



Trash Away, Inc.

Recycling Information Fairfax County

Why Recycle?

We ask and urge our clients to recycle, not only because it is the law in Fairfax County but also because recycling generally prevents the waste of potentially useful materials, reduces the consumption of raw materials and reduces energy usage, which reduces greenhouse gas emissions, compared to virgin production. Fairfax County Code Section 109.1-2-2 (a), Recycling for Residential Solid Waste, states that Occupants of single-family homes and townhouses shall source-separate: container glass; metal food and beverage containers; plastic bottles and jugs; yard waste; scrap metal; and cardboard and mixed paper, including but not limited to corrugated cardboard (that must be flattened), magazines, newspaper, office paper, and miscellaneous paper products.

Please visit the following website for more information on Fairfax County recycling regulations: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/recycling/>

Fairfax County Code Section 109.1 can be found at:

<http://www.municode.com/resources/gateway.asp?pid=10051&sid=46>

Other useful links:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/muncpl/recycle.htm>

Virginia Recycling Association:

<http://www.vrarecycles.org/index.htm>

National Recycling Coalition:

<http://www.nrc-recycle.org/>

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

<http://www.deq.state.va.us/>

Earth 911

<http://earth911.org/>

What to Recycle?

Mixed Paper – To be placed in recycling bin, clear plastic bags or paper bags

- All office paper (copier paper, letterhead, stationary, computer paper, envelopes)
- Cardboard (flattened)
- Newspaper / Inserts
- Magazines
- Unwanted Mail
- Cereal (Other food) Boxes (Remove wax liner)
- Telephone Books
- All clean dry paper that tears (please remove staples and paper clips)

Do NOT recycle the following

- Food or soiled paper boxes; Styrofoam containers
- Take-out food boxes (i.e., pizza boxes)
- Paper towels, plates or napkins
- Gift wrap

Commingled Materials- Please remove all food residues and place loosely in recycling bin or clear plastic

- Plastic bottles and jugs (Narrow necked only)
- Glass bottles and jars
- Bi-metal (Steel/Tin) Cans
- Aluminum Cans and Foil Products
- Clean ferrous metal (sticks to a magnet)
-

Do NOT recycle the following

- Food or soiled paper boxes; Styrofoam containers or pellets; Plastic take-out food containers; plastic cups, plates or utensils
- Paper towels, plates or napkins
- Scrap aluminum or non-ferrous metal
- Light bulbs
- Toxic containers (antifreeze, oil, etc.)
- Disposable diapers, diapers or rags
- Lids or caps
- Window glass or mirrors
- Ceramics, dishes, glassware
- Plastic bags

What to Recycle? – continued:

Yard Waste

Yard waste recycling is important for Fairfax County's environment because it reduces the amount of material destined for disposal while providing soil-improving properties to lawns and gardens. All single-family homes and most townhouses are required to recycle yard waste (leaves, grass, and brush). Yard waste includes leaves, brush, branches, twigs and grass from regular household lawn and garden care. Brushes and limbs must be cut to a length of less than 4 feet long and bundled (arm-full size) with rope or twine and should not exceed a weight of greater than 50 pounds. Tree stumps and limbs that are larger than 6 inches in diameter and 4 feet in length will not be collected. Specifically excluded are wood or lumber from decks, fences, etc. Brush does not include stumps or land clearing debris.

Appliances and Scrap metal

- Small and large appliances (refrigerators, stoves, washers, dryers, air conditioners)
- Other scrap metal (lawn chairs, grills, metal framing, etc.).

Some appliances contain ozone depleting substances such as Freon. These substances, if released to the environment, destroy the protective ozone layer above the earth. More modern refrigerators and freezers manufactured since 1994 contain ozone friendly replacement hydrofluorocarbons. By 2003 all new refrigerators and freezers were manufactured without ozone depleting substances. However, the ozone friendly refrigerants still need careful handling to assure minimal damage to the atmosphere. Because of the special issues concerning appliance recycling, it is important that you contact us, a certified appliance collector, or take your appliance to the I-66 or I-95 recycling location where it will be handled by licensed and trained professionals.

