



## **From the Mayor ... Recycling**

Are you tired of reading about recycling yet?! I hope not, because we are going to touch on it one more time but with a twist.

The City of Eagle Lake would like to work on reducing the amount of waste we create in hopes of saving money that can be given back to the community. That's right! If we can lessen the amount of garbage we throw away every week that money saved will be put towards something all of the community can use. Possibly something like a park bench that is even made out of recycled material or other Park Improvements.

You may be thinking, "well if the city is giving back the money to the community then what is in it for the city if we reduce our waste....." and the answer is nothing. We as a society have become very wasteful and even careless in what we throw away. Simple steps taken can help reduce our waste, help us recycle more, and bring our community into a cleaner city while providing items our community can enjoy using the money saved.

Eagle Lake is charged \$88 per ton of garbage we throw away, we do not get charged for the recycling. If we could reduce our waste by one ton every week (2 pounds per household) we could save on average \$4,500 a year! Imagine what we could give back to the community if we reduced our garbage by two tons a week or more!

Now, please don't go throwing your garbage in the recycling bin to "help" cut down on the cost of garbage. That is wrong on so many levels.

A few ideas that can be easily implemented in your home to help minimize the waste you throw out.

1. Ditch the plastic bags.
2. Make a meal plan.
3. Start composting.

4. Start relying on reusable containers.
5. Learn to repair rather than discard.
6. Cancel unnecessary mail.
7. Stop using disposable plates.
8. Stop buying plastic water bottles.

If you have any useful tips or tricks you use to help reduce waste, I would love to hear and pass along! Please email me at [mayor@eaglelakemn.com](mailto:mayor@eaglelakemn.com)

And if you need any more reason to reduce and recycle more, here are a few more benefits of recycling.

**1. “Recycling saves energy.”**

Recycling saves energy because the manufacturer doesn't have to produce something new from raw natural resources. By using recycled materials we save on energy consumption, which keeps production costs down.

**2. “Recycling reduces landfills.”**

Recycling reduces the need for more landfills. No one wants to live next to a landfill.

**3. “Recycling preserves our resources and protects wildlife.”**

By recycling, we reduce the need to destroy habitats for animals. Paper recycling alone saves millions of trees.

**4. “Recycling is good for the economy.”**

Recycling and purchasing recycled products creates a greater demand for more recycled goods. Goods made from recycled materials use less water, creates less pollution and uses less energy.

**5. “Recycling Bins Same Place/Same Size”**

Having your in-home recycling container as large as your garbage can and in the same area of your home can help you focus on what should be thrown away or what can be recycled.

Now that you've tried some of these tips, you might find your current LJP recycling cart is overflowing! Simply give the city office a call at 507.257.3218 or email Marian at [adminasst@eaglelakemn.com](mailto:adminasst@eaglelakemn.com) and request the larger 96 gallon recycling cart. There is no charge to residents for the cart which holds 50% more recycling materials!

Remember, the goal to save money by reducing waste that will go back to the community is a joint effort. As a household challenge for April pick one thing to focus on that your family can take out of garbage. In May, pick something else

to minimize or remove altogether. To show the community how our efforts have paid off, the city will send out updates on how much was saved each month starting in April. I am looking forward to seeing the success of the community working together!

Not sure what you can and can't recycle??  
[Click here for more details](#)



## SAVE THE DATES

April 10: City of Eagle Lake Land  
Use Plan Open House  
City Hall | 6-8 pm

May 5-6: City Wide Garage Sales  
[Details and Application](#)

May 13: City Wide Clean Up  
Details to Follow

May 20: City Wide Stick Pick Up  
[Find Details Here](#)

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