

**Mayor**

Heidi Gunderson

**Council Members**

Greg Urban  
Patricia Youker  
Steve Rogers  
Erik Goebel

**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, March 2, 2021 - 5:30 pm*

Lakes Conference Room at City Hall

**A G E N D A**

1. Open Meeting
2. Closed Session – Property Located at 843 County Road F and Bear Avenue North Extension
3. Open Meeting
4. Refuse/Recycling/Organics Update – VHG

Documents:

[4 REFUSE RECYCLING ORGANCIS UPDATE - 3.2.21.PDF](#)

5. Other Staff Items
6. Future City Council Requests
7. Adjourn

**Tim Sandvik**  
*Assistant City Administrator*

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## *Memorandum:*

TO: Mayor Gunderson and City Council Members

FROM: Tim Sandvik, Assistant City Administrator

DATE: March 2, 2021

SUBJECT: Refuse, Recycling, Organics

### **Background**

Staff provides periodic updates on a variety of topics, especially when new Council Members assume their role. This update is geared to provide information on Refuse/Garbage, Recycling, and Organics in Vadnais Heights and answer questions.

To provide some perspective on the waste stream in general, staff will include information regarding:

- VHG, Inc.
  - Services provided
  - Trends, including recycling
- Work with other agencies
  - Ramsey/Washington
  - Ramsey County Environmental Health (including SCORE funding)
- Strategies to limit/divert waste stream

Ultimately, services for waste disposal are some of the most common questions/comments that staff receive at City Hall. Staff will continue to communicate and promote ongoing and upcoming strategies. In the immediate, staff is happy to respond to questions and/or comments.

Attachment (1) PowerPoint presentation

# City of Vadnais Heights

Refuse, Recycling, Organics Update

VHG, Inc.



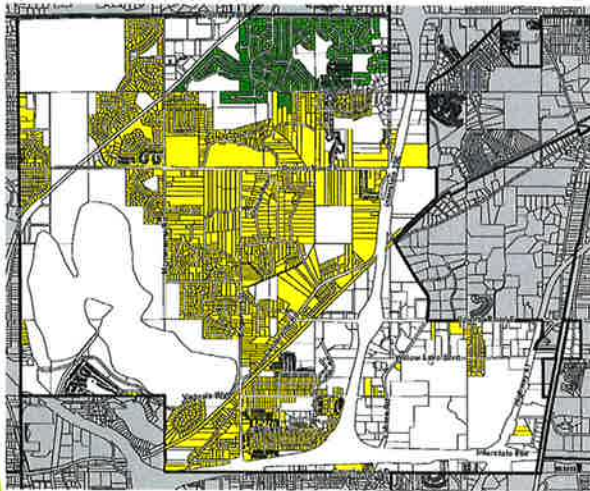
## ▶ VHG, Inc.

- ▶ Formally Implemented in 1991, existing of 8 haulers
- ▶ Most recently the contract was updated July 2019 (through July 2024)
- ▶ Coverage limited to residential, up-to eight units -- Services include:
  - ▶ Weekly refuse pick-up (bin size optional), bi-weekly recycling pick-up
  - ▶ Includes removal of one 'bulky item' and holiday tree at no cost
  - ▶ Co-host Spring Clean Up Day
  - ▶ Assists with Public Education
  - ▶ Conforms to local/state compliance requirements, including reporting
  - ▶ Participates in revenue sharing
  - ▶ Fixed a la carte pricing for additional collection services
  - ▶ City performs Certification process

- ▶ Quarterly bill includes: Disposal, Collection, Recycling, and State/County fees
  - ▶ VHG, Inc. ensures competitive pricing, (mostly) predictive fluctuations
- ▶ Additional Partners
  - ▶ Ramsey/Washington - Recycling and Energy
  - ▶ Ramsey County Environmental Health



- ▶ R&E Center - Newport, MN
  - ▶ Refuse from Ramsey and Washington Counties - more than 450,000 tons annually
  - ▶ Diverting waste stream from landfills, produces fuel for electricity, and recovers various materials
  - ▶ 2019 - through Xcel Energy produced enough electricity for 40,000 homes, recovered more than 15,000 tons of metal, reduction of 108,132 tons of carbon dioxide
  - ▶ State bonding for facility enhancements - scheduled to start in 2021. New technology will process DCBs
  - ▶ Take a tour!



## Recycling - at a glance...

### When is My Collection Day?

- Trash collection is every Wednesday.
- Recycling collection is every other Wednesday (Green/Gold week based on address)
- If your service day falls on or any day after a holiday, your service will be delayed one day that week.

● Green Week ● Gold Week ● Holiday ● Holiday Week

More information about trash and recycling service in Vadnais Heights  
[cityofvadnaisheights.com/trash](http://cityofvadnaisheights.com/trash)

#### ALWAYS RECYCLE



#### DO NOT INCLUDE IN YOUR RECYCLING CART



JANUARY							JULY						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	30	31					
17	18	19	20	21	22	23							
24	25	26	27	28	29	30							
31													

FEBRUARY							AUGUST						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30						29	30	31				

MARCH							SEPTEMBER						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31					29	30					

APRIL							OCTOBER						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

MAY							NOVEMBER						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31					29	30					

JUNE							DECEMBER						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31			27	28	29	30	31		

2021 Single Sort<sup>SM</sup> Recycling

## Recycling - at a glance...

	2020 Total	2019 Total	2018 Total
<b>Recycling Participation %</b>			
Actual Stops Collected	99917	103051	98366
Possible Stops for Collection	112113	107976	112866
Newspaper	539.78	488.25	520.41
Glass	147.317	135.85	152.48
Tin Cans	0	0	0
Aluminum Cans	48.06	43.91	44.36
Corrugated/Chipboard	181.09	168.44	193.89
Plastic	51.41	46.44	37.55
Magazines	5.87	5.2	5.64
Mixed Mail	0	0	0
Phone Books	0	0	0
Garbage	43.04	38.32	41.45
<b>Total Recycling Tonnage</b>	<b>1016.6</b>	<b>926.35</b>	<b>995.78</b>

#### \*Call-outs...

- Total Tonnage/Actual Stops - shown in pounds
  - 20.35 (2020), 17.98 (2019), 20.25 (2018)
- Actual Stops/Possible Stops
  - 89.12% (2020), 95.54% (2019), 87.15% (2018)
- Contamination Rate
  - 4.2% (2020), 4.1% (2019), 4.1% (2018)

# Recycling - Revenue Share

	2020				2019				2018			
	Commodity Values	Processing Fee	All but Glass & Residue Tons		Commodity Values	Processing Fee	All but Glass & Residue Tons		Commodity Values	Processing Fee	All but Glass & Residue Tons	
Jan	\$ 20.00	\$ 65.00	73.35	\$ (1,650.38)	\$ 35.00	\$ 45.00	64.83	\$ (324.17)	\$ 55.00	\$ 45.00	85.39	\$ 426.95
Feb	\$ 20.00	\$ 65.00	48.30	\$ (1,086.75)	\$ 35.00	\$ 45.00	52.39	\$ (261.95)	\$ 55.00	\$ 45.00	57.59	\$ 287.95
March	\$ 20.00	\$ 65.00	54.98	\$ (1,237.05)	\$ 35.00	\$ 45.00	55.43	\$ (277.13)	\$ 55.00	\$ 45.00	59.68	\$ 298.40
April	\$ 25.00	\$ 65.00	63.55	\$ (1,271.00)	\$ 25.00	\$ 45.00	64.50	\$ (645.00)	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00	60.74	\$ -
May	\$ 40.00	\$ 65.00	60.27	\$ (753.38)	\$ 25.00	\$ 45.00	65.84	\$ (658.40)	\$ 35.00	\$ 45.00	77.44	\$ (387.20)
June	\$ 40.00	\$ 65.00	64.50	\$ (806.25)	\$ 25.00	\$ 45.00	64.72	\$ (647.20)	\$ 35.00	\$ 45.00	63.14	\$ (315.70)
July	\$ 45.00	\$ 65.00	74.72	\$ (747.20)	\$ 25.00	\$ 45.00	74.23	\$ (742.30)	\$ 35.00	\$ 45.00	61.31	\$ (306.55)
Aug	\$ 50.00	\$ 65.00	64.50	\$ (483.75)	\$ 20.00	\$ 65.00	62.77	\$ (1,412.33)	\$ 35.00	\$ 45.00	83.66	\$ (418.30)
Sep	\$ 55.00	\$ 65.00	66.38	\$ (331.90)	\$ 20.00	\$ 65.00	61.07	\$ (1,374.08)	\$ 35.00	\$ 45.00	60.99	\$ (304.95)
Oct	\$ 55.00	\$ 65.00	70.04	\$ (350.20)	\$ 20.00	\$ 65.00	62.71	\$ (1,410.99)	\$ 35.00	\$ 45.00	65.56	\$ (327.80)
Nov	\$ 55.00	\$ 65.00	71.12	\$ (355.60)	\$ 20.00	\$ 65.00	60.58	\$ (1,363.05)	\$ 35.00	\$ 45.00	64.51	\$ (322.55)
Dec	\$ 60.00	\$ 65.00	114.52	\$ (286.30)	\$ 20.00	\$ 65.00	63.17	\$ (1,421.33)	\$ 35.00	\$ 45.00	61.56	\$ (307.80)
				\$ (9,359.76)				\$ (10,537.92)				\$ (1,677.55)



- ▶ SCORE funding
  - ▶ Communications, marketing, purchasing, subsidize residents, increase participation
- ▶ A to Z
  - ▶ Household Hazardous Waste, Bulky items, Medicines, Electronics, Appliances...
- ▶ Promote Reuse (Fix-it clinics), at-home best practices
- ▶ Biz Recycling - Businesses and Multi-unit housing grant funding
- ▶ Collection Sites
  - ▶ Yard waste, hazardous waste, food scraps (organics)
- ▶ Vadnais Heights Organics Drop-Off (2019)
  - ▶ 2020 collected 237,952 pounds!