling with trash containers

Wherever there is a trash container or chute, there must be a recycling container or chute within 10 feet in all common areas, such as lobbies, mail rooms, employee areas, laundry rooms, community rooms, gyms and outdoor spaces. Recycling containers must be large enough to collect all recyclables and not overflowing.

## 4 Label containers

Label each indoor and outdoor recycling and trash container with standardized labels. All labels must meet county label requirements:

- ✓ Use standardized terms: “Recycle” or “Recycling”, and “Trash” to indicate the type of waste collected.
- ✓ Be color-coded: Blue for recycling, gray or black for trash.
- ✓ Have standardized images: Recycling labels must use county-standardized images that show designated recyclable materials and include preparation instructions where applicable, such as “empty and dry items, flatten boxes”. Trash labels do not need images.

**Order or download free recycling and trash labels from Dakota County that meet these requirements.**

Replace labels if they become damaged, faded, unreadable or if text or images conflict with county label requirements. Labels on dumpsters and carts that are provided by waste haulers are the responsibility of the haulers.



## 5 Provide recycling education

Provide standardized recycling education at least once a year to each resident, employee, housekeeping and custodial contractor, and any other contractor who manages waste. Provide education to new residents, staff and contractors within 30 days of move-in or hire, and within 30 days of a substantial change to the waste and recycling program.

Education must cover what and how to recycle in accordance with recycling education requirements listed on the county’s website.

**Dakota County provides free educational resources that meet these requirements.**



## 6 Submit annual report

Report recycling program effectiveness to Dakota County each year, including education activities. The county will provide the report form.

# Get Recycling Help

Property owners and managers are required by City and County Ordinance 110 to provide residents with the opportunity to recycle. We can help! See the free resources available to multifamily property owners below.

## Multifamily Recycling Program

People who live in apartments, townhomes and condominiums play an important role in helping keep our air, water and land clean. Research shows recycling is one of the top amenities desired by tenants.

### We can help

#### FREE ON-SITE ASSISTANCE

Meet with a program liaison to help design a new or improved recycling program or start waste prevention efforts.

#### FREE LABELS AND SIGNS

Order container labels, chute signs, common area posters, flyers and additional educational resources.

#### FREE EDUCATION

Request free on-site or virtual presentations for staff or residents to learn recycling do's and don'ts and to answer questions.

#### FUNDING TO IMPROVE RECYCLING

Apply for recycling containers and more, up to \$10,000 in value per location, available on a first-come, first-served basis.

### To be eligible

Multifamily buildings must be located in Dakota County and have shared trash service. Program participants must also have or be willing to obtain: recycling service, recycling containers, and sufficient recycling capacity as required by County Ordinance 110.

### To request assistance and resources

Call: 952-891-7557

Email: [multifamilyrecycling@co.dakota.mn.us](mailto:multifamilyrecycling@co.dakota.mn.us)



*Example of signs, labels and tote bag.*



*Example of signs, labels and containers.*

