

Hello, my name is NAME.

Thank you for this opportunity to talk with you about the City of Columbus' residential recycling program called RecyColumbus. We appreciate your work as volunteers. Our volunteers have helped educate our neighbors on recycling and made it a successful program. We will be having some very exciting changes taking place in 2014 and I am here today to get you up-to-date on these changes and answer any questions you may have.

RecyColumbus Success



- ◉ Diverted 150K tons of from the landfill
- ◉ Saving over \$8 million in landfill fees for taxpayers
- ◉ 201,326 residents recycling
- ◉ RecyColumbus has given 450+ presentations



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Before we get started I would like to tell you about the success we have had with residential recycling so far. Since the program started in June 2012, RecyColumbus has diverted over 150K tons of materials from the landfill, saving taxpayers over \$8 million in landfill tipping fees.

In 2016, approximately 200,000 Columbus residents will be participating in the program.

Also, we have worked very hard to spread the word about this important City service and our dedicated volunteers have given over 450 presentations.

Eligibility

- ◉ Eligible condos, apartments and townhouses
- ◉ Entire complex must use 90 or 300-gallon trash containers serviced by the City of Columbus
- ◉ Complexes must have enough room to store blue recycling carts
- ◉ Cart delivery from March to April
- ◉ Bi-weekly collection will start immediately



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Residents of condo, apartment and townhome communities wanted to participate in our residential recycling program. To be eligible the entire complex must have 90 or 300-gallon trash containers serviced by the City of Columbus. Complexes must also have enough room to store the 64-gallon recycling carts.

Schedule

- ◉ Recycling and yard waste collected on same day
- ◉ Collection will still be bi-weekly



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Our intent is to simplify collection for our residents. Residents will simply pull their recycling and yard waste to their collection locations and they both will be picked up on the same day:

- Yard waste picked up curbside, in biodegradable bags or a separate rigid container, not in the blue cart.
- Recycling will continue to be picked up in the same spot as your trash.

Why Did These Changes Happen?



- ◉ People still confused recycling and yard waste collection day
- ◉ Collection on same day will make it easier
- ◉ Change will help processing of recyclables
- ◉ Make more efficient
- ◉ Recyclables will go to plant throughout month – not every other week



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So why are these changes happening? There are several major benefits to changing recycling and yard waste collection, as well as expanding the program to eligible condos, apartments and townhouses.

1. The RecyColumbus Community Outreach Survey showed that people were still confused about when their recycling and yard waste were collected. By having these items collected on the same day we will be eliminating this confusion.
2. The same survey showed that condos, apartments and townhouses wanted to participate in program. We heard these request and are expanding the program to eligible multi-family homes.

Why Did These Changes Happen?



- ◉ Improve plant's ability to handle recyclables
- ◉ Widget and mobile app remind residents of collection days



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The changes will also bring more efficiencies to the system.

Right now as a result of our bi-weekly recycling collection schedule, the recycling plant is overwhelmed with materials. Recycling arrives only every other week to coincide with pick ups. With the new schedule, the change will send recycling materials throughout the month. This will improve the plant's ability to handle recyclables.

The widget and mobile app will help residents transition into these changes by giving them reminders about when their recycling, yard waste and trash are collected. Eliminating collection day questions that many participants have.

Need a Collection Reminder?



- Free program
- Reminders on phone, email or calendar
- Residents choose how to be reminded
- Sign-up at www.RecycleColumbus.org
- Can also download the MyColumbus Mobile App and get calendars on iPhone, iPad and Droid
- To download MyColumbus App, visit <http://mayor.columbus.gov/MyColumbus/>



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To help residents remember recycling, yard waste and trash collection days, RecyColumbus is rolling out a new recycling reminder program. It's completely free. People can get an e-mail, a phone call or check a calendar to get a reminder for recycling and yard waste pick up days – and also trash collection days.

