

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Great news! Cartons are now recyclable in all Cuyahoga County communities! The last drop of milk, juice or soup does not mark the end of a carton's useful life. Made mainly from high-quality paper, cartons are easily recyclable and in high demand by manufacturers of recycled products. Recycling is easy -- simply place your empty cartons in the recycling along with your other plastic, metal and glass containers. After cartons are collected curbside, they are taken to a MRF to be sorted and baled. The bales of recycled cartons are then shipped to paper mills, where cartons are mixed with water in a gigantic blender to extract all the paper fiber. These recycled carton paper fibers are a valuable resource for making products such as recycled paper products and even building materials. City service departments have been notified of this addition, but please share with friends and family that cartons can now be included in with recycling. For more information on how cartons are recycled, visit www.RecycleCartons.com

We want YOU to recycle your campaign signs. After the general election, if your candidate of choice does not want their sign back, drop off unwanted political yard signs for recycling at the Solid Waste District, 4750 East 131 Street in Garfield Heights. Our hours are Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The office is closed on federal holidays. We accept all plastic and cardboard campaign signs plus the metal stands. The District is a non-partisan recycler. We encourage all Cuyahoga County residents, candidates, elected officials and ward clubs to round-up and drop-off election signs so we can keep them out of landfills. When we recycle, everybody wins!

The Solid Waste District has backyard compost bins available for purchase. You can buy a bin directly from the District offices in Garfield Heights. We carry the Ultimate Dirt Machine (\$50) and Wishing Well Composter (\$50). We also have smaller kitchen collection pails (\$5), Yard Butlers (\$20), and compost thermometers (\$10) available for purchase. Our regular operating hours Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30. County offices, including the District, are closed on national holidays. Purchase by cash or check only. All sales are final. For more information about backyard composting, call (216) 443-3731.

Levi Strauss & Co. has expanded its clothing recycling initiative to all Levi's mainline and outlet stores in the US. Consumers may drop off any brand of clean, dry clothing or shoes in the collection boxes at any Levi's store. Any consumer who brings an item of clothing or shoes to recycle will receive a voucher for 20 percent off a single, regular-priced Levi's item in-store. I:CO, our clothing collection partner, will ensure that the discarded garments and footwear are re-worn, repurposed or recycled. Recycling clothing by separating fibers and creating new garments reduces the need for virgin cotton, generating significant water and other environmental resource savings.

Many people enjoying those single serve coffee packs have wondered what to do with them, as they are not recyclable with your local curbside or commercial recycling. Now

it is possible to do so. Keurig is offering www.groundstogrowon.com, a program for recycling their single serve coffee filters. The program, which is for offices and commercial institutions that generate larger amounts of K-cup waste than the average home, is a postage-paid mail back system. The company composts the used coffee grounds inside the pack while the other components are sent to a waste-to-energy facility. The mail back program costs about four cents per cup, less than 10% the cost of the cup. This program is for Keurig brand K-Cups only; other brands are made from a different type of plastic. Environmentally-conscious at-home users should make their coffee with a reusable K-cup, then compost the coffee grounds. Recycling solutions for everyone and zero waste!

The “Our Ohio” Buying Local Directory connects customers to the farms and farmers that produce local foods, plus agritourism opportunities, plant nurseries, wineries and Christmas tree growers. You can search the Ohio Farm Bureau directory by location, category, or season at <http://ourohio.org/food/buying-local>

Yes, it’s true, Ziploc® brand bags are recyclable. Really! Your used Ziploc® brand bags (clean and dry) go in the same bins as those plastic shopping bags. Certain locations, like recycling centers and retail stores, have set up drop-offs for plastic bag recycling. You can drop off

- Ziploc® brand bags (clean and dry)
- Plastic grocery bags
- Newspaper bags
- Dry-cleaning bags
- Bread bags and produce bags
- Toilet paper, napkin and paper-towel wraps
- Plastic shipping envelopes
- All clean bags labeled #2 or #4

To find a location or learn more about recycling plastic bags, visit www.plasticfilmrecycling.org.

TRP, The ReUse People of America, Inc., is a non-profit organization with twenty years of experience and whose mission is to “keep reusable building material out of the landfill and distributing them for reuse.” TRP offers the property owner a ‘potential tax deductible donation’ working with an independent appraiser and a certified deconstruction contractor. The simple fact is, only deconstruction and not demolition provides this tax advantage. TRP and McManamon Painting and Remodeling, a local Cleveland company, are working on such a project in Bay Village on Wolf Road. We are in the process of removing almost everything inside the house: from cabinets, fixtures and wood trim to wood flooring, carpeting, windows and doors! All will be sent to our warehouse partner, Silverman’s for resale. Won’t you please consider the Deconstruction model to your next remodeling, renovating or demolition and rebuilding of your property? TRP can help with your decision process. For more information, contact Joe Rettman at (216) 325-3019 or jrettman@deconmanagement.com.

