

VAN BUREN COUNTY

PROFILE | FEBRUARY 2023



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY

OVERVIEW

Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) has shifted their focus from disposal as the primary effort towards a circular economy where all waste materials find their highest and best use. Michigan took its first steps towards materials management a few years ago by securing funding to support an economy that reuses and recycles resources. An important component of that funding is for Solid Waste Management Planning – also referred to as Materials Management Planning. Materials management plans form the foundation of the changes the state is preparing to make.

To support this new era of materials management and future planning activities, EGLE initiated a massive data collection project to document and inventory the current state of materials management systems in all municipalities within Michigan's 83 counties. The primary objective of the Michigan Materials Management Infrastructure and Program project, also known as Mega Data, is to provide the baseline of data necessary for counties to develop future materials management plans and provide a roadmap for materials management moving forward. The data collected through the project would also be applied to the Benchmark Recycling Standard analysis developed by EGLE to help understand access to recycling services in the state, where gaps exist, and where EGLE may focus their support to improve access and infrastructure in the state.

EGLE contracted with Resource Recycling Systems (RRS) to support this large undertaking to gather, compile and analyze information from across the state.

PURPOSE OF THE COUNTY PROFILE

The County Profile was developed for two purposes. First, the profiles provided the opportunity to summarize all the information collected for all 83 counties and their municipalities to date as a project milestone. Second, despite the extensive research and information collection, RRS acknowledges that the information presented here may be incomplete. The County Profiles offered the opportunity for each county to review, edit and add to their county's profile information before finalizing as a deliverable for the Mega Data project. Later in the process, EGLE added the review of the County Profile as a requirement of the Materials Management County Engagement Grants (MMCE).

COUNTY PROFILE DEVELOPMENT

The County Profiles contain information that reflects research and outreach to understand programs and services available at the county and municipal levels. The information summarized here corresponds to information required in the state's Solid Waste Management Plan format and will assist counties and designated planning agencies with plan development. This profile focuses on residential programs and services. The information for the Profiles was collected from the following sources:

- Approved Solid Waste Management Plans
- EGLE's Waste Data System (WDS)
- EGLE's Recycle Search tool
- EGLE's Recycling Specialist staff
- Interviews with County program coordinators and designated planning agents
- County Run Measurement Program Survey via ReTRAC
- Municipal Measurement Program Survey via ReTRAC
- Information obtained through Freedom of Information Act requests
- Direct outreach through phone calls, emails, and letters to all target audiences and related groups or organizations with access to target audiences

- Web research
- Participation by Counties in the MMCE Grant Program

DISCLAIMER

This information presented here was gathered and compiled over several years by RRS on behalf of EGLE for the Mega Data project. The profile was originally developed as a tool to summarize information collected and engage counties in review of the information for finalization. The profile is not intended for use as a reference guide for residents or purposes other than to provide counties with information to support future materials management planning. Information, programs, and services can change frequently and therefore information presented here may be out of date. If information has been omitted or requires update, please contact RRS at alynott@recycle.com.

ACCESS AND COLLECTION

COUNTY PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Van Buren County Conservation District coordinates information regarding recycling and waste, and provides collection programs for tires, e-waste, household hazardous waste, paper shredding, and foam.

MUNICIPAL PROGRAM AND SERVICES OVERVIEW

Programs and services offered or provided by municipalities for their residents are summarized by material type and then in two tables. One table features curbside services, and the other table features drop-off services. Programs and services may be offered by a different entity other than the municipality and are noted in the tables.

TRASH

About 13% of the population has access to curbside trash collection through contracted haulers. The remainder of the county is most likely served by the open market where residents make their own arrangements for trash collection, also known as subscription services. Many communities also provide residential trash drop-off services through municipal transfer stations.

RECYCLING

Most communities that provide access to curbside trash collection through a contracted hauler also provide access to curbside recycling services. The municipal transfer stations that accept trash, except in Columbia Township, Keeler Township, and Arlington Township, also accept residential recyclables. Materials accepted in the drop-off programs include paper, glass, mixed plastics, and metal cans.

