



Saint Louis County

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NEWS RELEASE

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County issues reminder of rules for salvaging at solid waste sites

Following an increase in trespassing and theft incidents at St. Louis County solid waste sites, the County's Environmental Services Department is reminding people that it is illegal to enter any County solid waste site outside of normal business hours. Removing waste materials without a signed waiver also is illegal. Violators will be prosecuted and could face fines and jail time.

The rules are in place to protect people. Dismantling and handling scrap metal, appliances and other waste improperly can lead to injury, as well as exposure to potentially harmful materials. This includes Freon from cooling systems and heavy metals that pose both health and environmental risks. These risks are heightened when site attendants are not present to oversee salvaging activity and ensure it is conducted safely.

Residents within the St. Louis County Solid Waste Management Area are allowed to salvage scrap metal, wood and other reusable items from County solid waste sites during normal business hours, provided the following conditions are met:

- The customer must sign a salvaging "Waiver of Liability" before salvaging any material. A new waiver is required for each item.
- Only one party may salvage at a time.
- Salvaging is limited to 15 minutes per day.
- Salvaging is permitted only in designated areas. Salvaging is prohibited in the landfill or from waste containers.
- Salvaging is only allowed during normal business hours. If attendant does not have the time to monitor the activity, salvaging will not be permitted at that time.
- Salvaging is allowed only if items are within easy reach. Climbing on the scrap pile is prohibited.

- Dismantling of items on site is not allowed. If a part of an item is desired, the whole item must be removed from the solid waste site for dismantling. Remaining parts must be properly disposed of after dismantling.
- Any mess created during salvaging must be remedied by the customer.
- Bulk salvaging of items for scrap value is prohibited.
- Salvaging is conducted at customers' own risk. The County assumes no responsibility for injuries occurring during salvaging or through use of salvaged item.
- Salvaging must be conducted in a courteous and environmentally protective manner.
- Any violation of the above rules may result in salvaging rights being revoked.

For more information, please visit stlouiscountymn.gov or call St. Louis County Environmental Services at 1-800-450-9278.

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