Regency Technologies, a regional IT asset management and recycling company with local offices in Twinsburg and Solon has announced a new appliance recycling program. Accepted appliances include refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers, room air conditioners, washers and dryers, stoves, microwave ovens, dishwashers, hot water and portable heaters. The company will recycle the steel, copper, aluminum, plastic, and glass. Other materials, such as refrigerants used in refrigerators and freezers, are disposed of in an environmentally responsible manner. Visit their website at <http://www.regencytechnologies.com/> to learn more about the program or call (440) 248-3991.

Have you heard about Cuyahoga County Library's Toy Lending Service? Check out the reuse program at <http://cuyahogalibrary.net/ToyCollection.aspx> and request a toy online just as you would a book, movie, or CD. Search the library catalog by Toy Title or the keywords "Toy Collection."

Locally, many grocery stores and other retailers offer receptacles for recycling plastic bags and other plastic film. At Macy's department stores, you can recycle more than just plastic bags -- you can also recycle the store's plastic hangers. Plastic bags from any retailer can be deposited in the recycling containers located in store vestibules of the eight Macy's locations in Northeast Ohio. If you have any hangers from Macy's, you can bring them to any of their check-out counters and they will be recycled as well. For more information on Macy's Sustainability Initiatives, see Macy's "Sustainability in Action" at <http://www.macysinc.com/social-responsibility/sustainability-in-action/default.aspx>.

The Solid Waste District has announced the Master Recycler Program of Cuyahoga County, which offers participants an in-depth study of solid waste management including waste reduction, composting and recycling. The new program will create advocates for recycling to affect habits at home, work and in the community. People interested in the Master Recycler program must apply, be interviewed and accepted. Applicants must be able to attend four tours and four lectures, and complete a volunteering requirement. Visit <http://cuyahogaswd.org/en-US/MasterRecyclerProgram.aspx> for information.

Cosmetics maker Aveda offers a Full Circle recycling program at all 107 of its Aveda Experience retail locations in the U.S. The company is partnering with [g2 Revolution](#) of Findlay, Ohio to recycle Aveda containers and packaging that is not accepted by municipal curbside recycling programs. Guests of Aveda can return the materials to any Aveda Experience Center. The goal is to sort the material and recycle it into new Aveda packaging or accessories, effectively diverting it from the landfill. For every Full Circle recycling bin processed, g2 Revolution will donate funds to allow the West Ohio Food Bank to purchase 2.5 pounds of food. The original pilot program took place

in Colorado in 2011-2012. At that time, 98% of the materials received were recycled into reusable material. For more information, visit www.aveda.com

Serving Cleveland for over 50 years, Donatestuff.com is a company that strives to recycle clothing and other household discards while raising money for their charity partner [Easter Seals of Northern Ohio](http://EasterSeals.org). They offer free, fast and easily scheduled curbside collection for all your unwanted clothing and household items. Scott Shaffer, with Donatestuff.com, has been collaborating with local businesses to set up clothing donation drives. These initiatives are keeping large amounts of textiles from entering the waste stream. They are proving to be useful tools to help drive team building, while bringing focus to the value of recycling. These donations are tax deductible and each donor receives a tax receipt. If you would like to schedule a curbside pick-up, please go to Donatestuff.com. To set up a clothing donation drive, contact (440) 519-9200 or Scott@donatestuff.com with the subject "CCSWD Donation Drive Initiative."

The car seat recycling program at University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital provides a way to dispose of unneeded, damaged or unsafe seats. Car seats less than 3 years old (and with a signed waiver) are cleaned and reused. Car seats older than three years are recycled. There are multiple drop-off locations throughout the area. For a list, call (216) 844-2277 or visit www.injurypreventioncenter.com/programs/car-seat-recycling-locations

Want to know what happens after you drop your plastic bags off for recycling? Check out this cool 3-minute video at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkUfo7iNXT0> from plastic lumber company Trex, explaining their collection and recycling process. For more information about recycling bags and plastic film near you, visit www.plasticfilmrecycling.org/s01/s01dropoff.html

Greater Cleveland Heinen's grocery stores are no longer accepting Styrofoam food trays for recycling. Heinen's has discontinued its collection of Styrofoam food trays, as the market for them has disappeared. They are asking customers to not put the trays in store collection bins. Styrofoam food trays should be placed in the garbage for trash collection. The trays contain a shiny surface film that prohibits them from being recycled easily. The store chain is currently looking to find another outlet for the food trays, as the final destination for the material in Garrettsville, Ohio is no longer taking it. The company is also looking at eliminating those trays together and using a recyclable plastic.

