



Facts About...

Recycling

ST. MARY'S COUNTY RECYCLING

Coordinator/Staff

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Waste Diversion Rate

- ▶ For calendar year 2011, 31 % recycling rate + 4 % source reduction credit = 35 % waste diversion rate.

Residential Program

Curbside

- ▶ There is no county sponsored curbside program. Private haulers offer curbside solid waste and recycling collection service, which collects mixed paper, cardboard, magazines, newspaper, aluminum and steel cans, glass, and #1 and #2 plastic containers.
- ▶ Patuxent Naval Air Station- 749 households have curbside collection of mixed paper, cardboard, magazines, newspaper, aluminum and steel cans, glass, and #1 and #2 plastic containers.

Drop-off

- ▶ Six staffed drop-off sites (Convenience Centers) located throughout the county collect the following recyclables; fluorescent bulbs, electronics, used cooking oil & grease, clothing & textiles, used motor oil and oil filters, used antifreeze, rechargeable batteries (Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd), Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH), Lithium Ion (Li-ion), Small Sealed Lead (Pb), mixed paper, phonebooks (seasonal), cardboard, magazines, newspaper, aluminum and steel cans, glass, all plastic (#1 thru #7), and Christmas trees (seasonal). In addition, the sites collect household refuse (free of charge) with a load limit of four (4) – 35 gallon containers or equivalent. Oversize loads and construction demolition debris must be brought to the St. Andrews Landfill for disposal.

Processing/Marketing

- ▶ A private company collects and processes the majority of the County's recyclables from the private sector and is under contract with the County for the six drop-off sites.

Municipalities

- ▶ Leonardtown provides curbside collection for approximately 866 homes. Materials collected include mixed paper, cardboard, magazines, newspaper, aluminum and steel cans, glass and #1 through #7 plastic. Goode Companies has the current solid waste and recycling hauling contract that includes opportunities for commercial and institutional recycling collections.

Yard Trimmings

- ▶ Residents and the Commercial sector may bring yard trimmings (grass, leaves, limbs, logs and brush) to the landfill where they are mulched. The mulch is available to County residents at no charge.

Other Materials

- ▶ *Scrap Tires* are accepted at the landfill, five (5) per trip for free, for the residents of the County and over size loads or bulky tires are assessed a fee of \$158.00/ton. In addition, the commercial sector is authorized

to dispose of scrap tires at the landfill and will be assessed the \$158.00/ton fee and are required to provide a scrap tire hauler license prior to disposal.

- ▶ *White goods* such as refrigerators, stoves, washing machines, dryers, air conditioning/heating units, etc. are accepted at the landfill free of charge for the residents of the County. The commercial sector are authorized to dispose of white goods, but will be assessed a fee of \$65.00/ton. The white goods that contain CFC's are pumped out and the refrigerants are removed prior to the metal being recycled.
- ▶ *Scrap Metal* such as bed frames, filing cabinets, lawn equipment, etc. are also accepted at the landfill and are assessed a fee of \$10.00 per ¼ ton pickup load or \$65.00/ton for oversize loads.
- ▶ *Automotive Batteries* and Propane Cylinders are accepted at the St. Andrews Landfill. A free Solid Waste/Recycling Brochure and Re-use Directory is available at the landfill, any of the six (6) drop-offs sites, or on-line.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

- ▶ The County conducts 2 HHW collection events during the fall season each year at the St. Andrews Landfill. Contact the County for specific dates and items accepted.

Commercial Program

- ▶ Participating area stores collect used oil, used oil filters, used antifreeze, textiles, rechargeable batteries, automotive batteries, mixed paper, newspapers, cardboard, paper bags, plastic bags, aluminum and steel cans, glass and #1 #2 plastic containers for recycling.
- ▶ Reporting of recycling efforts by the private sector is voluntary at this time.

Public Buildings

- ▶ All 28 public schools and 12 private schools recycle plastic, glass, metal and paper products.
- ▶ 25 County-maintained office buildings recycle mixed office paper, cardboard, newspaper, magazines, aluminum and steel cans, glass and all #1 through #7 plastic.
- ▶ The County has expanded recycling in the more heavily used recreational parks, public boat landings, and the regional airport.

Procurement

- ▶ St. Mary's County Board of County Commissioners has adopted a Buy-Recycled Policy.
- ▶ The County participates in the National Buy-Recycled Business Alliance and the National Office Paper Recycling Project.
- ▶ Green products are utilized by Building Services and Vehicle Maintenance Divisions.

Public Education & Outreach

- ▶ The County continually sponsors static display of recycling information in public buildings and at large gatherings (*e.g.*, Trade Fair, County Fair, Earth Day, etc.) funded in part by a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust.
- ▶ A contest was held to develop a logo for recycling, which was trademarked through September 1, 2019.
- ▶ The Recycling Program continually visits the public and private schools to educate the youth on the importance for recycling.

Disposal

- ▶ All municipal solid waste is currently exported to an out-of-county waste-to-energy facility while rubble waste (C&D material) is contract hauled to the landfill located in King George, Virginia. Residents can continue to drop-off loads of solid waste/rubble and are accepted with a tipping fee of \$10.00 per ¼ ton pickup load or \$65.00/ton.
- ▶ A new residential Green Waste Fee was implemented in July 2012 for oversized loads of yard waste at a discounted rate of \$40.00/ton.

Financing/Budget

- ▶ The solid waste and recycling programs are financed through the General Fund and an Enterprise Fund.
- ▶ The collection of tipping fees as well as an Environmental and Solid Waste Service Fee that was established in July 2007 at a rate of \$60.00 per improved residential property are also used to offset program costs.
- ▶ Scrap metal income is priced per ton.

