

# 2017 RECYCLING GUIDE AND CURBSIDE COLLECTION GUIDE

## CURBSIDE COLLECTION

### CONTAINERS

Containers used for single-stream collection in the MCIA's program include:

- A rectangular blue container with lid
- A round blue container

Write your name and address on the containers. Place your recyclables in the containers and put the containers out on the curb before 6 a.m. on your collection day.

**Collection times are subject to change, and all materials must be ready for pick-up by 6 a.m.**

### NOT ACCEPTED!

- Recyclables in plastic bags
- Recyclables in containers not at the curb, such as those left near the house, garage or at the top of the driveway

**Replacement Containers:** If your containers are lost, stolen or broken, replacement containers can be purchased from your municipal recycling coordinator. The phone number is listed in the municipal section of this brochure. We sell these containers to your municipality at the same price we pay the manufacturer.

**New Homeowners:** Contact your municipal recycling coordinator within three months of moving in to obtain free containers. Contact numbers can be found in the municipal section of this brochure.

## CUSTOMER SERVICE PLEDGE

The Middlesex County Improvement Authority strives to provide the best quality of services to ensure our residents and patrons have a satisfactory experience. Should you have any questions, concerns or compliments, feel free to contact the Recycling Manager at [mciaarecycling@mciauth.com](mailto:mciaarecycling@mciauth.com).

## THE NEW REUSE-IT BOOK

The New Reuse-It Book is a guide to area locations where Middlesex County residents can recycle or donate their unwanted goods for reuse. The MCIA has made this most recent edition available online at [www.mciauth.com](http://www.mciauth.com) for anyone who would like electronic access to the most up-to-date information. If interested in a free printed copy or possible inclusion in the next edition, contact MCIA Public Information Officer, Maria Prato, by emailing [mp@mciauth.com](mailto:mp@mciauth.com).

## E-CYCLING

By law, most consumer electronics, including personal computers (desktops and laptops), monitors and televisions are not allowed in the trash. Check with your municipality's Department of Public Works to inquire if they maintain a recycling drop-off and if these items are acceptable. For additional drop-off locations, please contact the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection at (866) 337-5669 or the Middlesex County Division of Solid Waste Management at (732) 745-4170.

## ACCEPTED RECYCLABLE ITEMS

### NEWSPAPER & MIXED PAPER

Newspaper, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, brown paper bags, nonmetallic wrapping paper, office records, computer paper, file folders, receipts, telephone books, softcover books, hardcover books, greeting cards, paperboard, such as non-wax-coated food and cereal boxes, pizza boxes, tissue boxes, shoe boxes and gift boxes.

If you have more newspaper and mixed paper than you can fit in your container, place the overflow in brown paper grocery bags (not plastic grocery bags). Additional newspaper may be bundled, tied and placed next to your container.

### NOT ACCEPTED!

- Newspaper and mixed paper in plastic bags or paper leaf bags

### CARDBOARD/PAPERBOARD

Corrugated cardboard, layered cardboard with a center that is shaped into ridges, folds or grooves (such as shipping boxes and the packaging for most appliances or larger household items). **Flatten, bundle and securely tie the cardboard and tie the sheets into stacks no larger than 48 inches square and 12 inches high. These items may be placed next to recycling containers.**

### NOT ACCEPTED!

- Cardboard in bundles larger than 48 inches square
- Cardboard in plastic bags

*NOTE: The maximum number of recycling bundles of cardboard and/or paper bags of mixed paper that the collector will pick up from individual households, each collection, is six (6).*

### CANS, BOTTLES AND PLASTIC

#### COMMINGLED RECYCLABLES

Place metal cans, glass and plastic bottles in an appropriate container. Any overflow can be placed in your own unlined plastic or metal container (no larger than 32 gallons in capacity or exceeding 50 pounds in weight). **Please do not overfill containers.**

**Metal:** Tin, steel, aluminum and bimetal cans (such as soda, beer, canned pet food, soup and tuna cans). Rinse the cans and crush them to maximize capacity. We take the lids too.

