

Mayor

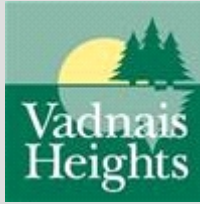
Heidi Gunderson

Council Members

Craig Johnson
Greg Urban
Patricia Youker
Bob Morse

City Administrator

Kevin Watson



The City of Vadnais Heights

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Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

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**Regular Workshop Meeting of the
Vadnais Heights City Council**

Tuesday, April 2, 2019 - 5:30 pm

Lakes Conference Room at City Hall

AGENDA

1. Open Meeting - (5:30 p.m.)
2. Organics Collections
Documents:
[2.PDF](#)
3. Update on Lift Station Improvements
Documents:
[3.PDF](#)
4. Update on Negotiations with VHG, Inc.
Documents:
[4.PDF](#)
5. Other Staff Items
6. Future City Council Requests
7. Adjourn

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The City of Vadnais Heights
800 East County Road E
Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

Memorandum:

TO: Mayor Gunderson and City Council Members

FROM: Tim Sandvik, Assistant City Administrator

DATE: April 2, 2019

SUBJECT: Organics Collections

Background

Staff has been asked to explore what opportunities there might be to expand organics collections opportunities for Vadnais Heights residents. Currently, Ramsey County promotes increased organics recycling for a variety of reasons. State law requires metro counties to achieve a 75% recycling goal by 2030 and estimates show that approximately 25% of waste streams include food waste. While the Ramsey County and other metro organizations have expressed interest in exploring organics disposal through single stream, curbside collections, the technology likely won't be available for at least another couple years. To better understand the process of organics recycling, please find attached FAQ sheet provided by Ramsey County.

Organics collections can occur a few ways:

- Curbside collections - some communities have explored this concept which either requires a certain level of participation through contractual services, and/or is a service subsidized by the city. Under our current residential contract, organics collection is not included, but there is a clause that allows us to explore the idea if so desired.
- Single stream (as a part of waste disposal) – as previously noted, this technology does not quite exist, and won't be available in Ramsey County no earlier than 2021.
- Organics Collection Sites – Attached to this memo you can find a copy of current drop sites available to all Ramsey County residents.

Residents have noted, and staff agrees, the addition of an organics drop site in Vadnais Heights would be a benefit to Vadnais Heights' residents. This would increase the ease for residents to participate in organics recycling.

In an effort to further promote organics recycling, Ramsey County will fund organics recycling drop sites (including the cost of pick-up) as long as sites meet certain requirements. Cities are required to confirm sites are compatible with local zoning/permitting, accessible to residents/waste haulers, existing lighting (or ability to install lighting), and appropriate surface. If these requirements are met, and the determined site is identified as appropriate, Ramsey County would cover the costs of construction of an enclosure, wayfinding signage and pick-up. The city would be responsible to keep the area lit, accessible (including snow removal, and could incur costs for cross promotion of the potential site. If the concept is agreed upon, staff would like council input on potential sites.

2

Organics Recycling drop-off program: Frequently Asked Questions



S A I N T P A U L – R A M S E Y C O U N T Y P U B L I C H E A L T H

Who can use this program?

The organics recycling drop-off program is for Ramsey County residents who are recycling organics from their home.

How do I start organic waste recycling?

Step 1. Pick up a free organics recycling starter kit and/or free compostable bags. Available at Ramsey County yard waste collection sites.

Step 2. Fill your bin lined with compostable bag with organic waste.

View a short video on organics sorting: [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Somali](#) | [Hmong](#)

Step 3. Bring your bagged organics to a [drop-off site](#).

View a short video on organics drop-offs: [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Somali](#) | [Hmong](#)

What materials can I recycle as organics recycling?

- All food waste (including dairy).
- Egg shells.
- Food soiled paper products.
- Fruit/vegetable scraps.
- Grains.
- Meats, including bones.
- Nut shells.
- Paper towels.
- Tissues.

Visit RamseyRecycles.com/OR for more items.

How do I set up collection in my home?

Use the caddy from your starter kit or find a bin that fits the free compostable bag from the county drop-off site. If you're using your own compostable bags, make sure the bag, or the box in which it came, has the "compostable" logo from the Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI). You will want to use a bin with a preferably tight lid.

Add compostable items such as food scraps and non-recyclable paper. Since your trash volume will be greatly reduced, a small bathroom sized trash bin could now be used for materials that are not compostable such as plastic food wrappers. You may find it convenient to also have a small pail lined with a 2.5-gallon compostable bag to collect kitchen scraps as you prepare or clean up after meals, as well as one in the bathroom for tissue, paper tubes and more. Keep a cover on the pail when not in use to reduce odors.

How are the organic materials recycled?

The organics collected are recycled at a local facility and turned into compost.

Is the compost from this program made available to residents?

Compost produced from this program will be the property of the composting company that accepts it from the county. It may be available locally for purchase but will not be available for free at the yard waste sites.

Organics Recycling drop-off program: Frequently Asked Question

What are the benefits of recycling organics?