However, Dunkin' Brands Group Inc., the parent company of Dunkin' Donuts and Baskin-Robbins, will offer an in-store recycling option for its polystyrene foam beverage cups while it looks for a viable foam alternative. Dunkin' Donuts launched pilot foam cup recycling programs in five of its stores in February, and plans to expand the program to all of its company-operated stores later this year. The coffeehouse chain said

it's looking for alternative packaging material, and hopes to replace foam cups within a few years, but "there is currently no single-use hot beverage cup on the market that meets the brand's criteria for performance, cost and recyclability." The company is currently testing a double-walled paper cup in stores located where there is a ban on expanded polystyrene foam.

Businesses and residents of Cuyahoga County who do not have enough shrink wrap or Styrofoam # 6 (Expanded Polystyrene) to warrant commercial collection, or who are unable to take it to one of our local recycling companies, can now drop off small amounts of either at our District offices, 4750 East 131 Street in Garfield Heights. There is a collection bin in our front lobby for Styrofoam with signs showing what is acceptable. **Please - no food trays, Styrofoam cups or clamshells.** You may drop off in the front lobby Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Please bag the shrink wrap as tightly as possible and put it next to the blue bin in the lobby. The Styrofoam and shrink wrap will be recycled locally by Extreme Green Recycling. Styrofoam #6 is mostly what is used to pack small and large appliances and electronics. It is recycled into picture frames and crown molding. Questions can be directed to Doreen Schreiber at (216) 443-3732 or dschreiber@cuyahogacounty.us

Clear out the clutter! The Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District has added small appliances and personal electronics to the list of items currently accepted year-round for recycling. The new addition compliments a list of hard-to-recycle goods that can be dropped off for recycling at the District's facility.

Working and non-working small household appliances and personal electronic devices can be dropped off in the District's lobby, located at 4750 East 131 Street in Garfield Heights. Small appliances includes hair dryers, small microwaves, small portable heaters, toasters, blenders, other small kitchen appliances, small fans, GPS, personal electronics, curling irons, CD players, stereos, radios, and MP3 players. Items must be clean, without Freon, and under 20 lbs.

Hours of operation are Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The office is closed on federal holidays.

The District does not accept televisions or large appliances. Televisions (up to 32") can be recycled for free at any local Best Buy store. Visit www.bestbuy.com/recycling

The District also accepts other hard-to-recycle materials including formed blocks of Styrofoam (no packing peanuts or food items), shrink wrap and plastic banding, election or campaign yard signs, and holiday lights. A complete list of items that can be dropped off at our facility can be found at www.cuyahogaswd.org

Customers can now drop off plastic plant trays, pots and tags for recycling at any Lowe's Garden Center in the United States, regardless of condition. No matter where consumers purchase the plant, they are encouraged to return the materials to a Lowe's Garden Center to be recycled. Lowe's has also made it easier for customers to make a difference by installing recycling centers in more than 1,700 stores throughout the United States. The permanent recycling centers, located at the store entrance, offer a free, convenient and easy way for customers to recycle rechargeable batteries, cell phones, compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) and plastic shopping bags.

Art supply manufacturer Dixon Ticonderoga has started a marker recycling program. The company is responding to a recent online petition at change.org to ask Crayola to start a "take back" recycling program, since markers can't simply be tossed in the recycling bin as-is. While Dixon Ticonderoga is admittedly smaller than Crayola, which manufactures a staggering half a billion markers each year, according to the petition, Dixon agreed to start a "take back" program simply because it's "the right thing to do," CEO Timothy M. Gomez said in a press release. Dixon Ticonderoga's recycling program will process the company's Prang line of markers for recycling. The company will offer prepaid UPS shipping labels for marker hauls of seven pounds or more. Visit <http://www.dixonrecycle.com/> for details.