**Glass:** Glass bottles and jars of all colors (such as juice, soda, beer and liquor bottles, mayonnaise and spaghetti sauce jars). Rinse the bottles and jars. Remove and dispose of lids.

**Plastic:** #1 PETE and #2 HDPE containers (such as milk and juice jugs, water bottles, laundry detergent, shampoo and soda bottles). Check the bottom of the container to make sure the plastic is either #1 PETE or #2 HDPE. Rinse the containers and crush them to maximize capacity. Remove and dispose of caps.

### NOT ACCEPTED!

- drinking glasses
- window glass
- mirrors
- Pyrex® glassware
- light bulbs
- plastic toys
- plastic packaging
- aluminum foil
- gardening or garage plastics
- polystyrene or Styrofoam™ (such as plastic cups or food trays)

## RECYCLING SERVICE INFORMATION

(800) 488-6242 (MCIA)

Municipal recycling schedules available at

[www.mciauth.com](http://www.mciauth.com)

### MCIA DIVISION OF RECYCLING

55 Edgeboro Road

East Brunswick, NJ 08816

Phone: (800) 488-MCIA

Fax: (732) 628-0338

Email: [mciaarecycling@mciauth.com](mailto:mciaarecycling@mciauth.com)

Edward J. Windas, *Recycling Manager*

### MCIA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

101 Interchange Plaza Ste. 202

Cranbury, NJ 08512

Phone: (609) 655-5141

Fax: (609) 655-4748

Email: [mciaadmin@mciauth.com](mailto:mciaadmin@mciauth.com)

Website: [www.mciauth.com](http://www.mciauth.com)

### MCIA BOARD

Leonard J. Roseman, *Chairman*

Robert J. Mantz

Anthony Raczynski

Paul Abbey

Richard Zangara

H. James Polos, *Executive Director*

Carol Bellante, *Freeholder & MCIA Liaison*

### MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

Ronald G. Rios, *Freeholder Director*

Carol Bellante, *Deputy Freeholder Director*

Kenneth Armwood

Charles Kenny

Shanti Narra

Charles E. Tomaro

Blanquita B. Valenti

*Requests for assistance or materials in alternate formats should be directed to*

**Maria Prato** by phone at (609) 655-5141, through the New Jersey Relay Service at (800) 852-7899 or by email at [mp@mciauth.com](mailto:mp@mciauth.com).

# MIDDLESEX COUNTY 2017



*Art rendered by second grader Nagsai Kodali of Plainsboro*

# MIDDLESEX Recycling Guide

**MCIA**   
MIDDLESEX COUNTY  
IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

As of March 30, 2015, the Middlesex County Improvement Authority has transitioned to single-stream recycling collection. Now all curbside recyclable items, such as bottles, cans, paper and small flat cardboard can be mixed together in a single recycling container as long as they are kept separate from trash.

## CURBSIDE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

### THURSDAYS – NORTH SECTION

Bordered by Prospect Place and Beachwood Avenue to the north; Orchard Road, Hawthorne Avenue and Mountain Avenue to the east; Willow Drive and Union Avenue to the south; Lincoln Boulevard to the west.

January	12 • 26	July	13 • 27
February	9 • 23	August	10 • 24
March	9 • 23	September	7 • 21
April	6 • 20	October	5 • 19
May	4 • 18	November	2 • 16 • 30
June	1 • 15 • 29	December	14 • 28

### FRIDAYS – SOUTH SECTION

- Bordered by Boundbrook Creek and Green Brook Creek to the north; Dunellen to the east; William Street to the south; Ramsey Road, Hawthorne Street and Mountain Avenue to the west.
- Bordered by Ashland Road to the north; Oak Drive to the east; Lincoln Boulevard to the south; Raritan Avenue to the west.

