



Recycling Results

North Dakota Department of Health – Division of Waste Management

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2009 Recycling Results

Recycling Survey in North Dakota

From March 1 through May 28, 2010, the North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) provided a voluntary survey to permitted solid waste facilities and community recycling facilities. The survey form was emailed to help conserve paper. Of the surveys sent out, only 33 percent responded.

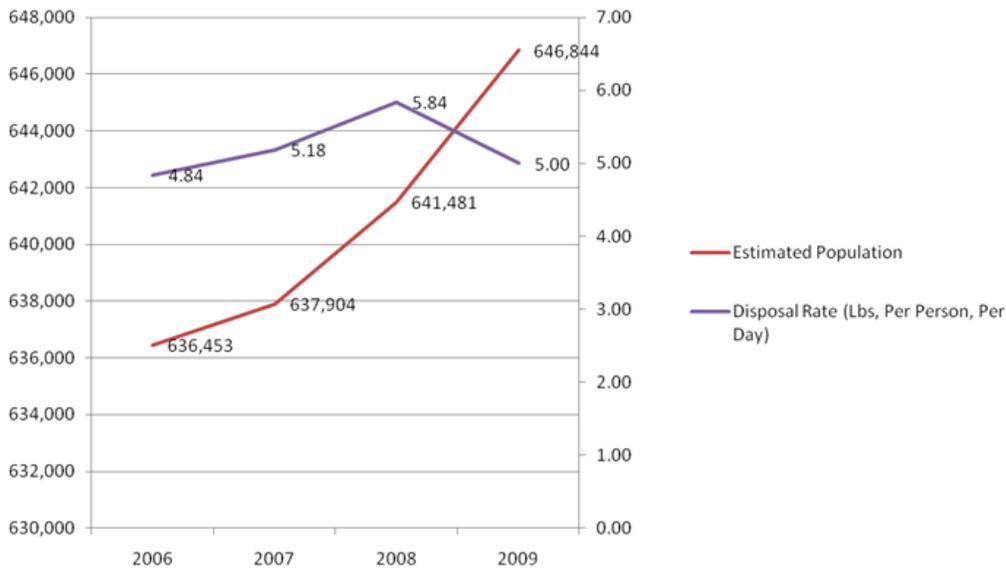
The purpose of the survey was to set a benchmark for the types of materials and quantities currently recycled in North Dakota. The period surveyed was the 2009 calendar year (January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009). In order to compare waste diversion amounts, it was critical to collect data from a time period consistent with the annual reports of solid waste facilities and transfer facilities. The NDDoH asked recyclers to report recycled materials in measurements of tons. This allowed for a consistent calculation of the recycling rate.

Survey results were compiled to determine state totals for each recycled material. The totals were then used to evaluate progress toward waste reduction goals and to identify areas for potential market development.

Municipal Solid Waste Rates in 2009

In 2009, the total amount of municipal solid waste disposed from North Dakota was 590,038 tons. The United States Census estimated North Dakota's 2009 population as 646,844 people. It was estimated that the average waste disposed per person in 2009 was 1,824 pounds, and the average waste disposed per person per day was approximately five (5) pounds. Figure 1 shows the trends for North Dakota's estimated population and disposal rate, in pounds, per person per day from 2006 through 2009.

Figure 1.



Recycling Rates in 2009

The following recycling rates only reflect the 33 percent of solid waste facilities and community recycling facilities who responded to the survey.

Figure 2 shows the trends for North Dakota’s estimated population and recycling rate, based on survey responses received, compared to disposal rate, in pounds, per person per day for 2009. While the disposal rate was calculated using 2009 tonnages reported by all permitted municipal solid waste facilities in North Dakota, the recycling rate is merely a “snapshot” based on the survey responses received.

Figure 2.

