



Maryland Department
of the Environment

FACTS ABOUT: Recycling

ST. MARY'S COUNTY RECYCLING

Coordinator/Staff

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Waste Diversion Rate

- ▶ For calendar year 2013, 41 % recycling rate + 4 % source reduction credit = 45 % 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- approximately 750 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, oyster shells, 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 offer collection of household refuse (free of charge for County residents) 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 (under contract with the County) transports the recyclables, collected at the Convenience Center sites, to an out-of-county processor.



Maryland Department of the Environment
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Larry Hogan, Governor | Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor | Ben Grumbles, Secretary

RMP/May 2015

Municipalities

- ▶ Leonardtown provides curbside collection for approximately 980 homes and 20 commercial businesses. Materials collected include mixed paper, cardboard, magazines, newspaper, aluminum and steel cans, glass and #1 through #7 plastic.

Yard Trimmings

- ▶ Residents and the Commercial sector may bring yard trimmings (grass, leaves, limbs, logs and brush) to the landfill for collection until such time when grinding is performed by a contracted vendor. The mulch is then available to County residents at no charge.

Other Materials

- ▶ *Scrap Tires* are accepted at the St. Andrews landfill. For the residents of the County, up to five (5) passenger tires and/or light truck tires per trip are free while excess or over-sized tires are assessed a fee of \$158/ton. In addition, small businesses may dispose of scrap tires at the landfill at cost of \$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 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, scrap steel 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

- ▶ Businesses choosing to participate are provided collection by private haulers for recyclable materials.
- ▶ Reporting of recycling efforts by the private sector is voluntary at this time.

Public Buildings

- ▶ All 29 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.).
- ▶ A contest was held to develop a logo for recycling, which was trademarked through September 1, 2019.

Disposal

- ▶ All municipal solid waste (MSW) and construction and demolition (C&D) material are currently managed by private haulers and/or bid contracts to out-of-county facilities located in Maryland or Virginia. County residents can continue to drop-off excess loads of MSW and C&D materials at the St. Andrews landfill for a tipping fee of \$10 per pick-up load (approximately ¼ ton) or \$65/ton for larger loads.
- ▶ 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.

Apartments and Condominiums

- ▶ Effective 10/01/2014, twenty six (26) apartment buildings and thirteen (13) condominiums containing ten or more dwelling units began recycling plastic, metal and glass containers and paper products.

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. In FY2016, the County is considering increasing the fee in order to reduce the level of the required enterprise fund subsidy.
- ▶ Scrap metal income is priced per ton.