Organic waste is the largest portion of what remains in our trash after recycling. Recycling these organics keeps waste out of landfills and converts it to a resource - compost. Residents can also save money on trash bills as organics recycling is not subject to the [County Environmental Charge](#) (tax).

How often can I drop off organics from my home?

You can visit the drop-off sites at any time during site hours.

How many bags of organics from my home can I bring in?

There is no limit on the number of bags of organics recycling brought from your home. You may also arrange to bring in bags for your neighbors.

Does the material have to be bagged in a compostable bag?

Yes, organics recycling must be inside a "BPI certified" compostable bag. Paper bags containing organics are acceptable if they are intact.

How long can I store organics in a compostable plastic bag?

Compostable bags are designed to breakdown over time under certain conditions, so it is recommended to check them regularly after one week.

How many free compostable bags can I get?

When you bring a full organics bag to a drop-off site, you will receive an empty one in exchange.

What sizes of bags are available?

12-gallon and 2.5-gallon compostable bags are available for free at drop-off sites. Check local stores for other sizes, but make sure they are "BPI certified" on the box.

Do you accept organics for recycling from businesses?

No, Ramsey County yard waste sites are not accepting organics from businesses. Visit BizRecycling.com for information on business recycling.

Will this smell and attract pests?

Odors will be similar to regular trash and will not attract pests if managed properly. To minimize odors and pests, do not store longer than one week. Keep full bags in areas that are enclosed, cool or even cold, if possible, and not accessible to pets or wild animals.

Can I put yard waste in with my organics recycling?

No, yard waste and organic waste are managed separately. Please place your yard waste such as leaves, grass, garden plants, and brush (trees and shrubs) in the appropriate pile at a [Ramsey County yard waste site](#). Soft plant materials are accepted at all sites. Arden Hills, Frank and Sims, Midway and White Bear Township collection sites accept brush.

Why can't I put my organics out on the curb for recycling?

This may be an option in the future as organics recycling markets develop, but for now, organics for recycling must be deposited at a drop-off site.

Open to Ramsey County residents only.

Get Started With



- ARDEN HILLS
3530 Hudson Ave., Arden Hills
- BATTLE CREEK
389 S. Winthrop St., Saint Paul
- COMO PARK *(Open 24/7)*
1149 Beulah Lane, Saint Paul
- FRANK AND SIMS
1150 Sims Ave., Saint Paul
- MIDWAY
1943 Pierce Butler Route, Saint Paul
- MOUNDS VIEW
8307 Long Lake Road, Mounds View
- SAINT ANTHONY *(Open 24/7)*
3301 Silver Lake Rd. NE, Saint Anthony
- SUMMIT HILL
870 Pleasant Ave., Saint Paul
- WHITE BEAR TOWNSHIP
5900 Sherwood Road, White Bear Township



APRIL - NOVEMBER

Monday: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Tuesday: closed
Wednesday: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Thursday: closed
Friday: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

DECEMBER - MARCH

Monday - Friday: closed
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

View the collection site map and holiday closures at RamseyRecycles.com/OR

RamseyRecycles.com
651-633-EASY (3279)
Answered 24/7


RAMSEY
COUNTY

Recycle food waste and other organics
in 3 easy steps!

1

Pick up a free compostable bag from a county yard waste site or 24/7 drop-off site.



2

Place organics recycling items into a compostable organics bag inside your bin.



3

Bring your compostable organics bag to a yard waste collection site or 24/7 drop-off site.



Food scraps



Meat and bones



Dairy



Coffee grounds and filters



Tissues and paper towels



Delivery pizza boxes



Paper egg cartons



Paper cups and plates (unlined/uncoated)



Animal and pet food

Visit RamseyRecycles.com/OR for full list.



Plastic bags

Only compostable bags accepted



Dog, cat or animal waste of any kind



Trash



Diapers, liquids, wood or other items that cannot be composted



Grass, leaves or yard waste of any kind



Plastic, metal or glass of any kind

YARD WASTE & ORGANICS RECYCLING COLLECTION SITES

Free and open to Ramsey County residents only.
Photo ID required.

Items Accepted

1 **ARDEN HILLS**

3530 Hudson Ave.
Arden Hills

2 **BATTLE CREEK**

389 S. Winthrop St.
Saint Paul

3 **COMO PARK - 24/7**

1149 Beulah Ln.
Saint Paul

4 **FRANK AND SIMS**

1150 Sims Ave.
Saint Paul

5 **MIDWAY**

1943 Pierce Butler Rt.
Saint Paul

6 **MOUNDS VIEW**

8307 Long Lake Rd.
Mounds View

7 **SAINT ANTHONY - 24/7**

3301 Silver Lake Rd. NE
St. Anthony

8 **SUMMIT HILL**

870 Pleasant Ave.
Saint Paul

9 **WHITE BEAR TWP**

5900 Sherwood Rd.
White Bear Township

Leaves & Grass



Shrubs & Branches



Organics Recycling



April - November

Weather Permitting

Mon., Wed., Fri.: 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday: 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Tues. and Thurs.: closed