Residential recycling participants can use a new "Collection Day Reminder" they'll find at our web site – www.RecycleColumbus.org. The reminder requires the resident to enter his address and then he/she will receive a personalized calendar for recycling/yard waste and trash collection schedule. Participants can also register to receive automatic reminders about their collection days for all three services, recycling, yard waste and trash. Residents can choose what kind of reminder he or she prefers – a phone call or email – which are most proactive -- or a calendar reminder.

The City of Columbus has also released a free mobile app for the iPhone, iPad and Droid called MyColumbus. This app provides recycling, yard waste and trash collection day calendars for your smartphone or other mobile device. To download this app, visit www.mayor.columbus.gov/MyColumbus.

Using the Blue Recycling Cart



Recycling Tips

- No sorting required
- Lids/caps/labels can be kept on
- No dirty recyclables!
- Rinse jars and cans
- **No plastic bags or yard waste**

- ◉ See the cart lid for recycling information



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Everything that is recyclable can go straight into the blue cart with no sorting required.

Here are just a few reminders:

Keep lids, caps and labels on the recyclables – no need to remove them before placing them in the blue cart.

Food and liquid left in containers make recyclables difficult to process or unusable. Please rinse any containers and do not recycle materials that are heavily soiled with food or liquid.

The label on the cart lid has detailed information on what you can and cannot recycle. The most common items we find that can NOT be recycled are plastic bags and yard waste. As you know we have a separate collection for yard waste. Plastic bags can generally be recycled at grocery stores.

Here are other common items that are not accepted for recycling: yogurt cups, car batteries or other car parts, scrap metal or hangers, wood, electronics, buckets, butter tubs, food trays, needles/syringes, dishes, plates or utensils, pots and pans and disposable plates and cups.

Top Items Causing Problems:

- Plastic Bags
- Plastic toys/cars
- VCR tapes
- Clothing, blankets, sheets
- Water hoses
- Extension cords (Christmas lights)



Using the Blue Recycling Cart



- ◉ The blue cart should hold two weeks worth of recyclables
- ◉ Recyclables include:
 - Paper/Cardboard
 - Plastic Bottles/Jugs
 - Glass Bottles/Jars
 - Metal Cans
 - Food/Beverage Cartons



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Households that use the 64-gallon cart recycle more pounds on average than those that use smaller bins. That is one reason why the city selected this size cart to begin with. We have noticed that many of our residents use two carts because they are such avid recyclers. A reminder to you that extra carts can be purchased at our web site for around \$40. The additional cart will be delivered to the resident's home a few days after payment is received.

Now, let's take a look at each group of items that can be recycled.. They include (READ LIST).

Paper/Cardboard



- ◉ Newspapers, including inserts
- ◉ Magazines
- ◉ Catalogs/phone books
- ◉ Junk mail
- ◉ Cardboard boxes (flattened)
- ◉ Pizza boxes (free of food and grease)
- ◉ Other paperboard boxes, such as cereal and dry food boxes
- ◉ Computer paper



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Let me talk a bit about specifics because our survey did reveal that there is still confusion about what exactly can be recycled. Let's start with paper and cardboard. This includes (READ LIST)

In 2012, the amount of paper recovered for recycling averaged 325 pounds for every person in the U.S. and 65.1% of the paper consumed in the U.S. was recovered for recycling. Recycling 1 ton of paper saves 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space. Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI)

Paper is the number one thing people recycle and we are seeing that in Columbus too.

Plastic Bottles/Jugs



- ◉ Plastic bottles/jugs
- ◉ Beverage containers, such as water/soda bottles
- ◉ Milk/juice jugs
- ◉ Laundry/liquid dish soap bottles
- ◉ Shampoo bottles
- ◉ Lids/caps/labels on the bottles = OK



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Here's a list of plastic items that can be recycled. (READ LIST).

For Plastic bottles and jugs -- It's best to empty the bottle, crush it and replace the lid or cap back on the bottle. Loose lids can get caught in the equipment, so encourage folks to put the lids back on the bottles.

