

MINNESOTA WASTE WISE  
**FACT SHEET**  
**CORRUGATED CARDBOARD (OCC) RECYCLING**

**RECYCLERS**

**LDI Fibres**

Becker, MN  
Savage, MN  
(800) 559-5343  
[www.ldifibres.com](http://www.ldifibres.com)

**International Paper**

St. Paul, MN  
(651) 631-1693  
[www.internationalpaper.com](http://www.internationalpaper.com)

**Rock-Tenn**

St. Paul, MN  
(651) 641-4874  
[www.rocktenn.com](http://www.rocktenn.com)

**BROKERS**

**Rohn Industries**

St. Paul, MN  
(651) 647-1300  
[www.rohnind.com](http://www.rohnind.com)

**Pioneer**

Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 381-2173

**PAPER CALCULATOR**

<http://www.edf.org/papercalculator/>  
Calculate the Lifecycle  
Environmental Impacts  
associated with various levels  
of recycled content in OCC

**MANAGEMENT OF CARDBOARD WASTE:  
REDUCE, REUSE, *THEN* RECYCLE**

- Reduce your businesses consumption of cardboard as much as possible. This will cut costs in purchasing and disposal.
- Reuse cardboard boxes whenever possible before recycling them.
- Work with vendors to exchange reusable totes to eliminate cardboard waste.
- Purchase post-consumer recycled content cardboard whenever possible.
- Check the Minnesota Materials Exchange for cardboard boxes available for reuse, or list boxes for other companies/organizations to reuse.
- There are many recyclers or brokers that will pick-up your OCC. Please see the below list of MN Waste Wise members that process or recycle cardboard.

**CORRUGATED CARDBOARD RECYCLING**

Corrugated packaging material is generally referred to by the general public as “cardboard” and by the industry as Old Corrugated Containers (OCC). Waste and recycling haulers often use OCC on bills for cardboard removal services.

Corrugated cardboard can be identified by its multi-layer construction. The wavy middle layer gives the cardboard strength and keeps it lightweight. Cardboard is in demand by recyclers and should be an easy material to recycle for most businesses. Cardboard should be kept dry and clean, with all non-paper material removed such as plastic wrapping, plastic bags, wood skids, bubble wrap, and Styrofoam. Wax coated cardboard is not accepted. You do not have to remove labels, tape or staples. Ask your recycler or waste removal service for more details.

**MINNESOTA CARDBOARD RECYCLING FACTS**

- According to the American Forest and Paper Association, in 2009 63.4% of all paper used in the U.S was collected for recycling, beating the industry goal of 60% recovery by three years.
- 81.2% of OCC was recovered in 2009 which is almost 25 million tons of OCC.
- In Minnesota, approximately 400,000 tons of corrugated is recycled each year.
- The amount of corrugated recycled in Minnesota annually would fill more than 2/3 of the Metrodome in Minneapolis.

MINNESOTA  
WASTE WISE

400 North Robert Street  
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[www.mnwastewise.org](http://www.mnwastewise.org)