December - March

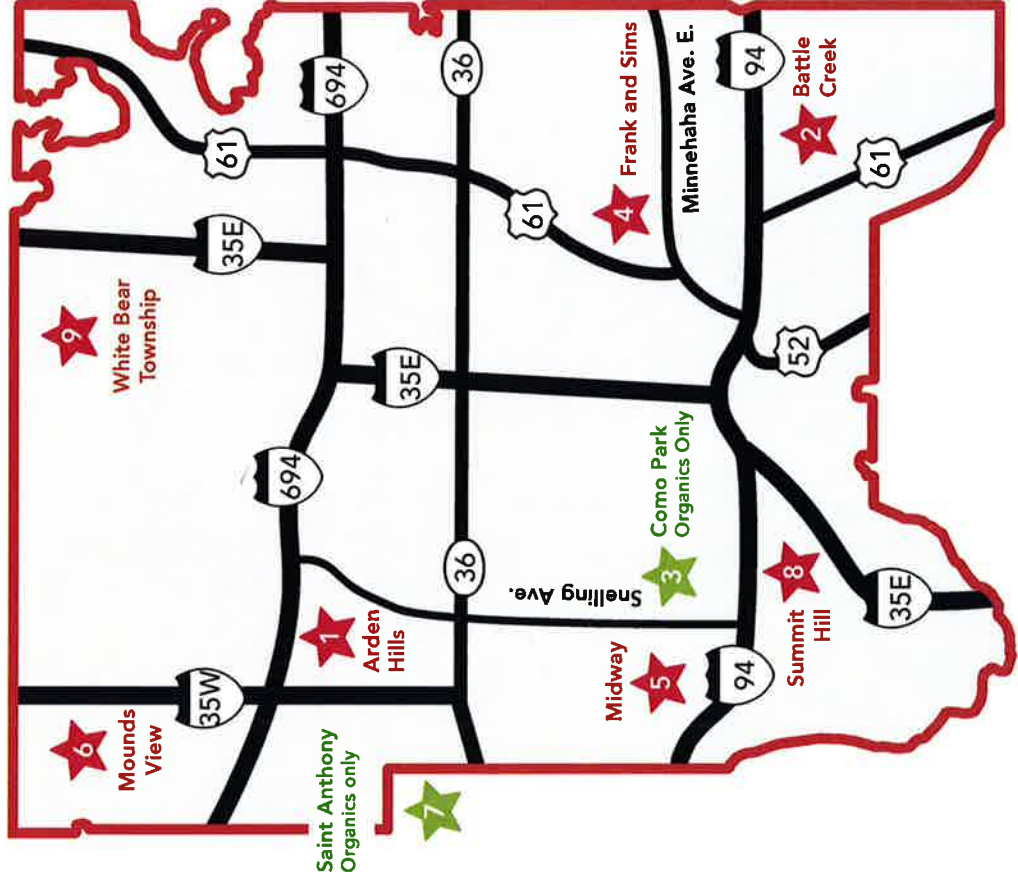
Weather Permitting

Saturday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday: 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Mon. - Fri.: closed

Closed: Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day and Christmas Day.



Jesse Farrell, P.E.
City Engineer/Director of Public Works

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The City of Vadnais Heights

Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

Memorandum:

TO: Mayor Gunderson and City Council Members

FROM: Jesse Farrell, City Engineer/Director of Public Works *kw*

DATE: April 2, 2019

SUBJECT: Update on the City's Lift Station Located at the Intersection of Foothill Trail and Meadowood Lane (near 281 Meadowood Lane)

Background

The City operates one sanitary sewer lift station. This is a critical facility that requires vigilant staff oversight. Pump replacement and electronic control improvements have recently been completed.

Like many lift stations, ours is located in a residential neighborhood. Aesthetic concerns are a very high priority, but they need to be achieved in a manner that first and foremost facilitates safe and efficient maintenance operations. The existing conditions offer an opportunity for significant improvement. Now that the pumps are in perfect working order, we can focus on other potential improvements to the lift station.

At the Workshop, I will present photos of the site and discuss possible improvements. With City Council approval, staff will work closely with SEH on developing improvement plans. During that process, I will engage with surrounding property owners to produce a project that results in a facility that is both functional and aesthetically pleasing.



The lift station is located in the center of this photo, just to the left of the intersection of Foothill Trail and Meadowood Lane.



The lift station receives sewage from approximately 300 homes and pumps it via forcemain (+20' vertical, and 1,100' east to sewer in McMenemy Road).

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Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

Memorandum:

TO: Mayor Gunderson and City Council Members

FROM: Tim Sandvik, Assistant City Administrator

TS *KW*

DATE: April 2, 2019

SUBJECT: Ongoing Negotiations with VHG Inc.

Background

Following the February City Council Workshop meeting, where staff provided an update on negotiations with VHG Inc., staff made the same information available to the Health and Public Safety Commission. Having a better understanding of priorities of Council Members, Commission Members, and Vadnais Heights residents, staff will provide updates to Council regarding the current status of the negotiations.