

2019 RECYCLING GUIDE AND CURBSIDE COLLECTION GUIDE

Recycling simplified with RECYCLE COACH

Whether it's remembering to take out the recycling or figuring out what you can and can't recycle, Recycle Coach has you covered. Download now and let the Coachlings set you up with a personalized recycling calendar or use the *What Goes Where?* search tool to help stop the guesswork. Available on the Apple Store or Google Play.

CURBSIDE COLLECTION

CONTAINERS

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

- Blue containers with Middlesex County logo. Overflow can be placed in your own unlidded plastic or metal container no larger than 32 gallons in capacity or exceeding 50 lbs. in weight.

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 a free container. 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 mcia Recycling@mciauth.com.

THE NEW REUSE-IT BOOK

The New Reuse-It Book is a guide to area locations where Middlesex County residents can freecycle or donate their unwanted goods for reuse. The MCIA has made this most recent edition available online at www.mciauth.com for anyone who would like electronic access to the most up-to-date information.

E-CYCLING

By law, most consumer electronics, including personal computers (desktops and laptops), printers, fax machines 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 unlidded 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

MCIA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

101 Interchange Plaza Ste. 202

Cranbury, NJ 08512

Phone: (609) 655-5141

Fax: (609) 655-4748

Email: mciaadmin@mciauth.com

Website: www.mciauth.com

MCIA BOARD

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SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Recycling Guide 2019

Operated by:



MIDDLESEX COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY

SOUTH PLAINFIELD 2019: For Scheduling or Missed Pick-ups, Visit the Recycling Division's Customer Notification Page at www.mciauth.com

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Middlesex County Improvement Authority's Program collects recyclables in single-stream fashion. 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 All streets north of the Lehigh Valley Railroad tracks and Metuchen Road, including Universal Avenue, Fleet Avenue, Victory Street and Spring Street.

January	3 • 17 • 31	July	*6 • 18
February	14 • 28	August	1 • 15 • 29
March	14 • 28	September	12 • 26
April	11 • 25	October	10 • 24
May	9 • 23	November	7 • 21
June	6 • 20	December	5 • 19

*INDEPENDENCE DAY: July 4th changed to July 6th.

FRIDAYS All streets south of the Lehigh Valley Railroad tracks and Metuchen Road.

January	4 • 18	July	5 • 19
February	1 • 15	August	2 • 16 • 30
March	1 • 15 • 29	September	13 • 27
April	12 • 26	October	11 • 25
May	10 • 24	November	8 • 22
June	7 • 21	December	6 • 20

HOLIDAYS

Recycling collection holidays for 2019: 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.

WEATHER EMERGENCIES

Check with the recycling department in South Plainfield 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.

MUNICIPAL PROGRAMS

Please refer to your municipal contacts for information on consumer electronics and yard-waste disposal. Our recycling hotline number is 908-226-7620, Borough phone 908-226-7621 and website www.southplainfieldnj.com. 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.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Recycling Center (Kenneth Avenue, past the ballfields):

Open Tuesday 12-7 pm, Friday 8 am-3 pm, Saturday 8 am-3 pm

Yard Waste Site (End of Kenneth Avenue): *Summer hours* (March 16 - October 20) Tuesday 12-7 pm, Saturday 8 am-4 pm;

Leaf Season (October 21 - December 21): Tuesday 11 am-6 pm, Monday-Friday 8 am- 3 pm; Saturday 8 am - 4 pm;

Winter (December 23-March 15) Saturday 8 am-3 pm.

YARD WASTE RECYCLING

Obtain a Yard Waste decal from the Municipal clerk in Borough Hall 908-226-7605 or from DPW at 405 Spicer Avenue, 908-755-2187. Due to County and State regulations, non-residents and commercial vehicles are not allowed at the Yard Waste Site.

The **Yard Waste Site** takes leaves, grass and brush ONLY. No soil, sod, rubble or concrete, lumber, pallets, firewood, fence posts, tree stumps, trunks or large branches. **NO, plastic bags, planting containers, flowerpots or any plastic debris.** Keep all materials separated. The County will not recycle yard waste that is mixed, or contaminated with trash. Please use the site responsibly and bring only accepted materials that are properly prepared.

