

So, everyone, use the green bins!

Attention Chestertown residents!

You can effectively reduce your household's waste stream by recycling. Kent County Recycling Program offers FREE curbside recycling in Chestertown and all municipalities and rural areas in the county; visit the website (www.kentcounty.com/gov/pubworks/waste.htm), or call 410.778.7448 for information on how easy it is to begin recycling.

Why Recycle?

First, it's good for our economy. Why? The Town of Chestertown spends on average \$6,000 a month on dumping fees for waste going into a landfill. We should be able to cut that amount at least by half and save tax money for other worthwhile municipal programs!

Also, it's good for the environment; saves energy & resources; saves landfill space; helps prevent global warming; reduces water pollution; protects wildlife; and creates jobs. Kent County's recycling program continues to exceed the state-mandated 15% recycling rate with a rate of 41% in 2007. Chestertown needs all of its residents to be involved in the recycling program.

Where can I get recycling bins?

At the Kent County Public Works Office at 709 Morgnece Road (410.778.7448), or at Town Hall (410.778.0500).

Can I use more than one bin, and sort items?

Yes, but please do not use trash bags or large trash cans which can get too heavy for the recycling crew. Use the recycling bins or plastic containers that are the same size as the green bins.

Do materials for recycling need to be washed clean?

Not the way you would wash dishes. A quick rinse is sufficient for most materials. For stubborn containers like peanut butter and oil, a soak in the sink overnight will do the trick.

What to Recycle?

The following items CAN be recycled in the Kent County green bins:

- Corrugated cardboard
- Newspaper
- All mixed paper
- Shredded paper
- Aluminum & tin cans
- Glass bottles & jars (clear, brown, blue & green glass)
- Plastic bottles & jugs



NOT accepted and must be removed from the cardboard.

What types of plastic can be recycled?

All clean plastic bottles and jugs with a #1 or #2 on the bottom; this includes soda bottles, laundry detergent bottles, most plastic jars. DO NOT include caps. Plastic bags, #4, can be recycled at Acme and Superfresh.

What kinds of plastic can NOT be recycled in Kent County?

Yogurt and cream cheese containers, styrofoam and other plastic take out containers, plastic cups, forks and other dinnerware. Also, don't recycle solvent, oil, and chemical containers, such as for motor oil. Plastic lids cannot be recycled. These types of plastics can not be accepted because local markets do not yet exist for them.

What kinds of glass can be recycled?

Clear, brown, blue and green bottles and jars; remove the paper label and lid.

What kinds of glass can NOT be recycled in Kent County?

Drinking glasses, pyrex or other bakeware, dishes, light bulbs, windows, mirrors, or other household glass. Broken glass should NOT be put in the bins.

What metals can be recycled?

Aluminum and tin cans, preferably with the paper removed. CLEAN aluminum foil can also be recycled. Don't recycle anything that held paint, solvent, or paint thinner. NO cookware, flatware, pots or pans.

What other types of items can be recycled? What about computers?

Kent County now accepts computers and peripherals, (monitor, keyboard, mouse, speakers, etc.) at the Nicholson Drop-off Center on Earl Nicholson Rd., Monday – Saturday. Scrap metal, tires, used oil & antifreeze, boat shrink wrap, clothes & textiles are also accepted.

Other electronics can be recycled at the regional Household Hazardous Waste/eCycle events each spring and fall.

What about other items that may be hard to dispose of in the trash?

Certain items like fuels, oil-based paints and lawn and garden pesticides are accepted at the regional Household Hazardous Waste Events held each spring and fall. See www.midshorerecycling.org for details.

What needs to be separated?

Only newspaper should be separated from other paper and placed in a paper bag or bundled with string. Keep separate from mixed paper and paperboard. DO NOT PLACE IN PLASTIC BAGS. Plastic bottles, tin and aluminum cans, and glass can be placed together in the bins.

What types of paper can be recycled?

White paper, colored paper, magazines, catalogs, phone books, office paper, shredded paper, newspaper, junk mail, envelopes with windows, books, paperboard such as cereal boxes, shoe boxes, toilet paper, and paper towel rolls, snack/food boxes and cardboard beer cartons. Place in a paper bag or bundled with string. Paper towels, napkins, contaminated paper.

What-if rain is in the forecast?

Try to cover your bin with a tarp or plastic trash bag if rain is in the forecast, but DO NOT put in plastic bags.

Where does paper recycling go?

Mixed paper goes to Creafill Fibers Corp. in Worton, creating 25 jobs in Kent County. Newspaper goes to Dixon Valve Coupling in Chestertown, and is used for packing and shipping.

What kinds of cardboard can be recycled?

All corrugated cardboard that is dry and flattened. Contaminated cardboard, such as pizza boxes, and milk cartons or other wax-coated cardboards, and egg cartons, are NOT accepted. Peanuts, styrofoam or other types of packing materials are



RENEW

Find ways to renew your property, which in turn will help renew the environment on the Eastern Shore. For a list of trees and bushes that are native to the Eastern Shore, go to www.chestertowngoesgreen.washcoll.edu/renew.php.

REDUCE

By consuming less, we throw away less, and save money at the same time! Got too much stuff? Don't waste your hard-earned money on stuff you don't need. See www.storyofstuff.com to learn more. Reduce the amount of electricity and water you use every day and save even more money. Take shorter showers, install low-flow showerheads, and use cold water for laundry.

REUSE

Think of new ways to reuse every day household items, rather than just throwing them in the trash. Only buy products that come in recyclable packaging. Use cloth napkins and towels rather than paper towels; use refillable pens and pencils; use rechargeable batteries. Donate reusable items to a thrift store (for example: the Women In Need store, or Hidden Treasures, in Chestertown); get together with your neighbors and have a yard sale (make some cash!); advertise your stuff on ebay, freecycle.org or craigslist.

**Chestertown Climate Action Committee
Town Hall
Chestertown, Maryland 21620
www.chestertowngoesgreen.washcoll.edu**

