

# LONG BRANCH RECYCLING

What Should You Know and Do?

Jaye S. Sims

Recycling Coordinator



# Recycling: Which Method

- ❑ Do you know what type of recycling collection we have?
- ❑ Is it Single Stream ?
- ❑ Is it Dual Stream ?

# The NJ Law on Recycling

The passage of New Jersey's mandatory recycling legislation in April, 1987 was a major milestone in our state's solid waste management history and helped establish New Jersey as a leader in this field.

The "New Jersey Statewide Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act" (Recycling Act), N.J.S.A. 13:1E-99.11 et seq., set forth an ambitious program that reshaped at least one aspect of the everyday lives of state residents, businesses and institutions.

Among other things, the Recycling Act required New Jersey's twenty-one counties to develop recycling plans that mandated the recycling of at least three designated recyclable materials, in addition to leaves.

County recycling plans were also required to designate the strategy to be utilized for the collection, marketing and disposition of designated recyclable materials. Other provisions of the Recycling Act required municipalities to adopt an ordinance based upon their county's recycling plan

# Single Stream Recycling (SS)

- A recycling collection method in which all recyclable materials are collected in one container at the curb & placed in the collection vehicle until processed at a MRF (Material Recovery Facility) specially designed for sorting & processing loads of recyclables.



# Dual Stream Recycling (DS)

- ❑ Dual Stream Recycling' refers to **when users need to separate recyclable items into subcategories** – like mixed paper and commingled containers (plastic, glass & metal). At recycling centers, recyclable materials are sorted both mechanically and by hand.



# History of Recycling

- Plastic bottles today are a lot thinner and lighter than they used to be. We've also seen that a wider variety of plastics are being used to package the everyday items we purchase.



# History of Recycling

- Thus, this complexity has in many ways altered our understanding of what is recyclable. More and more non-recyclables are finding their way into single-stream containers.



# Examples of Contaminated Recycling

- ❑ Trash mixed in with recyclable items causing contamination



# Examples of Contaminated Recycling



# Contaminated Recycling

- Plastic bags are just some of the many materials that are not acceptable for recycling.



# Contaminated Recycling

- Contamination rates – or the percentage of trash mixed with recyclables has steadily climbed over the years.



# Examples of Types of Plastics



PETE



HDPE



PVC



LDPE



PP



PS



OTHER

polyethylene terephthalate

soft drink bottles, mineral water, fruit juice container, cooking oil

high-density polyethylene

milk jugs, cleaning agents, laundry detergents, bleaching agents, shampoo bottles, washing and shower soaps

polyvinyl chloride

trays for sweets, fruit, plastic packing (bubble foil) and food foils to wrap the foodstuff

low-density polyethylene

crushed bottles, shopping bags, highly-resistant sacks and most of the wrappings

polypropylene

furniture, consumers, luggage, toys as well as bumpers, lining and external borders of the cars

polystyrene

toys, hard packing, refrigerator trays, cosmetic bags, costume jewellery, CD cases, vending cups

other plastics, including acrylic, polycarbonate, polyactic fibers, nylon, fiberglass

**PLASTICS LABELED #1, #2 & #5 ARE RECYCLABLE**

# Examples of Items to Recycle

- Plastic & Glass Containers Labelled number 1  
(soft drink bottles , fruit juice containers)
- PET bottles Labelled number 2 HDPE bottles  
(detergent type bottles, milk jugs, shampoo bottles)
- Labelled number 5 PP containers  
( Margarine tubs, Baby wipe containers, Yogurt cups)

# Examples of Items to Recycle

- ❑ Metal Cans - Aluminum cans, Tin cans, Bi-Metal cans - Non-Hazardous Aerosol Cans - Clean Aluminum Foil
- ❑ Paper & Cardboard - Cardboard Shipping Boxes - Mixed Paper including:
  - Chipboard (Cereal Boxes)
  - White and Colored Paper
  - Junk Mail
  - Magazines
  - Soft Cover Books
  - Newspaper including inserts

# Examples of Items Not To Recycle

- Ceramics, Dishware, Glassware - Light Bulbs - LDPE, Plastic Wrap or Bubble Wrap - Plastic Bags - Propane Tanks - Food of any kind - Food Wrappers, Paper Plates, Cups, Napkins, Paper Towels - Medical waste or Needles
- Regular household A, AA, AAA, C, D, and 9-volt batteries can be thrown in the trash

# Examples of Items Not to Recycle

## RECYCLING TIP:

**QUESTION: WHAT DO THESE FOUR ITEMS HAVE IN COMMON?**



Plastic Bag



Bowling Ball



Styrofoam Cup



Garden Hose

**ANSWER: NONE OF THEM BELONG IN YOUR RECYCLING BIN.**

THESE ITEMS CLOG THE RECYCLING SYSTEM AND MAKE YOUR PROGRAM LESS EFFECTIVE.

CHECK WITH YOUR MUNICIPAL RECYCLING COORDINATOR TO FIND OUT

WHAT YOU CAN AND CANNOT RECYCLE IN YOUR PROGRAM.

[www.nj.gov/dep/dshw/recycling/recycling\\_coordinators.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/dep/dshw/recycling/recycling_coordinators.pdf)



**recycle.nj.gov**



# Examples of Items Not to Recycle



# Problems with Recycling

- Contamination significantly increases the cost to process recyclables. Add this to the fact that commodity prices for recyclables has fallen significantly and the financial sustainability of recycling is at risk.



# Problems With Recycling

- Recycling contamination has a direct impact in the quality of recyclables entering the commodity markets.
- For example, when food or liquids are placed in a recycling container they will ultimately saturate tons and tons of otherwise good paper and cardboard that they come into contact with.
- When paper and cardboard loses its quality, it also loses its ability to be recycled and thus it becomes trash.

# Solutions

- ❑ Communities and businesses are responsible for recycling the right items, the right way.
- ❑ Basically, it's time to get back to the basics and to apply the same discipline we did years ago to the modern recycling programs of today.

# Solutions

- ❑ Recycling all empty glass bottles, cans, paper, plastic bottles and cardboard
- ❑ Keep food and liquids out of your recycling
  - A quick rinse of the item does it
- ❑ Keep all plastic bags out of your recycling

# Cleaning up the Mess

- ❑ CLEAN COMMUNITIES PROGRAM



# Cleaning Up The Mess

The Three Basic Principles of the Clean Communities Program.

- ❑ A. Clean Up
- ❑ B. Enforcement
- ❑ C. Education

# Plastics in the Waterways

- ❑ Plastics risk the lives of marine species, and the overall health of the ocean
- ❑ Reduction in plastic pollution that finds its way into the ocean and other waterways
- ❑ Major education programs are necessary



# Cleaning up the Mess

- ❑ Volunteers spend many hours cleaning debris that marine life eat or get tangle up in
- ❑ Causing death to marine life or birds



# Cleaning Up The Mess



# Cleaning Up The Mess



# Any Questions??

Jaye Sims  
Recycling Coordinator  
City of Long Branch  
Department of Public Works  
732-571-6520  
[jsims@longbranch.org](mailto:jsims@longbranch.org)