LEAVES, BRUSH & GRASS

LEAVES The Municipal Clerk mails leaf bag coupons and collection schedules in September. Put leaves at the curb in paper bags from late October to mid-December. Residents can also bring leaves to the Yard Waste Site. Decal is required. Do not leave plastic bags in the leaf pile. The clerk can be reached at 908-226-7605 for further information.

BRUSH Shrub prunings, twigs and branches smaller than 4 inches in diameter, bundled or loose can be recycled. Do not include lumber, firewood, tree trunks or stumps. Do not mix brush with grass clippings or leaves.

GRASS Empty freshly mown grass into roll-off boxes and remove bags. Limit of three 30-gallon cans or bags. Or consider Cut-It & Leave-It lawn care instead. A mulching blade on your lawnmower will save you time and money spent on fertilizer. Have a healthier lawn, naturally.

BULK WASTE PICK-UP

Please make sure to call in advance for an appointment. Items cannot be placed curbside until 2 days before the scheduled appointment.

Bulk Waste Pick-ups are scheduled on Tuesday or Thursday throughout the year except during leaf bag collection between October thru December, and winter month pick-ups will be reduced to one day a week dependent on the weather conditions. Residents may call the Public Works Department at 908-755-2187, Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm to schedule an appointment.

Residents are limited to two (2) scheduled bulk pick-ups per year. (Apartment and Condominium/Townhouse Complexes are NOT INCLUDED in this program.) Additional pick-ups are available for a fee, Third pick-up \$75.00, Four or more \$100.00 each.

WHITE GOODS Bring all metal items such as appliances, washing machines and refrigerators (doors and plastic shelves must be removed), scrap metal and other metal items (all fluids must be removed from lawnmowers, tires removed from bicycles, etc.) to the Recycling Center. See an attendant for assistance. DO NOT bring propane tanks. DPW will also take appliances and scrap metal at curbside bulk waste scheduled pick-ups. (Call 908-755-2187 for appointment)

Be careful when handling refrigerators and air conditioners. Do not damage the coils or allow Freon to escape into the air. Freon erodes the stratospheric ozone layer, allowing dangerous UV radiation to reach the Earth's surface. It is against Federal Law to vent Freon into the air; it must be recycled.

USED COOKING OIL: Pour used cooking oil only into designated tank at the Recycling Center.

LASER PRINTER CARTRIDGES: Staples accepts used printer cartridges and cell phones for recycling.

PAINT PROGRAM AND HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION: Paint collection is on the third Saturday of every month, 8 am - 2 pm at our recycling center. Please sort oil-based paint and latex paint. Also accepted: thinners, stains and varnishes. Empty, dry cans can be discarded in your regular trash cans. DO NOT include Hazardous Materials. For the 2019HHW Schedule call 732-745-4170.

ADDITIONAL MANDATORY RECYCLABLES

TEXTILES: Used clothing and other textiles larger than one square foot. Tie bags tightly and place in drop boxes at the Recycling Center or others around town.

ELECTRONICS: Personal computers, printers, fax machines, monitors and televisions must be recycled. Please call 908-226-7621 or check the Borough website for more information.

RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES: Bring rechargeable and button batteries to the Recycling center or the Municipal Building. Alkaline batteries can go in the regular trash.

MOTOR OIL is accepted at the Recycling Center or at the County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection days. DO NOT place used motor oil for curb pickup. DO NOT mix anything with used motor oil. Keep all HHW items separate.

MASONRY/PAVING MATERIALS such as concrete, brick or block are not accepted. Call the Municipal Recycling coordinator at 908-226-7621 for more information.

FLUORESCENT BULBS, WOOD SCRAP, PLASTIC FILM: Mandatory for businesses only. Residents may bring used plastic bags to local supermarkets. Fluorescent bulbs are recycled at HHW collection days. Home Depot and Lowes will accept compact fluorescent lamps (CFL's) from residents.

COUNTY PROGRAMS

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

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

NOTE: RECYCLING IN ANY TYPE OF PLASTIC BAGS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

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, 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 Recycling Department offers free presentations to schools, civic and business organizations, senior groups and more.

M.C. Blue, the County's fully recyclable robot, is currently under construction. The robot will have new features and the programming will be updated with new content covering a broader range of information.

Look for an announcement in Spring 2019!