YARD WASTE

Common yard waste materials, such as brush and leaves, can be collected curbside in several communities through contracted, municipal, or subscription haulers. Two local transfer stations also accept these materials from their residents.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Van Buren Conservation District provides household hazardous waste collection events for residents, which accepts materials such as automotive fluids, mercury, tires, alkaline batteries, paint, lawn chemicals, household cleaners, sharps, and aerosol cans.

OTHER

No information obtained about Other programs.

LIST OF ACTIVE HAULERS

- Best Way Disposal
- Michiana Recycling & Disposal Services
- Republic Services
- Waste Management

CURBSIDE SERVICES BY COMMUNITY

MUNICIPALITY NAME	TRASH COLLECTOR	RECYCLING COLLECTOR	YARD WASTE COLLECTOR	OTHER CURBSIDE SERVICES
Almena township				
Arlington township				
Bangor city	Republic Services Inc.	Republic Services Inc.		
Bangor township	Subscription	Subscription	Program available, hauler not specified	
Bloomington village				
Breedsville village	Subscription	Subscription		
Covert township		Subscription	Subscription	
Decatur village	Republic Services Inc.	Republic Services	Decatur Village Maintenance	
Geneva township				
Gobles city		Subscription		
Hamilton township				
Hartford city		Subscription	Subscription	
Hartford township				
Keeler township	Subscription	Subscription	Subscription	
Lawrence village	Subscription	Subscription		
Lawton village	Subscription	Subscription		
Mattawan village	Subscription	Subscription	Village of Mattawan	
Paw Paw village	Subscription	Subscription		
Pine Grove township				
Porter township	Subscription	Subscription	Subscription	

Antwerp township		Subscription		
Bloomington township				
Columbia township				
Decatur township	Waste Management	Waste Management	Subscription	
Lawrence township	Program available, hauler not specified			
Paw Paw township				
South Haven charter township				
South Haven city	Best Way Disposal	Best Wasy Disposal	Best Way Disposal	
Waverly township				

DROP-OFF SERVICES BY COMMUNITY

MUNICIPALITY NAME	TRASH DROP-OFF SERVICES (PERMANENT)	RECYCLING DROP-OFF SERVICES (PERMANENT)	YARD WASTE OR OTHER ORGANICS DROP-OFF (PERMANENT)	OTHER PERMANENT DROP-OFF SERVICES	TEMPORARY DROP-OFF SERVICES
Almena township					Van Buren Conservation District
Arlington township	Arlington Township Transfer Station				Van Buren Conservation District
Bangor city					Van Buren Conservation District
Bangor township	Bangor Township Transfer Station & Recycling	Bangor Township Transfer Station			Van Buren Conservation District
Bloomington village					Van Buren Conservation District

Breedsville village					Van Buren Conservation District
Covert township	Covert Township Transfer Station	Covert Township Transfer Station			Van Buren Conservation District
Decatur village					Van Buren Conservation District
Geneva township	Geneva /South Haven Joint Transfer Station	Geneva /South Haven Joint Transfer Station	Geneva /South Haven Joint Transfer Station		Van Buren Conservation District
Gobles city					Van Buren Conservation District
Hamilton township					Van Buren Conservation District
Hartford city					Van Buren Conservation District
Hartford township					Van Buren Conservation District
Keeler township	Keeler Township Transfer Station				Van Buren Conservation District
Lawrence village					Van Buren Conservation District
Lawton village					Van Buren Conservation District
Mattawan village					Van Buren Conservation District
Paw Paw village					Van Buren Conservation District
Pine Grove township	Pine Grove Township Transfer Station	Pine Grove Township Transfer Station			Van Buren Conservation District

Porter township					Van Buren Conservation District
Antwerp township	Antwerp Township Transfer Station	Antwerp Township Transfer Station	Antwerp Township Transfer Station		Van Buren Conservation District
Bloomington township	Bloomington Township Transfer Station	Bloomington Township Transfer Station			Van Buren Conservation District
Columbia township	Columbia Township Transfer Station				Van Buren Conservation District
Decatur township					Van Buren Conservation District
Lawrence township					Van Buren Conservation District
Paw Paw township	Paw Paw Township Transfer Station	Paw Paw Township Transfer Station			Van Buren Conservation District
South Haven charter township	Geneva /South Haven Joint Transfer Station	Geneva /South Haven Joint Transfer Station	Geneva /South Haven Joint Transfer Station		Van Buren Conservation District
South Haven city					Van Buren Conservation District
Waverly township					Van Buren Conservation District