January	13 • 27	July	14 • 28
February	10 • 24	August	11 • 25
March	10 • 24	September	8 • 22
April	7 • 21	October	6 • 20
May	5 • 19	November	3 • 17
June	2 • 16 • 30	December	1 • 15 • 29

### HOLIDAYS

Recycling collection holidays for 2017: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

**If your collection day falls on any of these holidays, collection is rescheduled for the following Saturday.**

**NOTE:** Municipal Public Works holidays do NOT affect the recycling collection schedule.

## MUNICIPAL PROGRAMS

Please refer to your municipal contacts for information on consumer electronics and yard-waste disposal. For further details on consumer electronics drop-off sites, contact the Department of Environmental Protection at 1-866-337-5669 or at [www.nj.gov/dep](http://www.nj.gov/dep).

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

(732) 356-7953

Keith Giuliano, Borough of Middlesex Recycling

(732) 356-7400 ext. 278

Bob Teutsch, Superintendent,  
Department of Public Works, CPWM

**Recycling Hotline: (800) 488-6242 (MCIA)** for curbside recycling collection, service matters & general information.

## WEATHER EMERGENCIES

Check with the DPW at (732) 356-7400 ext. 278 for changes in collection schedules due to weather emergencies or other emergency situations. You may also check for changes on the website at [www.mciauth.com](http://www.mciauth.com) or by calling (800) 488-6242 (MCIA) for specific information.

## LEAVES, BRUSH & GRASS

**GRASS COLLECTION:** Contact your local DPW for dates at (732) 968-1603 or (732) 356-7953. Pick-up will be made every Wednesday. Grass will only be picked up in biodegradable paper bags. Plastic bags will NOT be picked up. Items can also be taken to the Recycling Center April – October 28.

**LEAF COLLECTION:** Leaves will only be picked up in biodegradable paper bags. Plastic bags will NOT be picked up. Items can also be taken to the Recycling Center. DO NOT RAKE LEAVES TO CURB.

**Leaf Pick-up Schedule:** Contact your local DPW for dates at (732) 968-1603 or (732) 356-7953 October 31 – December 26.

**Important Note:** The Borough will provide 20 biodegradable bags per household. These bags will be available for pick-up at the Recycling Center during the month of October. Proper I.D. required, no exceptions. The program is subject to change without notice.

Please be advised that under the MCIA Yard Waste Recycling Program, only brush and tree parts 5 inches in diameter or less are acceptable and should be bundled and tied in lengths no greater than 4 feet. Larger materials such as stumps, logs, etc. are not permitted at MCIA yard-waste receiving sites. Items in excess of the 5-inch requirement will not be accepted.

## COUNTY PROGRAMS

Please refer to the MCIA staff at 1-800-488-6242 (MCIA) or at [www.mciauth.com](http://www.mciauth.com) for more information on:

- Household Hazardous Waste
- Paint Drop Off
- Compost Bins
- Paper Shredding
- Tire Disposal

## CUSTOMER SERVICE REQUESTS

To determine the cause of a service interruption or missed pick-up, please note whether:

- It's your municipality's day and/or week
- Your recycling was put out by the curb no later than 6 a.m.
- Your entire street's recycling has been affected
- A container no larger than 32 gallon has been used
- Any unapproved items are mixed within your recycling
- Your recycling was placed in plastic bags, which are not permitted

If you still have a concern, comment or question regarding your recycling pick-up, please send an email to [mciaurecycling@mciauth.com](mailto:mciaurecycling@mciauth.com), making sure to leave a name, address and telephone number in the body of the message so that a representative may contact you at their earliest availability.

## SPECIAL ITEMS

**LARGE APPLIANCES (WHITE METALS)** Can be picked up all year by appointment only. For an appointment, call (732) 968-1603 or (732) 356-7953 between 6 a.m. and 2 p.m.

**THE MIDDLESEX BOROUGH RECYCLING CENTER** is located behind Borough Hall, 1200 Mountain Avenue.

**The hours of operation:**

Tuesday: 6 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Wednesday: 6 a.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Thursday: 6 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Friday: 6 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Saturday: 7 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Sunday and Monday: closed

**THE RECYCLING CENTER ACCEPTS:**

- Magazines • Junk Mail • Newspapers • Plastics • Glass Jars • Tin Cans • Aluminum Cans • Motor Oil • Aluminum Scrap • Ferrous Scrap • Batteries (Auto and Industrial) • Leaves • Grass • Branches • Corrugated Cardboard • Computer - Ledger Paper.