Lids and caps not attached to the bottle will not be recovered for recycling.

Plastic that is NOT recyclable includes margarine tubs, plastic bags, yogurt cups, clamshells/plastic boxes used for fruit and lettuce. At this point we are not equipped to take these items even though they have a recycling mark on the plastic container.

Here's an interesting fact. More than 4.5 billion pounds of plastic was recycled in 2012. (ISRI)

Recycling 5 plastic bottles produces enough fiber for one t-shirt. (ISRI)

Less than 30% of all plastic bottles are recycled annually. (US EPA)

Glass Bottles/Jars & Metal Cans



- Glass
 - Glass bottles/jars
 - All colors
- Metal
 - Aluminum cans
 - Steel cans
 - Empty aerosol cans (non-hazardous)



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Glass bottle and jars and metal -- including steel and aluminum cans -- can be recycled. But only glass bottles and jars that once contained food or drinks.

Be sure to rinse glass before placing it in the blue cart.

There's no need to remove labels.

Materials such as window glass, ceramics and light bulbs are not accepted for recycling. Please reinforce that we do take non-hazardous aerosol cans -- most people are not aware of this. (Examples: Acceptable -- hairspray; Not Acceptable -- WD40)

Recycling one glass bottle saves enough energy to light a 100-watt bulb for four hours, power a computer for 30 minutes or a television for 20 minutes. (ISRI)

Recycling 1,000 tons of glass creates more than eight jobs. (ISRI)

Here a few interesting facts about recycling metals:

About 1.6 million tons of aluminum were used to make durable and nondurable goods, such as appliances and automobile parts. (EPA)

In 2012 Americans discarded about 2.8 million tons of aluminum. (ISRI)

Food & Beverage Cartons



- ◉ Milk cartons
- ◉ Chicken broth boxes
- ◉ Wine boxes
- ◉ Juice cartons/
other boxes



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Food and Beverage cartons can also be recycled. Often, they are made with mixed materials – usually paper coated with polypropylene film or aluminum. These all can be recycled. (read list)

We ran a campaign this past year with help from the Carton Council to let people know cartons are recyclable and can go in the cart.

Once, there were very few recycling options for these types of cartons, but now they are now part of the recyclables list.

So you can toss cartons in the cart along with your other recyclables. Remember when the contents are gone, let the carton live on!

Look for SWACO Drop Boxes



- ◉ If not eligible, look for SWACO drop boxes
- ◉ Can drop off recyclables for free
- ◉ To find a drop box
<http://www.swaco.org/Facilities?clear=False>



Not eligible recycling, no problem. The Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO) has drop boxes throughout the city where residents can drop off their recyclables for free.

Currently, there are over 200 different drop box locations, however SWACO plans to add even more in 2014. Drop boxes can be found at places like Walmart, Kroger, fire stations and recreation centers.

To find the closest drop box to you, visit <http://www.swaco.org>.

Need More Cart Space



- ◉ Purchase second cart for \$40+tax
- ◉ Purchased cart belongs to resident
- ◉ Provides extra space to recycle
- ◉ Easy to order and will be dropped off within a week
- ◉ www.RecycleColumbus.org
- ◉ Not sure if it is recyclable? Check out the Waste Wizard:
<https://www.columbus.gov/public-service/RecyColumbus/>



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I mentioned this earlier, but for those who are running out of cart space, they can purchase a second recycling cart for the low cost of \$40.48. Delivered.

Unlike the cart delivered by the City at the start of RecyColumbus, this cart is the buyer's property and they can take it with them if they move. The order process, including delivery, takes about a week. Send people to www.RecycleColumbus.org to make that purchase.

How You Can Help

Help Us Spread the Word:

- ◉ Speak at local groups/clubs
- ◉ Hand out information at neighborhood fairs and festivals
- ◉ Organize a neighborhood recycling event



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I'd like to invite you to support the RecyColumbus education program in your neighborhood. It's easy and fun to do.