FACILITIES

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT FACILITIES IN COUNTY

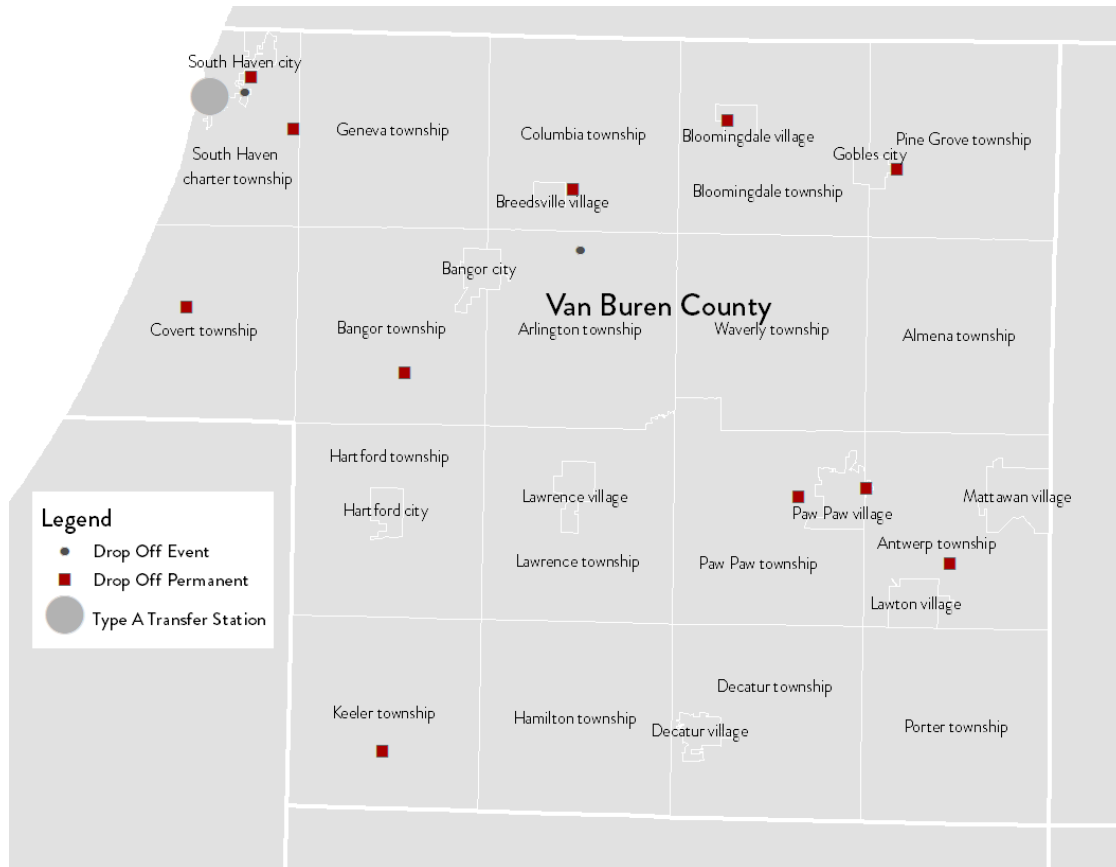
FACILITY SUMMARY TABLE

FACILITY TYPE	FACILITY NAME	FACILITY ADDRESS	CITY	PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY
Drop-off (B, T, C&D)	Antwerp Township Transfer & Recycling Station	28251 64th Avenue	Antwerp	Permanent Drop-off
Drop-off (B)	Arlington Township Transfer Station	51998 26th Ave	Bangor	Temporary Drop-off
Drop-off (WDC, B, T, NT)	Bangor Township Transfer And Recycling Station	41559 63rd Street	Bangor	Permanent Drop-off
Drop-off (WDC, B, T, NT, C&D)	Bloomington Transfer Station & Recycling Center	500 West Kalamazoo	Bloomington	Permanent Drop-off
Drop-off (WDC, B, T, NT, C&D)	Columbia Township Transfer Station	18863 52 1/2 Street	Grand Junction	Permanent Drop-off
Drop-off (T, NT)	Community Thrift Shop	1000 E Michigan Ave.	Paw Paw	Permanent Drop-off