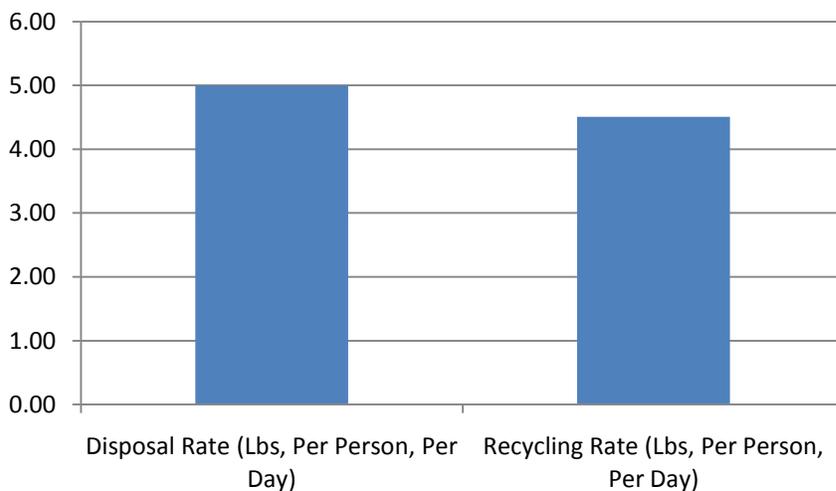
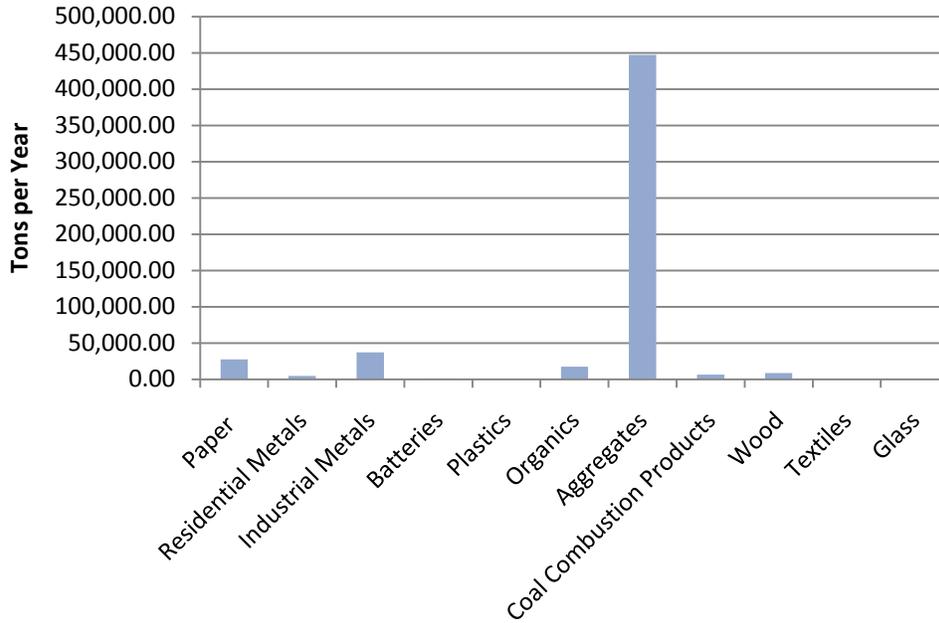


Figure 3 shows the materials with the highest recycling tonnages, based on all survey responses received. Please note that this is purely a snapshot of recycling surveys received.

Figure 3.



Other materials reported as recycling by the survey responses included scrap tires, electronics, drywall, sump and pit sludge, used motor oil, used oil filters, antifreeze, fluorescent light ballasts, photo aluminum plates, and photo film (see Figures 4 and 5).

Figure 4.

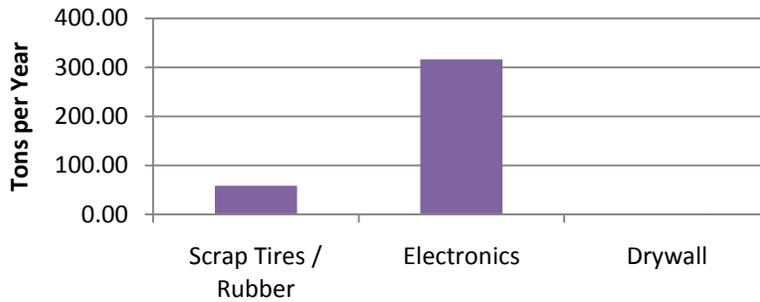
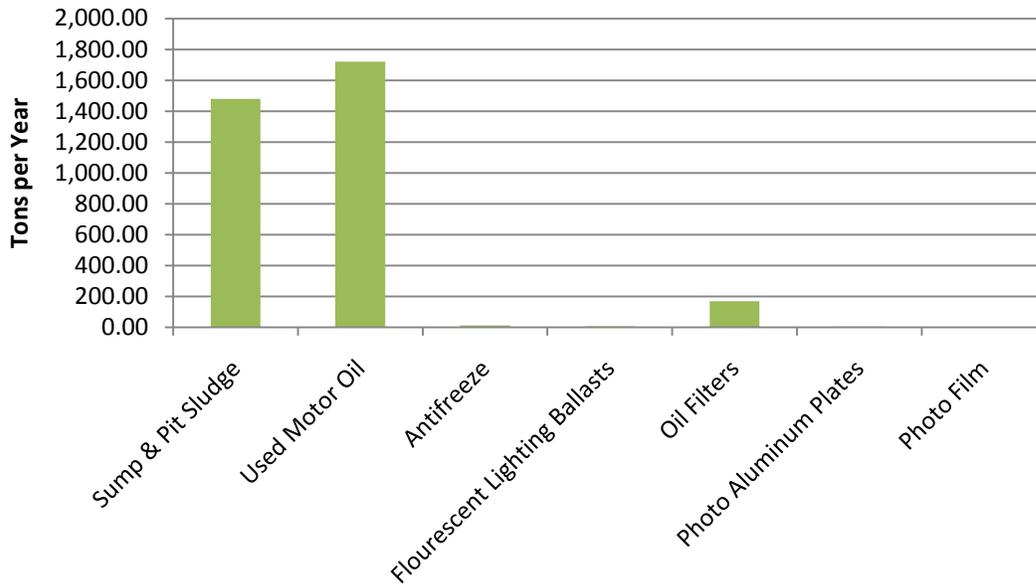


Figure 5.



Moving Forward

The NDDoH is now working with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Region 8 to identify commonalities with Montana, South Dakota, Wyoming, Colorado, and Utah. The NDDoH hopes to refine and issue the survey each year to continue measuring the annual amounts of materials diverted from the waste stream in our state, and to compare our numbers with other states in EPA Region 8. Because the information we report only reflects those surveys that are received, the NDDoH will continue to encourage all recyclers in North Dakota to complete and return the survey in subsequent years.

Please direct any questions regarding the recycling survey to the North Dakota Department of Health, Solid Waste Program, at 701.328.5166.