Burt's Bees recycles lip balm packaging. One used tube of lip balm might not seem like much waste, but one Burt's Bees lip product is sold every second, giving the sustainably-minded company plenty of waste to think about. Burt's Bees recently signed on to be part of a program to divert their plastic #5 lip balm tubes away from landfills. The [Gimme 5 program](http://mygimme5.com/), specifically designed to collect plastic #5 products, will now accept the plastic tubes and caps used in Burt's Bees products. Locally, Whole Foods is a collection site for the plastic tubes. Visit <http://mygimme5.com/> to learn more.

On first glance at a landfill (once you get over the odor), you will see that recyclable material abounds. A sea of plastic bottles, aluminum cans, plastic milk jugs and laundry detergent containers, as well as cardboard and paper make up the landscape along with the trash. The U.S. EPA's municipal solid waste data for 2010 determined that the recyclables thrown away are equal to revenue of about \$11.4 billion dollars. Perhaps if we thought of recyclables in terms of money, we might be less likely to scatter them in landfills around the country. So how can we reduce the amount of recyclables ending up in the waste stream? Currently we are capturing about 50% of our aluminum cans, but only about 23% of PET water bottles. Paper and cardboard continue to be sent to the landfill with a value of \$1.3 billion dollars a year. Large corporate packaged goods companies have begun looking at their environmental and corporate social responsibility for their packaging. The U.S. needs to improve its recycling infrastructure - including curbside recycling. In addition, businesses need to implement or improve their recycling and waste reduction programs. For more

information on how to improve your waste reduction and recycling efforts either at home or at your place of work, log onto our website at www.cuyahogaswd.org

The Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District gets many calls from both residents and businesses regarding recycling alkaline batteries. Alkaline batteries are non-hazardous single-use power sources that are not rechargeable. And although there are methods for recycling them, it is currently not a sustainable process, using more energy and resources that it recaptures. Unfortunately, the District has to instruct callers to put them in the trash. Hopefully soon, this may change. In 2011, a full life cycle analysis of consumer alkaline batteries was conducted by MIT and concluded that under the right conditions, collection and recycling could have a net positive environmental impact. This new discovery led to the formation in 2011 of the [Corporation for Battery Recycling](http://www.recyclebattery.org) (CBR). This non-profit is composed of the four largest US battery companies, Duracell, Rayovac, Energizer, and Panasonic. CBR recently issued an RFP, or request for proposal, for a business partner to act as a Stewardship Organization, and be responsible for managing and delivering an environmentally positive and cost effective voluntary collection program and the recycling of alkaline batteries. Companies and organizations that are interested in more information about the CBR Request for Proposal should log onto www.recyclebattery.org

The Association of Postconsumer Plastic Recyclers (APR) has started a new campaign to ask that caps and closures be kept on plastic bottles and containers at the point of recycling. This is a change for many people. Until recently, the plastics recycling industry was not able to effectively recycle bottles with caps on. But recycling collection and processing technology has improved and demand for the recyclable material has increased. For a FAQ about leaving your caps on, visit www.plasticsrecycling.org/faqs/caps-on-faq

In 1999, Armstrong Ceilings introduced the industry's first ceiling recycling program. To date, the company has recycled over 100 million square feet of old ceiling material. That's more than 50,000 tons of construction waste that's been diverted from landfills. It's easy to dispose of old mineral fiber ceilings and see them efficiently reclaimed and reused by Armstrong to make new ceilings. For more information about the ceiling tile recycling program, visit www.armstrong.com/recycle.

Giant Eagle has rolled out a recycling program for small electronics. All stores will have a locked drop off bin for recycling cell phones, digital cameras, mp3 players, ipods, empty ink cartridges, and GPS systems. The items are recycled stateside through OPRA (Office Products Recycling Associates) and Clover Technologies. Items are either refurbished for reuse or demanufactured and recycled. 100% of the profits from this program are donated to local food banks in the Greater Cleveland area. Check with your neighborhood store for more information.

Walgreens and Rite-Aid have participate in the Safe Medication Disposal Program, designed by Sharps Compliance Inc., to find an outlet for unwanted medication. Since the program was launched, it has collected and incinerated more than 123,000 pounds of medication. The pharmacies sell a prepaid mailing envelope, which costs \$3.99, to send the medication to a processing facility where it is incinerated. The ash waste from the incineration is used to make concrete pellets. Envelopes can be purchased at any local Walgreens or Rite Aid store.