Drop-off (WDC, B, T)	Covert Township Transfer Station	76890 34th Avenue	Covert	Permanent Drop-off
Drop-off (NT)	Goodwill Industries of Southwestern Michigan - South Haven	340 73 1/2 Street	South Haven	Permanent Drop-off
Drop-off (B)	Keeler Township Transfer Station			Permanent Drop-off
Drop-off (B, T, O)	Paw Paw Township Transfer Station	38016 Red Arrow Highway	Paw Paw	Permanent Drop-off
Drop-off (B, T, NT)	Pine Grove Township Transfer Station / Recycle Center			Permanent Drop-off

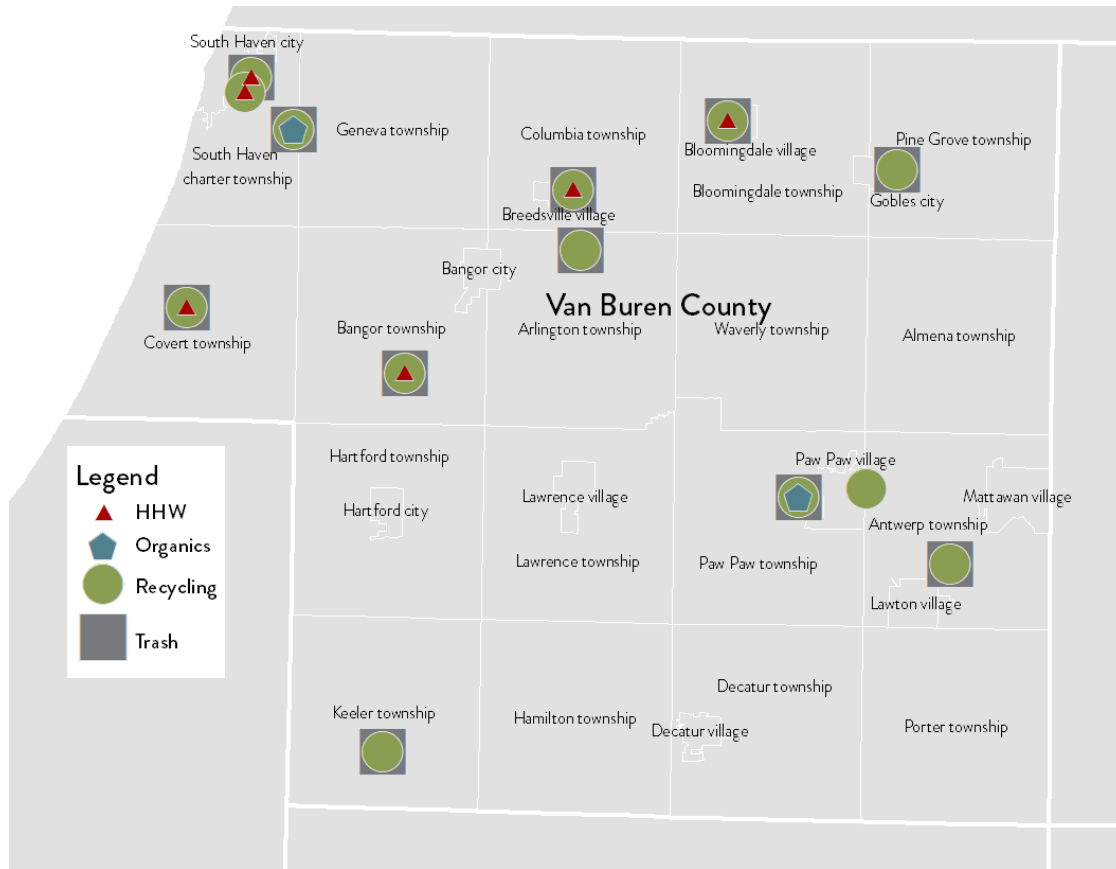
Drop-off (B, T, NT, O)	South Haven-Geneva Joint Transfer Station	70294 Co Rd 384	South Haven	Permanent Drop-off
Drop-off (WDC)	Van Buren County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events	1199 8th Avenue	South Haven	Temporary Drop-off
Transfer Station – Type A	Republic Services Inc. Transfer Station	200 Aylworth Ave	South Haven	

