Department of the Environment

Facts About...
Recycling

Baltimore City Recycling

Coordinator/Staff

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Waste Diversion Rate

- For calendar year 2011, the Baltimore City had a 27% recycling rate.

Residential Program

Curbside

- The City has curbside, single stream recycling every week. The amount of recyclables that may be set out is unlimited.
- Residents are required to put recyclables at the same location where trash is left for collection.

Drop-off

- There are eight City-operated drop-offs that accept single stream recycling.

Processing/Marketing

- Processing is contracted to private companies.

Yard Trimmings

- The city collects up to five bags of yard waste on the mixed refuse collection day. During leaf season in the fall, the City provides 311 appointed pickups of up to 15 bags of leaves on Mondays.
- The City provides year-round drop-off of yard debris at five locations.

Other Materials

- *Polystyrene #6* is collected at the Northwest Citizens' Convenience Center at 2840 Sisson Street.
- *Scrap metal* is collected at all drop-off centers.
- *Oil and antifreeze* are collected at drop-offs.
- *Christmas trees* are shredded for mulch.

Household Hazardous Waste

- *Household Hazardous Waste* is collected at the Northwest Citizens' Convenience Center at 2840 Sisson Street the first Friday and Saturday of every month from April through October.

- A wide variety of materials are accepted. Trash, unknown or unlabeled materials, acids, asbestos, ammunition, explosives, fire extinguishers, fireworks, industrial waste, medical waste, propane tanks, and radioactive materials are not collected.

Electronics

- *Electronics* are accepted at some drop-offs.

Commercial Program

- City trash and recyclables pick-up is available to businesses that do not generate more than three (32-gallon) trashcans per pick up (96 gallons total).
- Efforts include outreach to City businesses to provide special recycling collections.

Public Buildings

- The five largest City office buildings, housing 4,000 employees, are recycling mixed paper, high-grade office paper and aluminum cans.
- All city library branches and fire stations recycle.
- All of the schools in Baltimore City participate in the City's recycling program.

Disposal

- The landfill tipping fee is $67.50. Most waste is processed through the Wheelabrator waste-to-energy facility where tipping fees range from $32.50 to $65.00.

Financing/Budget

- The solid waste program is financed through general funds.