Monroe County
Solid Waste & Recycling

NYSAC 2019 Legislative Conference
January 29, 2019
Agenda

• Brief Overview & History
• History of Recycling Program
• Communication Tools
Brief Overview & History

Integrated Environmental Infrastructure:

• **Monroe County Recycling Center (MRF)** - manages 50,000 tons of residential and commercial recyclables annually

• **Monroe County Resource Recovery Facility** (transfer station) - manages 260,000 tons of municipal solid waste (MSW) and 40,000 tons of recyclables annually

• **Mill Seat Landfill** - nonhazardous solid waste landfill permitted to manage 760,000 tons of MSW with renewable energy recovery

• **ecopark** - residential drop off facility for household hazardous waste (HHW), pharmaceuticals and hard to handle recyclables managing 4,660 tons of materials since 2011 opening

• **Yard waste composting facilities** - managing 20,000 cubic yards of leaves annually
History of Recycling Program

Monroe County Recycling Center

1992
2004
2011
2013
Global Recycling Market Dynamics

China trash ban is a global recycling wake up call
by Irena Kottasová
@ivanakottasova
April 20, 2018, 11:58 AM ET

Plastics and papers from dozens of American cities and towns are being dumped in landfills after China stopped recycling most “foreign garbage.”

May 29, 2018

Your Recycling Gets Recycled, Right? Maybe, or Maybe Not

Plastics Pile Up as China Refuses to Take the West’s Recycling
By Kimiko de Freytas-Tamura
Jan. 11, 2018

Recycling, Once Embraced by Businesses and Environmentalists, Now Under Siege
Local officials raise fees and send recyclables to landfills as economics erode
What does this mean for recycling in Monroe County?

• Need to:
  – Get back to basics of good recycling
  – Clarify types of recyclables accepted
  – Communicate consistently to residents among municipalities, facilities, and collection companies
  – Utilize education campaigns and develop suite of resources to inform, influence & inspire desired action: recycling right
Communications Tool Box

- Websites
- Newsletters
- Campaigns
- Special Events
- Mass Mailings
- Videos
- School Outreach
- Social Media
- Press Releases
Monroe County Recycling Center Video

- [https://www2.monroecounty.gov/des-mcrc-video](https://www2.monroecounty.gov/des-mcrc-video)
Signs

• Customized for 4 locations
• Available for free download from website
• English and Spanish
**MIXED RECYCLING**

- **Empty**
- **Clean**
- **Unbagged**

**Paper**
- Empty cartons - NO liquids or straws
- Flatten boxes
- Contain shredded paper in paper bag or box

**Plastic**
- Empty bottles, jugs, jars and tubs - NO food or liquids
- Reattach lids and caps

**Metal & Glass**
- Clean foil
- Empty cans and bottles - NO liquids
- Reattach lids and caps

- **No bags**
- **No cups**
- **No food**
- **No liquids**

**WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT!**

**TRASH**

**Pouches and Wrappers**
- Napkins, tissues and paper towels
- Wet or dirty items
- Cups/lids

**Disposable Food Items**
- Napkins, tissues and paper towels
- Wet or dirty items
- Cups/lids

**Single-Use Plastics**

**Foam**

**Plastic Bags and Film**

**Food and Liquids**

www.monroecounty.gov/recycling
At the Monroe County Recycling Center, these are the top 12 items that cause damage to our equipment and pose serious safety concerns for our employees. We've been asked many times recently how the global recycling markets are impacting us locally. 1 in 4 items currently placed in recycling bins don't belong there. Market conditions have caused recyclers across the nation to add employees and equipment to clean up recycling streams in order to make higher quality processed materials that are more marketable. But recycling right begins with us. Make sure you're recycling right by keeping these items out of your curbside recycling bins.

**THE DIRTY DOZEN**

Keep these items OUT of your curbside recycling!

1. Plastic Bags
2. Propane Tanks
3. Ropes
4. Hoses
5. Foam
6. Tarps
7. String Lights
8. Pill Bottles
9. Electronics
10. Cups
11. Food
12. Liquids

Performance for Your Post

36,545 People Reached

1,499 Reactions. Comments & Shares

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NEGATIVE FEEDBACK

2 Hide Post
0 Hide All Posts
0 Report as Spam
0 Unlike Page

Reported stats may be delayed from what appears on posts.
Recycle

Contracted from Page 1A

The theory of educational activity is a response to what has happened. The New York Times, in announcing a recycling program, which it started last fall in Rochester, gives a strong endorsement of the idea.

The program is a joint effort of the University of Rochester and the city of Rochester, with the cooperation of the Rochester School Board, the Rochester Public Library, and the Rochester Public Schools.

The program is based on the principle that recycling is both an educational and an economic activity.

The program includes a variety of educational activities, including the distribution of educational materials, the formation of recycling clubs, and the establishment of recycling centers in schools and libraries.

The program has been in operation for a year and has been successful in increasing the amount of recyclable materials collected.

Recover

Contracted from Page 1B

Clean air and water: two of the most basic human needs. No matter what happens in the future, there will always be a need for clean air and water.

The Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act are two of the most important pieces of legislation ever passed by Congress. These laws have significantly reduced air and water pollution.

The Clean Air Act was passed in 1970 and has been amended several times since then. It sets standards for air quality and requires industries to reduce pollution by using the best available control technology.

The Clean Water Act was passed in 1972 and has also been amended several times since then. It sets standards for water quality and requires industries to reduce pollution by using the best available technology.

These laws have been very successful in reducing pollution, but there is still more work to be done.

In order to continue to improve air and water quality, the federal government must continue to set high standards and require industries to use the best available technology to reduce pollution.

In addition to federal laws, states and local governments also have the power to regulate pollution. Many states have passed their own laws to protect the environment and to reduce pollution.

State and local laws can be just as effective as federal laws, as long as they are enforced and industries are held accountable for their pollution.

The future of our environment is in the hands of all of us. We must continue to work together to protect the air we breathe and the water we drink.
Take Aways

• Work together with County Communications
• Gain support from the Administration
• Invest in quality materials that can be utilized across platforms
• Walk the Talk
• Continuous, proactive education & outreach
Thank you!

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www.monroecounty.gov/recycling
www.ecoparkmcny.com