I know most folks would rather do anything than speak before a group, but the RecyColumbus folks make it easy with our PowerPoint presentation. If I can do it, you can too!

You can also hand out information at local fairs, festivals and celebrations. For example, in my neighborhood each year we celebrate the Fourth of July. This would be a great place to take the RecyColumbus display and hand out our recycling education cards.

RecyColumbus provides all of the materials. You just provide the ideas on local events and recruit the people to make it happen.

More Information on Being Green

- RecyColumbus is just one of the City's great green initiatives
 - Columbus GreenSpot
 - Branch Out Columbus
 - Blueprint Columbus



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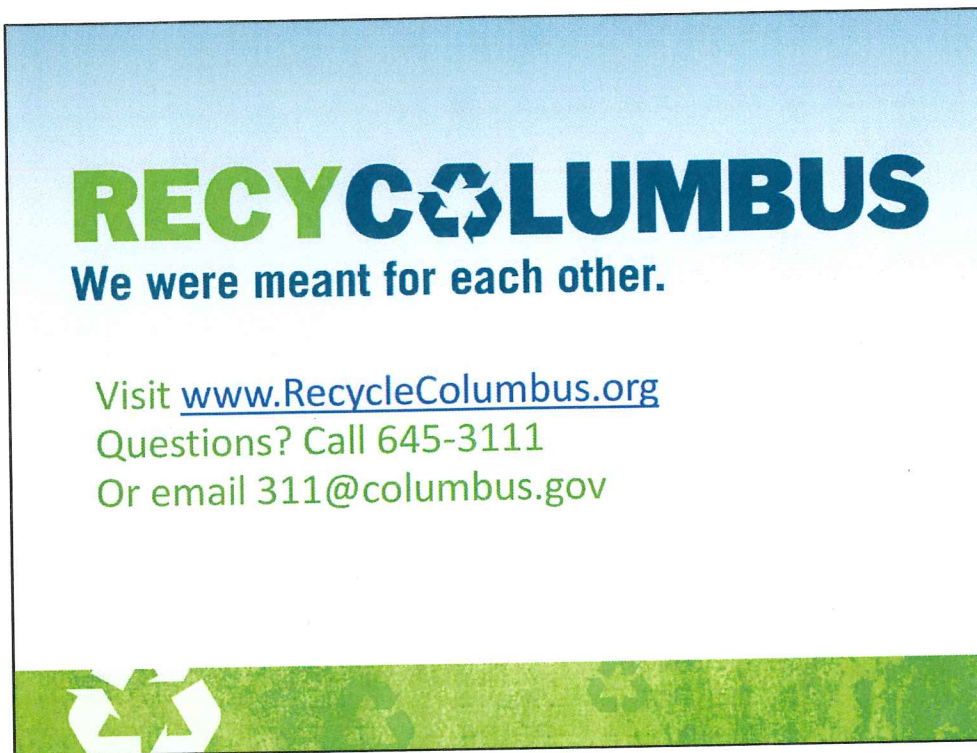
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Recycling is just one way to be greener. It has earned Columbus a Green City award – and we are very proud of that award given we have only been recycling less than two years.

To help City residents, Columbus Mayor Michael Coleman founded GreenSpot. It's the online place where people in our city go to learn about living and working greener, and commit to doing it—in their homes, businesses and communities.

With just a few small changes, you can help the environment and create a more environmentally-friendly home, workplace or neighborhood.

You can find out more by visiting the GetGreenColumbus.org website.



Thank you for your time and interest in recycling. I hope you are looking forward to expanding residential recycling and helping our residents adjust to the new collection schedule.

Again, Would you please take a few minutes to complete the Volunteer form and return it to before you leave?

Now, I would be happy to answer questions or if you think of a question later, you can always visit this website or call this phone number. Amanda Amsel – who is here coordinates our speakers and events, and she is thrilled to have some extra volunteers to work with. The program has been very successful and our residents really love it.

Thank you for coming.