## BULK COLLECTION

**BULK COLLECTION:**

Bulk pick-up will be done by appointment only and limited to one time per year. Please call (732) 968-1603 or (732) 356-7400 ext. 278, between 6 a.m. and 2 p.m., to schedule an appointment for pick-up. **There will be no pick-ups scheduled in November, December and January. Branches brought to the recycling center drop off, must be in 4-foot lengths - NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**PLEASE ADHERE TO THE FOLLOWING RULES:**

*(rules will be strictly enforced)*

- All debris at curb no sooner than the night before, no later than 5 a.m. on the day of pick-up.
- Please try to limit 1 yard of debris (the size of 2½ office desks).
- Limit package debris to no more than 50 pounds in a bundle.
- Debris from businesses will not be picked up.
- Debris from contractors will not be picked up.
- Items that will not be picked up during bulk pick-up: recyclables, hazardous waste, concrete, rocks, kitchen garbage, dirt, leaves, stumps, branches, grass clippings, appliances, propane tanks, tires and metal.
- Branches will be picked up curbside the third Wednesday of each month March through October. Branches must be tied and bundled in 4-foot sections. NO EXCEPTIONS. Branches not tied and bundled will be left and reported to the code official.
- Absolutely no construction material is accepted.**
- Residents moving into or out of town cannot leave bulk at the curb.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**WHAT IF MY COLLECTION DAY FALLS ON A HOLIDAY?**

If your collection day falls on any of these holidays - New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving or Christmas - collection is rescheduled for the following Saturday. Check your municipal collection schedule in this brochure for specific dates.

**Recycling collection is *not affected* by municipal public works holidays** such as Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Lincoln's Birthday, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Columbus Day, Election Day or Veterans Day. Recycling collections will take place on those days.

**WHAT DO THE STICKERS ON MY RECYCLABLE ITEMS MEAN?**

These are rejection stickers. The most common reasons for rejection are:

- Trash mixed in with recyclables
- Containers larger than 32 gallons
- Recyclables in plastic bags
- Cardboard not properly prepared

Only recyclables that are properly prepared will be collected.

**WHAT IF MY RECYCLABLES WERE NOT COLLECTED?**

Your recyclables should be placed curbside the night before your scheduled pick-up or by 6 a.m. on the day of the pick-up. Collection times are subject to change, and all material must be ready for pick-up by 6 a.m.

If your recyclables were out at the curb on time and were not collected, leave the recycling at the curb and contact us within 24 hours. If you delay contacting us, your recyclables may not be picked up until your next collection date.

Keep in mind to check our website at [www.mciauth.com](http://www.mciauth.com), under the Recycling Division's **Customer Notification** page, for updates, instructions or information on service interruptions.

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION

As part of our commitment to protect the environment and promote good recycling practices, the MCIA Education Department offers free recycling presentations to schools, civic and business organizations, senior groups and more.

We now have the latest version of M.C. Blue, the County's fully recyclable robot. Accompanied by an MCIA representative, M.C. Blue is the star of the recycling programs. He has both audio and video capabilities and his presentations are entertaining, as well as educational.

Offerings:

- |                              |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| "Planet Beauty"              | pre-K to grade 2               |
| "Recycle It or Not"          | pre-K to grade 2 or grades 3-6 |
| "Recycling Trivia Challenge" | grades 3-6 or adult            |
| "Recycling Show & Tell"      | grade 3 - adult                |
| "Energy: Less is More"       | grades 3-6                     |
| "Recycling & the Landfill"   | high school and adult          |

Bookings are on a first-come, first-serve basis. For information and reservations, call the MCIA Education Office at 609-409-5033 or email [ja@mciauth.com](mailto:ja@mciauth.com).