Drop-off Facility Types: B = Transfer Station Type B; C&D = Construction & Demolition; NT = Source-Separated Recycling Drop-off Non-Traditional; T = Source-Separated Recycling Traditional; O = Organics; WDC = Waste Diversion Center

FACILITY SUMMARY MAP



FACILITY BY MATERIAL TYPE



POLICY

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES

Municipality	Policy type	Additional Information
Bangor city	Ordinance	Trash and rubbish removal; services paid for by General Fund
Bangor township	Ordinance	Licensed waste hauling firms must offer recycling; All persons under contract may separate recyclables; recyclables must be delivered to a MRF.

MUNICIPAL FUNDING MECHANISMS

Municipality	Waste Collection	Recycling Collection	Organics Collection	Bulky Item Collection
South Haven city	No funding	No funding	No funding	No funding
Butman township	Subscription	Subscription	Subscription	Subscription

COUNTY ORDINANCES

No county ordinances obtained.

COUNTY FUNDING MECHANISMS

County	Type	Additional Information
Van Buren County	Millage	Part of the .10 mil millage is designated for the Resource Recovery program, and the rest is designated for other Van Buren Conservation District programs.
Van Buren County	County general fund	County government contributes approximately \$17,000 to the program each each.
Van Buren County	Municipal Contributions	Numerous municipalities also contribute annually to the program.

DATA

REPORTED DATA

Van Buren Conservation District tracks data for their collection events.

RESIDENTIAL WASTE PROJECTIONS

Municipality	Population	Total Waste Generation (Tons) ¹	Total Recyclable Diversion (Tons)	Total Organics Diversion (Tons)	Total Requiring Disposal (Tons)
Almena township	5,153	2,168	0	196	1,972
Antwerp township	7,977	3,615	259	304	3,052
Arlington township	1,702	771	55	65	651
Bangor city	2,135	898	0	81	817
Bangor township	2,282	1,034	74	87	873
Bloomington township	2,368	1,073	77	90	906
Bloomington village	670	282	0	26	256
Breedsville village	369	155	0	14	141
Columbia township	2,210	930	0	84	846
Covert township	2,867	1,299	93	109	1,097
Decatur township	1,683	708	0	64	644
Decatur village	1,935	966	152	74	740
Geneva township	3,524	1,597	114	134	1,348
Gobles city	796	335	0	30	305
Hamilton township	1,361	573	0	52	521
Hartford city	2,588	1,089	0	99	990
Hartford township	3,185	1,340	0	121	1,219
Keeler township	2,289	963	0	87	876
Lawrence township	2,329	980	0	89	891
Lawrence village	918	386	0	35	351
Lawton village	1,533	645	0	58	587
Mattawan village	2,567	1,282	202	98	982
Paw Paw township	3,538	1,603	115	135	1,354
Paw Paw village	3,289	1,384	0	125	1,259
Paw Paw village	127	53	0	5	49
Pine Grove township	2,942	1,333	95	112	1,126
Porter township	2,243	944	0	86	858
South Haven charter township	3,970	1,799	129	151	1,519
South Haven city	4,329	2,162	340	165	1,656
Waverly township	2,526	1,063	0	96	967
TOTAL	75,405	33,430	1,705	2,72	28,853

¹ Due to rounding, total waste generation tonnages may not equal the sum of the total diversion and disposal tonnages.

COMMERCIAL WASTE PROJECTIONS

County	Approximate Number of Employees	Total Waste Generation (Tons)	Total Diversion (Tons)	Total Requiring Disposal (Tons)
Van Buren	13,887	21,523	2,363	19,160

TOTAL WASTE GENERATED PROJECTIONS

County	Total Waste Generation (Tons) ^{Error!} Bookmark not defined.	Total Diversion (Tons)	Total Requiring Disposal (Tons)
Van Buren	54,956	6,943	48,013