ZeroLandfill Cleveland collects and re-distributes material samples from architects, interior designers, facility managers, workrooms and sales reps. Have you purged your samples library lately? Don't throw it out, send it to ZeroLandfill Cleveland at 4750 East 131 Street, Garfield Heights, Ohio 44105. Expired spec samples, old design magazines and stock photo books are just the resources that Harvesters are seeking. Examples: carpet, wallcovering, fabric, laminate, tile, brick, stone, metal and glass samples. Stock photo books, paper sample books, magazines, paper samples, and empty binders are welcome as well. Pollination dates are July 17 and July 24. Expired specification samples will be accepted from 12 Noon to 3 PM at 4750 East 131 Street in Garfield Heights. For more information, contact iida.clevak@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/ZeroLandfillCleveland

Sony Electronics launched a website to help consumers find the best way to recycle or trade in their electronic waste. The website www.sony.com/ecotrader offers a trade-in program for some Sony products, offering customers credit toward new products in some cases. The site also directs owners of non-Sony products to the nearest e-waste recycling sites to their location through a ZIP code search. For customers living more than 25 miles from a Sony drop-off center, the company is offering free shipping and recycling on Sony-branded products that weigh less than 25 pounds. Since 2007, Sony's Take Back Recycling Program has recycled over 50 million pounds of Sony products in the United States.

Eastman Kodak Co. is giving consumers cash for their used cameras and electronics. Kodak's Trade-In and Recycling Program <http://www.trade-in-center.com/kodak/> will accept electronics from any brand including printers, digital cameras, digital video cameras and digital picture frames, in addition to camera accessories such as lenses and flashes. After providing information on the products, consumers will receive an instant quote and a pre-paid shipping label. If Kodak accepts the trade-in, consumers will receive a check and a discount offer from Kodak's online store. For products with no resale value, consumers will be given various recycling options.

Appliance giant General Electric will begin allowing customers to recycle their refrigerator water filters free of charge, a program the company is calling an industry first. Given the hundreds of thousands of GE refrigerator water filters currently in service, GE feels a responsibility to help consumers in minimizing their environmental impact by providing a simple method to responsibly recycle their used GE water filters. When customers order a new filter for their fridge, they'll receive a recycling kit with a pre-paid mailing label and envelope. One hundred percent of the filter will be

recycled, according to GE, with the plastic part being pelletized and reused, and the charcoal portion of the filter reused in the production of landfill liners.

FirstEnergy utilities (Ohio Edison and Toledo Edison) have contracted with JACO Environmental to provide appliance recycling services to residential customers in Ohio. JACO will recycle and provide a rebate for working refrigerators, freezers and air conditioners. To schedule an appointment, visit <https://www.jacoinc.net/weborder/progselzip.aspx> or call (877) 545-4112.

HP and Staples have teamed up to offer free electronics recycling for all brands of office electronics at Staples stores nationwide. Customers can recycle computers, monitors, printers, mice, keyboards, shredders, mobile phones, GPS devices, digital music players, camcorders and digital cameras at Staples stores, regardless of brand or where it was purchased. A certified e-Stewards or R2 recycler will collect the materials and have it transported to one of its processing facilities. Staples joins Best Buy as a national retailer taking e-waste from customers for free. In addition to computer equipment, [Best Buy](#) will also accept most televisions free of charge. Consumers can now drop off items with screens up to 32 inches for tube televisions and 60 inches for flat-panel televisions, free of charge. Visit <http://www.staples.com/sbd/cre/marketing/easy-on-the-planet/ways-to-green-your-office.html> for tips on greening your workplace from Staples.

Compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL) are an easy way to save energy. But they must be disposed of properly after use because they contain small amounts of mercury. The good news is that recycling them is now a lot easier. Retailers like Ace Hardware, The Home Depot, Lowe's Home Improvement, and TrueValue Hardware offer free disposal of CFLs. The U.S. EPA website has comprehensive information about CFLs which includes a list of recycling programs. Visit <http://www.epa.gov/cfl/to> learn more.

Many grocery stores offer a plastic bag recycling program which encompasses a number of items besides plastic bags. Customers can return their clean, dry plastic grocery bags from any grocer, pharmacy, store, etc. to the designated bins. Plastic bags accepted have a number two (#2) or number four (#4) on the bottom or side of the bag. The bins also accept clear shrink wrap and stretch film plastic like you would find over cases of bottled water, paper towels, and toilet paper, clean and dry plastic produce bags, plastic newspaper sleeves, dry cleaner bags, and those plastic pillows from packing if they are deflated. If they are clean and dry, bags from items like bread and potatoes are acceptable. Items not accepted in these plastic bag bins are bubble wrap, paper, glass, metal, trash, hard or rigid plastic, food or chemical contaminated bags, and black or dark colored (PVC) bags. The recyclable plastic collected is turned into composite building materials such as decking or railing.