



# Dakota County Physical Development Division Director's Update

Date: 11/29/2022

## Environmental Resources

### Curbside Mattress Pickup for Recycling and Reuse

For the third year, Dakota County collaborated with Certified Recycling, a Burnsville-based business, to make it easy for single-family and multifamily residents to recycle or donate their mattresses and box springs without leaving home.

Certified Recycling provided curbside collection in 2022 to County residents at a reduced rate from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Environmental Resources promoted its collection through social media, residential E-news, the rural newsletter, and other communications channels.

Certified Recycling collected mattresses from 289 homes, including 49 pickups from multifamily housing. High-quality mattresses and box springs were separated by Certified Recycling and donated to the nonprofit organization, Bridging and distributed to families in need. The rest were disassembled and recycled. A total of 614 mattresses and box springs were collected; 24 were donated to Bridging.

This innovative public-private collaboration has kept 2,018 mattresses out of landfill over the past three years, diverting approximately 55 tons. It also supports the nonprofit organization Bridging, which provides beds and other essentials to people in need.

This effort aligns with the [Dakota County Solid Waste Master Plan](#) strategy 4.1 to support the collection of non-traditional recyclables.

Contact: Gena Gerard, Environmental Specialist, [Gena.Gerard@co.dakota.mn.us](mailto:Gena.Gerard@co.dakota.mn.us) (952)-891-7021

**Mattress**  
recycling pickup  
at a reduced rate

Certified Recycling is offering curbside pickup of mattresses and box springs at a reduced rate for Dakota County Residents through Sept. 5.

**Accepted:**  
Any type of mattress or box spring, including crib and foam mattresses.  
• \$45 for the first item  
• \$25 for each additional item — no limit  
• Fee includes pickup and recycling or donation

**Not accepted:**  
Items with blood, hazardous substances or a history of bed bugs.

High quality items are donated to Bridging to help those in need.

**BRIDGING** **CERTIFIED**

Schedule pickup:  
952-894-1448

[www.certifiedrecycling.org](http://www.certifiedrecycling.org), or scan QR code

Know where it goes. [www.dakotacountyus.com](http://www.dakotacountyus.com), search recycling guide

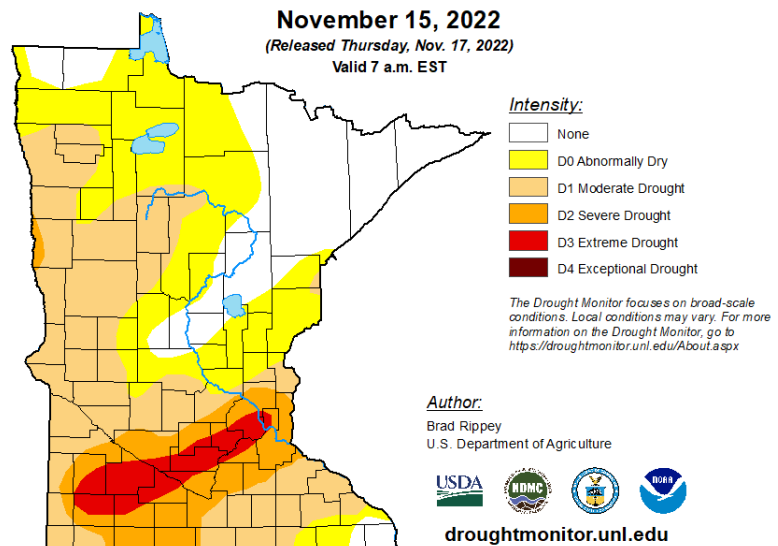
Recycling Guide

Dakota County

## Minnesota drought 2022

Due to prolonged precipitation deficits over much of southern Minnesota, most of Dakota County remains in severe drought conditions.

The Minnesota River Watershed is in the Drought Warning Phase, as provided for in the Minnesota [Statewide Drought Plan](#), which requires public water suppliers to implement water use restrictions contained in their water supply plans. This plan includes portions of Apple Valley, Burnsville, Eagan, Inver Grove Heights, Lakeville, Mendota, Mendota Heights, and Rosemount.



Two watersheds that encompass Dakota County are in the Drought Watch Phase:

- Upper Mississippi Black Root Watershed – central and southern Dakota County
- Mississippi River Headwaters Watershed – north/northeastern Dakota County

Continued drought conditions are a result of the 2021 drought, which was the worst since 1988 for the state. Slow recovery from drought impacts made 2022 vulnerable to drought conditions. The lack of rainfall throughout the growing season, particularly in the Seven County Metropolitan Area, slid the area into severe drought conditions. If water shortages are not replenished over the fall and winter, potential problems in 2023 include poor growing conditions, low stream flow, low lake levels, reduced groundwater storage, fire management concerns, etc.

The MN Department of Natural Resources (DNR) stresses a continued focus on driving down demand for water, even in times of abundance. The agency recommends:

- 1) Reducing lawn irrigation and planting more drought-tolerant species
- 2) Promoting water-saving rebate programs and requiring WaterSense fixtures in new construction
- 3) Using more recycled water
- 4) Installing and maintaining irrigation meters for commercial and multifamily properties
- 5) Providing incentives for redevelopment of landscapes to be more “Waterwise”

For more information, see the [DNR Drought Website](#).

Monitoring the Dakota County drought conditions aligns with the [2020-2030 Groundwater Plan](#) strategy 2C to quantify changes in groundwater levels and flow patterns in response to weather.

Contact: Wes Rutelonis, Environmental Specialist, [Wes.Rutelonis@co.dakota.mn.us](mailto:Wes.Rutelonis@co.dakota.mn.us) (952)-891-7537

## **Administration**

### **Metropolitan Council System Statement for Dakota County**

The Metropolitan Council recently updated its Transportation Policy Plan and Parks Policy Plan, which triggered the preparation of system statements for all metropolitan cities and counties outside of the typical decennial comprehensive plan update cycle. Under state statute, communities are required to review mid-cycle system statements and determine for themselves if a comprehensive plan amendment is warranted.

The Dakota County mid-cycle system statement consisted of incremental changes that reflect the passage of time and progress on planned projects. Because the system statement did not identify any new regional facilities or substantive changes to existing regional facilities, an update to the Dakota County Comprehensive Plan is not necessary at this time. The decennial system statements are expected to be issued in 2025, with an update to the Dakota County Comprehensive Plan anticipated to be completed by 2028.

*Contact: Kurt Chatfield, Planning Manager, [Kurt.Chatfield@co.dakota.mn.us](mailto:Kurt.Chatfield@co.dakota.mn.us) (952) 891-7022*

## **Transportation**

**No Updates**

## **Parks, Facilities, and Fleet Management**

**No Updates**