Computers and Electronic

Several major manufacturers participate in electronics recycling programs. Some will even come to your home and pick up your old computer, printer, etc. for FREE when you purchase a new one from them. Contact your manufacturer for details.

Please consult the Fairfax County Website for a list of organizations and for upcoming Computer Recycling Events: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/recycling/mat-comp.htm>

What to Recycle? – continued:

Compact Fluorescent Lights (CFL's)

Fluorescent lamps contain small quantities of mercury which may create potential adverse health effects if released into the environment. By recycling these lamps, the mercury is removed and recovered for reuse while the balance of the materials are either recycled or disposed of according to federal and state environmental regulations. Take the lamps to the I-66 Transfer Station Complex or the I-95 Landfill Complex household hazardous waste sites during scheduled dates and times only. You may call 703-324-5230, TTY 711 for more information.

As an alternative many retailers will take your used CFL and recycle them properly. Please visit www.earth911.org as they may have updated their local information with regard to CFL recycling opportunities in the commercial/retail sector. Other useful sites include: <http://www.lamprecycling.com/>, <http://www.wmlamptracker.com/wmdefault.cfm> and <http://www.greenbre.com/easypak/>

Household Hazardous Waste

Household hazardous waste is also disposed of separately and will not be accepted by our collectors. Household hazardous waste is defined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as hazardous material such as household cleaners, paint, paint thinners, motor oil gasoline and pesticides. You may refer to the EPA website for more details on this and other environmental issues at www.epa.gov/reg5rcra/wptdiv/p2pages/hhw.pdf

The Fairfax County Household Hazardous Waste Program accepts hazardous chemicals generated by residents free of charge and disposes or recycles them according to all local, state and federal regulations. The safest way to dispose of household hazardous waste is to carefully pack them up and bring them to one of the county's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Sites. This service is available to Fairfax County residents only.

Interesting Facts

(Source: Recycle Rules! <http://members.aol.com/Ramola15/recyclingrules2.html>)

METALS

- Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a TV for three hours -- or the equivalent of a half gallon of gasoline.
- 350,000 aluminum cans are produced every minute!
- Once an aluminum can is recycled, it can be part of a new can within six weeks.
- During the time it takes you to read this sentence, 50,000 12-ounce aluminum cans are made.
- An aluminum can that is thrown away will still be a can 500 years from now!
- There is no limit to the amount of times aluminum can be recycled.
- We use over 80,000,000,000 aluminum pop cans every year.
- Every ton of recycled steel saves 2,500 pounds of iron ore, 1,000 of coal, and 40 pounds of limestone.

PAPER

- To produce each week's Sunday newspapers, 500,000 trees must be cut down.
- Recycling a single run of the Sunday New York Times would save 75,000 trees.
- If all our newspaper was recycled, we could save about 250,000,000 trees each year!
- If every American recycled just one-tenth of their newspapers, we would save about 25,000,000 trees a year.
- The average American uses seven trees a year in paper, wood, and other products made from trees. This amounts to about 2,000,000,000 trees per year!
- The amount of wood and paper we throw away each year is enough to heat 50,000,000 homes for 20 years.
- Approximately 1 billion trees worth of paper are thrown away every year in the U.S.
- Americans use 85,000,000 tons of paper a year; about 680 pounds per person.
- The average household throws away 13,000 separate pieces of paper each year. Most is packaging and junk mail.

PLASTIC / STYROFOAM

- Americans use 2,500,000 plastic bottles every hour! Most of them are thrown away!
- Recycling plastic saves twice as much energy as burning it in an incinerator.
- American throw away 25,000,000,000 Styrofoam coffee cups every year.

GLASS

- Every month, we throw out enough glass bottles and jars to fill up a giant skyscraper.
- The energy saved from recycling one glass bottle can run a 100-watt light bulb for four hours.
- A modern glass bottle would take 4000 years or more to decompose -- and even longer if it's in the landfill.

Interesting Facts - Continued:

TRASH / LANDFILLS

- Although 75% of our trash can be recycled, the EPA set a national goal of 25% for 1992.
- The first real recycling program was introduced in New York City in the 1890s.
- By 1924, 83% of American cities were separating some trash items to be reused.
- About one-third of an average dump is made up of packaging material!
- Every year, each American throws out about 1,200 pounds of organic garbage.
- The U.S. is the #1 trash-producing country in the world at 1,609 pounds per person per year. This means that 5% of the world's people generate 40% of the world's waste.
- The US population discards each year 16,000,000,000 diapers, 1,600,000,000 pens, 2,000,000,000 razor blades, 220,000,000 car tires, and enough aluminum to rebuild the US commercial air fleet four times over.
- Out of every \$10 spent buying things, \$1 (10%) goes for packaging that is thrown away. Packaging represents about 65% of household trash.
- On average, it costs \$30 per ton to recycle trash, \$50 to send it to the landfill, and \$65 to \$75 to incinerate it.

MISCELLANEOUS

- More than 20,000,000 Hershey's Kisses are wrapped each day, using 133 square miles of tinfoil. All that foil is recyclable, but not many people realize it.
- McDonald's saves 68,000,000 pounds of packaging per year just by pumping soft drink syrup directly from the delivery truck into tanks in the restaurant, instead of shipping the syrup in cardboard boxes!
- Rainforests are being cut down at the rate of 100 acres per minute!
- One-third of the water used in most homes is flushed down the toilet.
- A single quart of motor oil, if disposed of improperly, can contaminate up to 2,000,000 gallons of fresh water.
- You can walk 1 mile along an average highway in the United States and see about 1,457 pieces of litter.
- A typical family consumes 182 gallons of pop, 29 gallons of juice, 104 gallons of milk, and 26 gallons of bottled water a year. That's a lot of containers -- make sure they're recycled!

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Where does *Trash Away* take the recycling items collected?

Answer: Generally, we take all recycling items to Capitol Fiber located in 6610 Electronic, Springfield, Virginia.

Questions: Which jurisdiction laws and regulations does *Trash Away* follow?

Answer: *Trash Away* is Virginia Corporation. We operate in many different jurisdictions within the Washington D.C. Metropolitan area. We follow the rules and regulation of each of the jurisdiction in which operate.

Question: What is Single Stream Recycling?

Answer: All recyclables (except yard waste) are collected in the same truck. This is possible because the recyclables are taken to a facility where they are separated by type. Typically, single stream collection of recyclables uses a rear-end packer truck for collection. This is the same type of truck that is used to collect trash.

Question: What is Dual Stream Recycling?

Answer: Residents are asked to sort recyclable commingled items (glass, plastic and aluminum) separately from papers (newspaper, magazines, direct mail, etc.). Both commingled items and paper are set out on the curb on pick-up day. Two trucks or a truck with that is divided in half is sent to collect these items.

Question: Which type of recycling does *Trash Away* provide (single stream or dual stream)?

Answer: In an effort to encourage recycling and make the process more efficient, we have started single stream recycling. In a single stream recycling method, all recyclables (except yard waste) are collected in the same truck. The recyclables are then taken to a facility where they are separated by type. We use a rear-end packer truck for collection.

Question: Does *Trash Away* accept household hazardous waste?

Answer: No, we do not. We are not licensed to handle hazardous material. Residents of Fairfax County can dispose of these items at one of the County's disposal sites free of charge.

Question: Does *Trash Away* accept construction debris?

Answer: Generally we will not accept large amounts of construction debris. However, we will accept small items for an extra fee to be paid by the resident. Please call our offices at 703-339- 4560 to obtain a fee quote.

Question: Does *Trash Away* charge for special pick ups of household items?

Answer: Yes we do for an extra fee to be charged to the resident. Please call our offices at 703-339- 4560 to obtain a fee quote.

Trash Away, Inc. Contact Information

1225 First Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Ph: (703) 339- 4560
Fax: (703) 838-2107

President: Lee Gigliotti
Senior Vice President: Meena Hanifi
Director of Operations: Chela Garcia

For bulk trash services please call Jennifer Dunbar at (703) 339- 4560.



**Please remember to recycle!
It saves our environment and it is the law!**