Enforcement of Mandatory Recycling at Multi-Family Residences & Commercial Office Buildings

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Solid Waste Advisory Committee
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Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Multi-Family Residences & Office Buildings

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Property Management Companies

- New Haven
- Hartford
- Stamford
- Manchester
- West Hartford
- Montville
- Griswold
- Waterbury
Five Common Responses

• “We had no idea that recycling was mandatory”
• “There is no room inside or outside for more containers”
• “Our Trash hauler informed us that his company can sort & separate the recyclables out of the trash”
• “We have separate containers, but some tenants do not participate”
• “or….Custodial staff and/or the Trash hauler mix it”
Successful Recycling ....

• Requires the cooperation and dedication of:
  – Tenants
  – Building Owners
  – Property Managers
  – Maintenance Staff
  – GREEN Team
  – Haulers
“We had no idea that Recycling was mandatory”

- Municipalities & State must educate property owners, management companies & condominium associations
Educate New Tenants

Our Carts are Located:

Questions?
[phone]
Encourage

Congratulations!

You and your neighbors have been doing a great job recycling.

When products are made from the paper, cans and bottles that we recycle, we save energy, and natural resources such as trees, minerals, and oil, and we reduce pollution.

All this and we reduce waste too!

Recycling works for the environment! Keep up the great work.

Box Board

Recyclable of the month

Salisbury-Sharon Transfer Station

Mixed Paper

Yes

Last year Salisbury & Sharon saved over $50,000 by recycling paper & cardboard.
Every little bit helps.
“There is no room inside or outside for more containers”

- Conduct a Waste Audit to determine appropriate container sizes and adjust pick up schedules
Less Trash – More Recyclables
Informed Architects

- Design recycling spaces

- Amend Code of Ordinances that do not sufficiently call out adequate spacing needs
“Our Trash hauler informed us that his company can sort & separate the recyclables out of the trash”

- No Solid Waste Facility is permitted to manually or mechanically sort through trash (MSW) to recover the recyclable items

![Recycling Poster]

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Single Stream Recycling

ACCEPTED MATERIALS

- MIXED PAPER
- FLATTENED CARDBOARD
- METAL CANS
- GLASS BOTTLES AND JARS
- PLASTIC CONTAINERS
Do Not Use Plastic Bags
“We have separate containers, but some tenants do not participate”
“or the custodial staff and Trash Hauler mix it”
Enforcement Issues

• Condo Associations – locating the President or other responsible member for trash & recycling contract
Partnership with Trash Haulers

• Towns & DEEP can contact Haulers and ask to see current contracts – if customer has indicated in writing that they are recycling but using a different company or not

• Haulers can notify DEEP of customers not recycling
Containers are not properly labeled
Questions: 860-647-3200

www.manchesterrecycles.org

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Illegal Dumping

NO TRESPASSING
THIS PROPERTY IS PROTECTED BY VIDEO SURVEILLANCE
TRESPASSERS WILL BE PROSECUTED

Dumpster Rules
RESIDENTS ONLY permitted to use dumpster. Violators will be prosecuted.
SECURELY BAG your trash.
DIGGING OR SCAVENGING prohibited.
PROHIBITED ITEMS include:
  Flammable or toxic materials
  Furniture and appliances
  Auto batteries
EMPTY BOXES must be broken down.
NO PARKING In Front of Dumpster

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Securing containers
Fencing & Gates
Work With Your Haulers

If you are an Owner or Property Manager you must:

- Provide a collection system for your tenants
- Develop a collection system that is easy and convenient (parallel to the trash system)
- Make sure recycling carts, barrels or dumpsters are well marked and easy to understand
- Consider developing labels and signs using universal symbols or in multiple languages if English is not the first language of your tenants and/or neighbors
Keys to Success

In general, it is important to consider a few key things when setting up a recycling program:

– Make the program affordable for both tenants and owners
– Make the program as simple as possible
– Educate the tenants about how to recycle
– Engage residents to be part of the solution
– Provide feedback to tenants on their progress
– Enforce the rules, when necessary
– Ensure the cooperation and enthusiasm of residents and landlords, through education, outreach, and awareness.
Additional On-Line Resources

- Recycling in Apartments, Condos and Multi-Family Residences
- Business Recycling Assistance
- Are You Recycling What You are Supposed To?
- Municipal Recycling Coordinator
- www.facebook.com/CTRecycles
Any Questions?