SUSTAINABLE DC

1st LEED Platinum city in the world

1st Large Scale Bikeshare in US

1st in solar density among states

Goal: Climate Neutral City by 2050

681,170 Residents & Growing

313,718 Households (1/3 serviced by DPW)

5M+ Regional Population

68 square miles

Bisected by two rivers
Residential Diversion Rate: 22.98%

Citywide Diversion Rate Goal: 80%
ZERO WASTE LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

**SUSTAINABLE DC OMNIBUS AMENDMENT ACT OF 2014**

1. **January 1, 2016**: Expanded polystyrene food service ware banned

2. **January 1, 2017**: Disposable Food service* ware must be compostable or recyclable

* Applies to containers, bowls, plates, trays, cartons, cups, lids, straws, forks, spoons, knives, napkins, and other items that are designed for one-time use for beverages, prepared food, or leftovers from meals prepared by a food service business.
MAYOR’S LIST OF RECYCLABLES AND COMPOSTABLES

• A requirement of the Sustainable Solid Waste Management Amendment Act of 2014
• Must be reviewed every 2 years or less
• Provides a single comprehensive list of recyclable and compostable materials for DC residents and businesses.
• Effective Date: January 1st, 2018
### Recycling Partnership Survey Template

#### Acceptable Materials Worksheet

Please go through each item in the list and check whether the item is acceptable or not acceptable. This document will be used to get the local governments and the MRF on the same page. It can set the framework for front line staff employees answering the phone or driving the collection vehicles to better inform the community. It also provides the framework to start building educational materials that are consistent throughout the community.

You will see two categories under the "Do Not Accept" column. Here is how they are defined:

- **Not Dangerous:** Item is not sent to a market for recycling, but does not cause any major problems if found in the stream.
- **Dangerous:** Items can shut down or damage equipment, harm employees, and/or degrade the value of market.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paper Product</th>
<th>Accept</th>
<th>Do Not Accept</th>
<th>Do Not Want On List But Accept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OCC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pizza Boxes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Newspaper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Magazines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hard Cover Books</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publication Books</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Paper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junk Mail</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cartons (gable top containers)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Like milk, orange juice, etc</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shredded Paper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[www.recyclingpartnership.org](http://www.recyclingpartnership.org)

### Recycle Your Plastics Terms & Tools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Terminology</th>
<th>Definitions</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PET &amp; HDPE Bottles</td>
<td>PET &amp; HDPE Bottles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commingled Plastic Bottles</td>
<td>The mixed run of bottles. Primarily PET and HDPE bottles with some other bottles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubs &amp; Lids</td>
<td>Non-nestable rigid household containers - primarily PP and PE. No bulky rigid plastic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubs &amp; Lids: with Bulky</td>
<td>Tubs and lids. Bulky rigid plastic includes buckets, totes, crates, lawn furniture, carts, storage bins - primarily PP and PE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE/PP Bottles, Containers &amp; Bulky</td>
<td>PE &amp; PP bottles and containers. Bulky rigid plastic includes buckets, totes, crates, lawn furniture, carts, storage bins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed Clamshells</td>
<td>A mixture of PET, PS, PVC, PFA thermofused containers - trays, cases, clamshells, boxes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulky Rigid Plastic</td>
<td>Primarily PE and PP includes buckets, totes, crates, lawn furniture, carts, storage bins and other large items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-picked Rigid Plastic: No Bulky</td>
<td>Bottles and containers with the PET &amp; HDPE bottles removed. Includes non-PET and non-HDPE household bottles and all non-rigid containers (thermofused packaging, cases, trays, clamshells, tubs and lids)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-picked Rigid Plastic: with Bulky</td>
<td>All rigid plastic plus PET and HDPE bottles removed. Includes non-PET and non-HDPE household bottles, all non bottle containers (thermofused packaging, cases, trays, clamshells, tubs and lids), and Bulky rigid (includes buckets, totes, crates, lawn furniture, carts, storage bins and other large items)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Rigid Plastic: No Bulky</td>
<td>All bottles and containers (includes thermofused packaging, cases, trays, clamshells, tubs and lids)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[www.recycleyourplastics.org](http://www.recycleyourplastics.org)
1. A survey of eight regional MRFs was performed for over 70 product types.
2. MRFs were asked to indicate which materials they accept, accept but do not want, or reject.
3. Materials added to the list were accepted by the majority of MRFs in the region. Materials removed from the list were not accepted or not desired by a majority of these facilities.
**All Materials should be clean & empty**
Recyclable Plastic Products that are rigid plastic, made solely of one of the following resin types listed and are one of the following product types:

**Resin Types**
- Polyethylene terephthalate (PET),
- High-density polyethylene (HDPE),
- Low-density polyethylene (LDPE),
- Polypropylene (PP),
- Polystyrene (PS)

**Product Types**
- Soda, Water, & Other Plastic Drink Bottles
- Food & Household Plastic Bottles/Jars
- Plastic Tubs & Lids
- Plastic Produce, Deli, & Bakery Containers, Cups, & Trays
- Plastic Non-food Containers & Packaging
- Bulky Plastic Items
- Plastic toys (no metal or electronic components)
- Plastic containers
“Items smaller than two inches in diameter or in any two dimensions that are made of the materials listed above may not be recyclable using the District recycling program but may be recyclable by using special private recycling programs, and therefore may be utilized by food service entities regulated under the Sustainable DC Omnibus Act of 2014, as amended (DC Code 8–1533.). “
Plastic Bags, Film, Wraps no longer accepted in commingled recycling

1. Bags of Bags - **NOT OK**
2. Clear Bin Liners for Commercial Recycling - **OK**
3. Bin liners for Residential Recycling - **Not OK**

Recycling of plastic film through store drop off encouraged through web and social media.
DEVELOPING OUTREACH MATERIALS BASED ON MAYOR’S LIST

• Terminology, Images & Strategy informed by:
  • Recycle Your Plastics
  • Foodservice Packaging Institute
  • The Recycling Partnership
  • Leading Municipalities

https://www.recycleyourplastics.org
https://tools.recyclingpartnership.org
http://www.recyclefsp.org/

DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
DEVELOPING OUTREACH MATERIALS BASED ON MAYOR’S LIST

• Input & Feedback from:
• Sister agencies with waste responsibilities
• Trade associations
• Local environmental community
• Local businesses through webinars held for each business sector
IMPROVING RECYCLING THROUGH EDUCATION

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL MAILERS IN 7 LANGUAGES

ADVERTISING & MEDIA PUSH

• Letter notifications
• Webinars
• Press conference
• Council & community outreach
• Street teams
• Social media

CITY WIDE OUTREACH

MAGNETS

SIGNAGE

WEBSITE (LINK)
ONLINE RESOURCES

RECYCLE

Clean & Empty

TOOLS AND RESOURCES:
ZEROWASTE.DC.GOV

TRASH

BASURA

TOOLS AND RESOURCES:
ZEROWASTE.DC.GOV

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS