

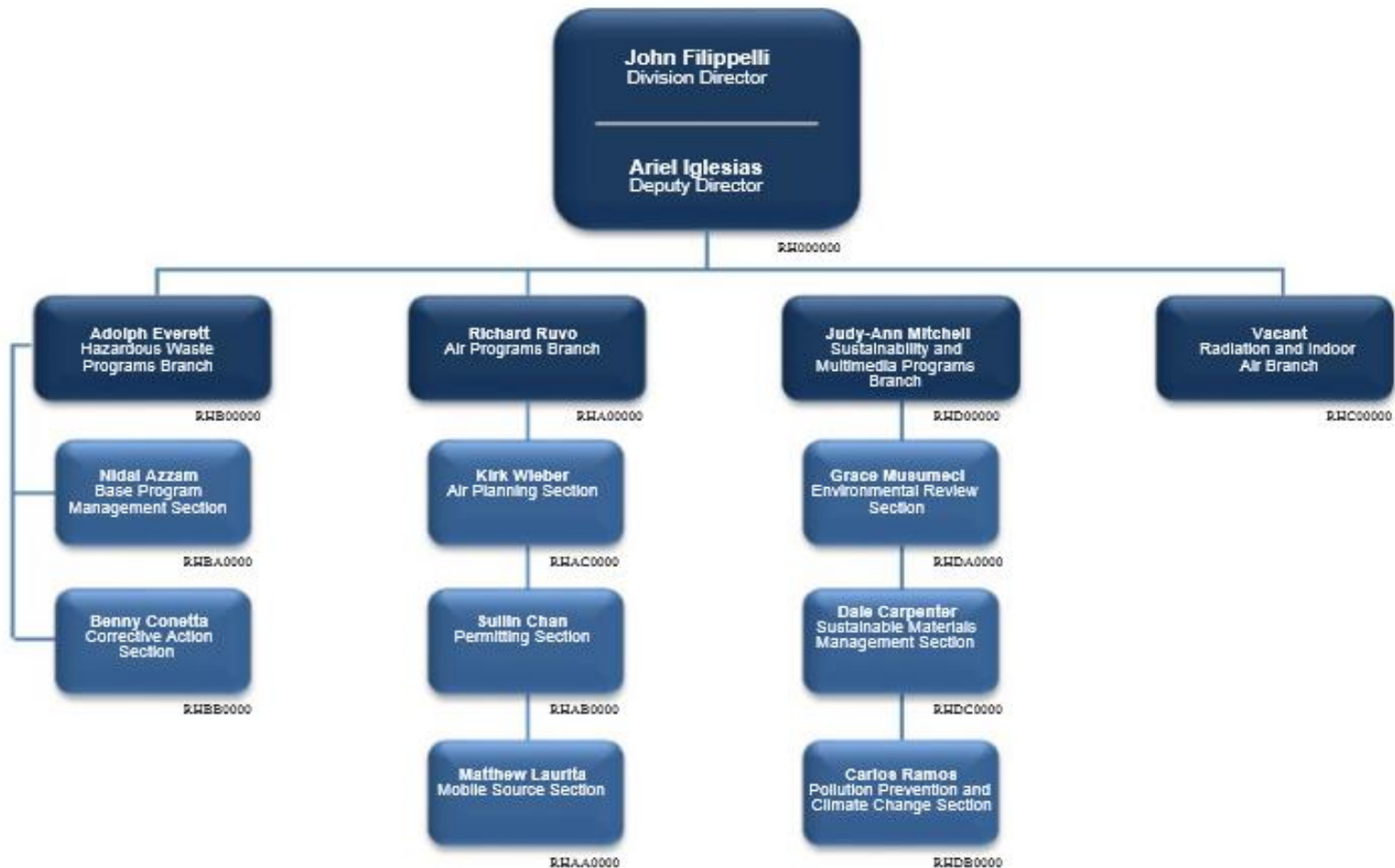


U.S. EPA – Region 2

Serving New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico,
the U.S. Virgin Islands and Eight Tribal Nations



Clean Air & Sustainability Division





Sustainability and Multimedia Programs Branch

Judy-Ann Mitchell
Sustainability and
Multimedia Programs
Branch

RHD0000

Grace Musumeci
Environmental Review
Section

RHDA0000

Dale Carpenter
Sustainable Materials
Management Section

RHDC0000

Carlos Ramos
Pollution Prevention and
Climate Change Section

RHDB0000

Sustainable Materials Management Section

- Municipal Solid Waste management program (RCRA Subtitle D)
- Promotes resource conservation:
- Reduction, reuse, recycling, food waste



Regulatory History

SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL ACT OF 1965 →
RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RECOVER
ACT OF 1976 → HAZARDOUS AND SOLID
WASTE AMENDMENTS OF 1984 →
FEDERAL FACILITIES COMPLIANCE ACT OF
1992 → LAND DISPOSAL PROGRAM
FLEXIBILITY ACT OF 1996



Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Goals

- Protect Human Health and the Environment from the Hazards Posed by Waste Disposal
- Conserve Energy and Natural Resources Through Waste Recycling and Recovery
- Reduce or Eliminate the Amount of Waste Generated
- Ensure Wastes are Managed in an Environmentally Safe Manner



EPA's Waste Management Hierarchy





RCRA, Outline of the Act

- Subtitle A - General Provisions
- Subtitle B - Office of Solid Waste; Authorities of the Administrator and Interagency Coordinating Committee
- Subtitle C - Hazardous Waste Management
- **Subtitle D - State or Regional Solid Waste Plans**
- Subtitle E - Duties of the Secretary of Commerce in Resource and Recovery
- Subtitle F - Federal Responsibilities
- Subtitle G - Miscellaneous Provisions H Research, Development, Demonstration, and Information
- Subtitle I - Regulation of Underground Storage Tanks
- Subtitle J - Standards for the Tracking and Management of Medical Waste



Regulatory Components of RCRA D

- **40 CFR Part 239 - Requirements for State Permit Program Determination of Adequacy**
- 40 CFR Part 240 - Guidelines for Thermal Processing of Solid Waste
- 40 CFR Part 243 - Guidelines for the Storage and Collection of Residential, Commercial, and Institutional Solid Waste
- 40 CFR Part 246 - Source Separation for Materials Recovery Guidelines
- 40 CFR Part 247 - Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines for Products Containing Recovered Materials
- 40 CFR Part 254 - Prior Notice of Citizen Suits
- 40 CFR Part 255 - Identification of Regions and Agencies for Solid Waste Management
- 40 CFR Part 256 - Guidelines for Development and Implementation of State Solid Waste Management Plans
- 40 CFR Part 257 - Criteria for Classification of Solid Waste Disposal Facilities and Practices
- **40 CFR Part 258 - Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste Landfills**



RCRA Subtitle D - Important Points

Congressional Intent:

Congress did not intend for EPA to manage State solid waste programs under RCRA Subtitle D, which establishes the framework for federal, state, and local government cooperation in the management of solid waste.

The federal role is to establish the overall regulatory direction, to provide minimum standards for protecting human health and the environment, and to provide technical assistance to States for planning and developing sound waste management practices.

The planning and direct implementation of solid waste programs under Subtitle D remain state and local functions. EPA receives no line item funding to give states to implement solid waste programs.



RCRA Subtitle D - Important Points

No Permitting Authority:

Requires EPA to approve state programs but in absence of approved program (such as in the VI), or in the case of withdrawn program approval, the statute does not provide EPA permitting/operational authority for new or existing landfills.



RCRA Subtitle D - Important Points

Limited Enforcement Authority:

Only allows EPA direct enforcement authority for landfill requirements in the case of program disapproval or withdrawal of program approval.

In the absence of program approval or in the case of an approved program, EPA cannot directly enforce landfill requirements and must use other authorities to enforce (e.g., RCRA 7003 Imminent and Substantial Endangerment).

RCRA D provides for enforcement through approved state authorities and/or citizen lawsuits.



Regulatory Efforts

Goal: *Promote Sustainable Materials Management while ensuring proper management of both solid and hazardous wastes.*

- **Current Areas of Emphasis**

- Retail Sector
- Pharmaceuticals
- Waste Identification
- Non-hazardous secondary materials
- Coal Combustion Residuals



2016 Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act, CCR Provisions

- Enacted December 2016
- Review and approval of State CCR permit programs
 - States may develop and submit a CCR permit program to EPA for approval
 - State program does not have to be identical to, but must be “at least as protective as” the CCR rule
 - State programs can be approved in whole or in part
 - Once approved, State permit programs would operate in lieu of the federal CCR rule
 - The federal CCR rule applies to a CCR unit until a permit is in effect
 - EPA must review State permit programs at least once every 12 years and in certain specific situations



2016 WIIN Act, CCR Provisions, Continued

- EPA Permitting
 - EPA must implement a permit program in Indian Country
 - EPA must implement a permit program in non-participating states, but only if specific appropriations are granted
- EPA Enforcement
 - EPA may use authorities under RCRA sections 3007 and 3008 to enforce the rule or permit provisions



Implementation of CCR Provisions of WIIN Act

- April 28, 2017 letter from Administrator Scott Pruitt to State Governors urging state permit program applications
- Interim Final State permit program guidance available on EPA's CCR web page: <https://www.epa.gov/coalash/guidance-coal-combustion-residuals-state-permit-programs>
- EPA is using the interim final guidance to work with interested states on their applications



Elements of a CCR Permit Program Application

- Transmittal Letter
- Legal Certification
- Program Narrative
 - Include copies or links to all applicable State statutes, regulations and guidance
- Part 257 Checklist



Actions Pending Signature or Publication

- Non-Hazardous Secondary Materials-Additions to Categorical Non-Waste Fuels; Other Treated Railroad Ties and Used Oil
 - NHSM regulations under RCRA identify which NHSMs are, or are not , solid wastes when burned in combustion units as ingredients and fuels. Under 40 CFR Part 241.4(b), persons can petition the EPA to list additional NHSMs as categorical non-waste fuels.\
 - EPA is preparing a response to a petition from the Treated Wood Council to add these types of treated wood railroad ties to the list of categorical non-waste fuels.
 - FR publication target of early 2018.



Actions Undergoing OMB Review

- Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System: Disposal of Coal Combustion Residues from Electric Utilities: Remand Rule
 - The EPA is publishing a proposed rule addressing specific technical issues consistent with a settlement agreement to resolve issues raised in litigation of the final Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR) Rule published April 17, 2015.
 - Final Rule is supposed to be issued no later than 3 years after court order, or 6/2019.



Actions Pending OMB Review

- Increasing Recycling: Adding Aerosol Cans to the Universal Waste Rule Regulations
 - The EPA is considering a proposal to add hazardous waste aerosol cans to those universal wastes regulated under 40 CFR Part 273.
 - The change should benefit a wide variety of establishments generating and managing aerosol cans by:
 - Easing regulatory burdens
 - Promoting the collection and recycling of aerosol cans
 - Encouraging the development of municipal programs to reduce the quantity of these wastes going to landfills.



Other Regulations Under Internal Consideration

- Bioreactor/Wet Landfill Regulations Under RCRA Subtitle D
- Management of Cement Kiln Dust
- Revision of Subtitle D Criteria Regulations for Oil and Gas Wastes and Revision of State Plan Guidelines for Oil and Gas Wastes



Proposed Federal Legislation

- Responsible Electronics Recycling Act (RERA) - proposed legislation to make overseas dumping of electronic waste illegal. In House subcommittee for more than 3 years.
- H.R. 1034, Zero Waste Development and Expansion Act - a bill to create a grant program within the EPA that would be funded with up to \$100 million for the investment in zero waste infrastructure. Sponsor - Keith Ellison (MN), introduced February, 2017.
- S. 756, SOS Act of 2017 - A bill to amend and reauthorize the Marine Debris Act to promote international action and reduce marine debris. Sponsor - Dan Sullivan (AK), passed the Senate August 3, 2017. Goes to House for consideration as H.R. 2748.



Proposed Federal Legislation

- H.R. 2000, CLEANER Act of 2017 - A bill to require the regulation of wastes associated with exploration, development, or production of crude oil, natural gas, or geothermal energy under the Solid Waste Disposal Act. (Subtitle C and Subtitle D provisions) Sponsor - Matthew Cartwright (PA), in committee.
- H.R. 917, Secure E-waste Export and Recycling Act - To control the export of e-waste in order to ensure it does not become the source of counterfeit goods. Sponsor - Paul Cook (CA), in committee.



Proposed Federal Legislation (cont.)

- H.R. 4209, America Wins Act - a bill to rebuild the Nation's infrastructure, provide a consumer rebate to the American people, assist coal country, reduce harmful pollution. Sponsor - John Larson (CT), introduced November, 2017.
- H.R. 3967, TRASH Act - a bill to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to authorize States to restrict interstate waste imports and impose a higher fee on out-of-State waste. Sponsor, Matthew Cartwright (PA), introduced October, 2017. Senate counterpart S. 746 - Sponsor - Robert Casey (PA).



Proposed Federal Legislation (cont.)

- H.R. 2347, Regional Infrastructure Accelerator Act of 2017 - a bill to direct the Secretary of Treasury to establish a regional infrastructure accelerator program to facilitate investments in, and the financing of, certain infrastructure projects. (includes solid waste) Sponsor - Norma Torres (CA), introduced May, 2017.
- H.R. 547, National Infrastructure Development Bank Act of 2017 - a bill to facilitate efficient investments and financing of infrastructure projects and new job creation through the establishment of a National Infrastructure Development Bank. Sponsor - Rosa DeLauro (CT), introduced January, 2017.



Thank You

Dale J. Carpenter, Chief
Sustainable Materials Management Section
EPA, Region 2

carpenter.dale@epa.gov

DEC Legislative Update

NYSAR3 Chapter 2 Meeting, February 20, 2018
EPA Headquarters, New York City

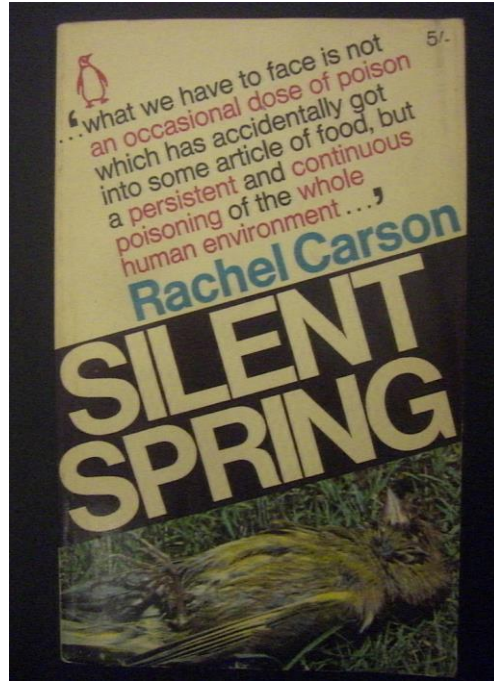
Terry Laibach, NYSDEC

Presentation Goals

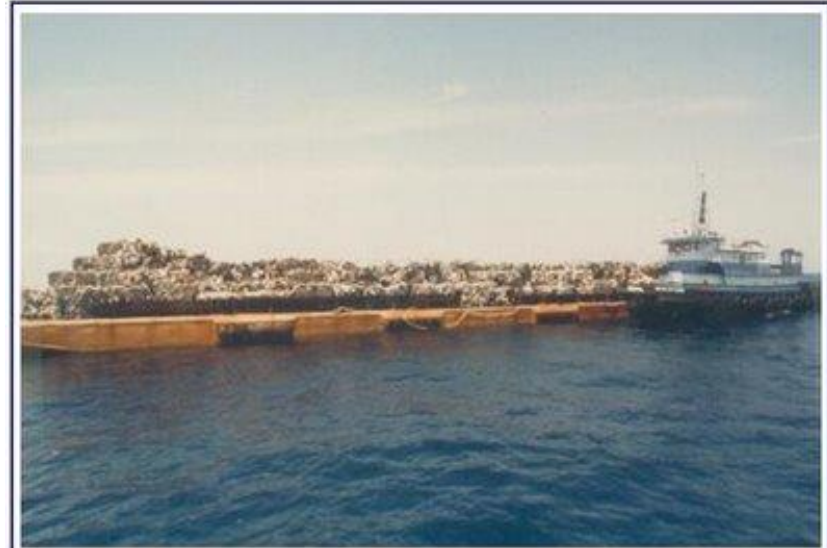
- ✓ Brief history of DEC's recycling legislative legacy
- ✓ What we are currently working on in the BWRR
- ✓ Hopefully relaying all of this without making you drowsy

In the Beginning . . .

- 1970s – Earth Day, Love Canal, Federal rules.
- The Conservation Department becomes the NYSDEC
- 1987 – New York turns a significant corner . . .



The (in)famous Garbage Barge



The 'Mobro' at Key West, FL, 1987

Regulatory Drivers

- **Solid Waste Management Act of 1988**
 - SWM Hierarchy
- **State Solid Waste Management Plan**
 - Now *Beyond Waste*
- **Part 360 Solid Waste Facility Regulations**
 - Part 360 revised November 2017

Solid Waste Management Act of 1988

- Creation of local recycling laws/solid waste authorities, education (BWRR) & grant \$\$
- Executive Order 142 - must recycle
- Executive Order 4 – sustainability
- Act is 30 years old and in need of updating



What's on our desks now . . .



Pharmaceutical waste takeback stakeholder meetings



Options

- **Continue existing policy** (everything remains the same)
- **Strengthen and enforce existing New York State Plastic Bag Reduction, Reuse and Recycling Act** (everything remains the same except there would be an increase in education, enforcement and reporting requirements)
- **Manufacturer responsibility for recycling of Single-Use Plastic Bags (SUPBs)**
- SUPB ban
- SUPB fee
- SUPB fee per transaction
- Fee on SUPBs and paper bags
- Hybrid – SUPB ban + fee on allowable alternatives



Photo: EPA



Current Policy in New York State

Further Action Needed



- New York State residents currently use 23 billion plastic bags per year.
- Education is reported to only achieve a 5% reduction in use of single-use plastic bags.
- Approximately only 12% of all plastic bags and other film plastics are recovered for recycling each year in the US (the remainder end up being landfilled or as litter).
- Some stores which do not fall under the current law are not allowing customers to use reusable bags.
- Based on complaints received by DEC, many store owners or managers in NYC and on Long Island are either unaware of the law or do not take compliance seriously.
- Significant enforcement challenges exist.

Further Action Underway

- Developing complaint response protocols
- Working directly with problematic retailers
- Working closely with NYSAR3 SUP Committee and WRAP program
- Boosting public education on plastic bag recycling through DEC Delivers and social media postings
- Plastic bag rollout plan drafted for when Governor's office makes a decision on moving forward
- Would love partners in metro NY 😊



Thank you!

- Terry Laibach
- Terry.laibach@dec.ny.gov
- 845-256-3141

- For plastic bag recycling violation complaints:
recycling@dec.ny.gov

How to Avoid Violations: Business Recycling 2018



Bureau of Recycling and Sustainability

BACKGROUND: NYC Commercial Waste System



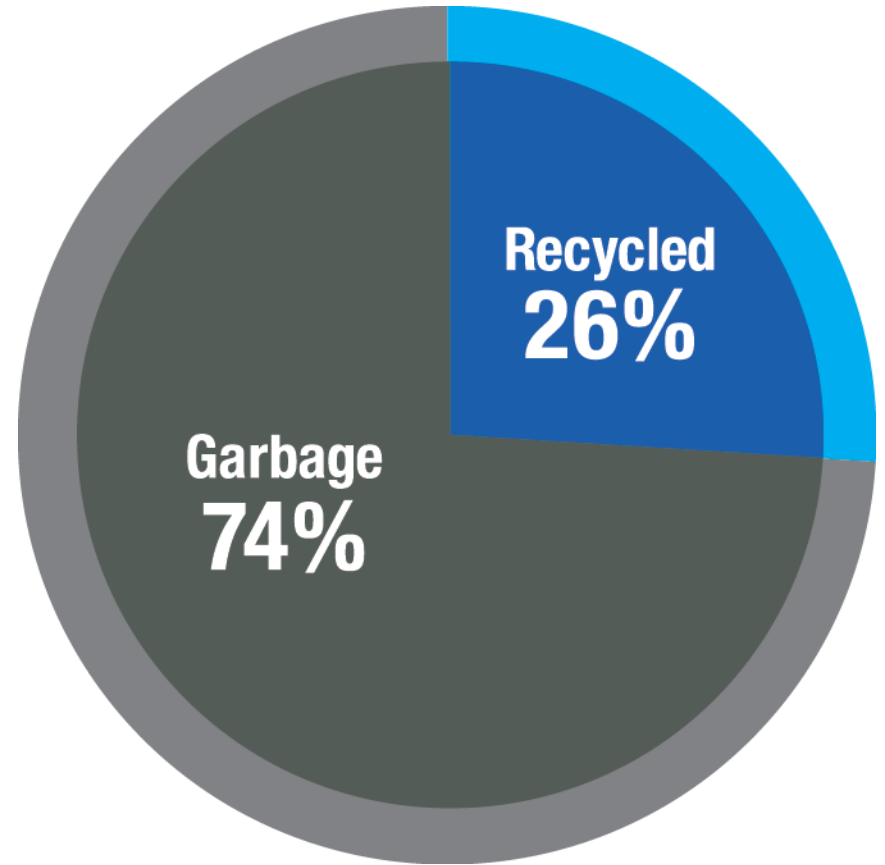
The Current Situation

**Everyday, over 250,000
businesses generate
over 9,000 tons of waste**



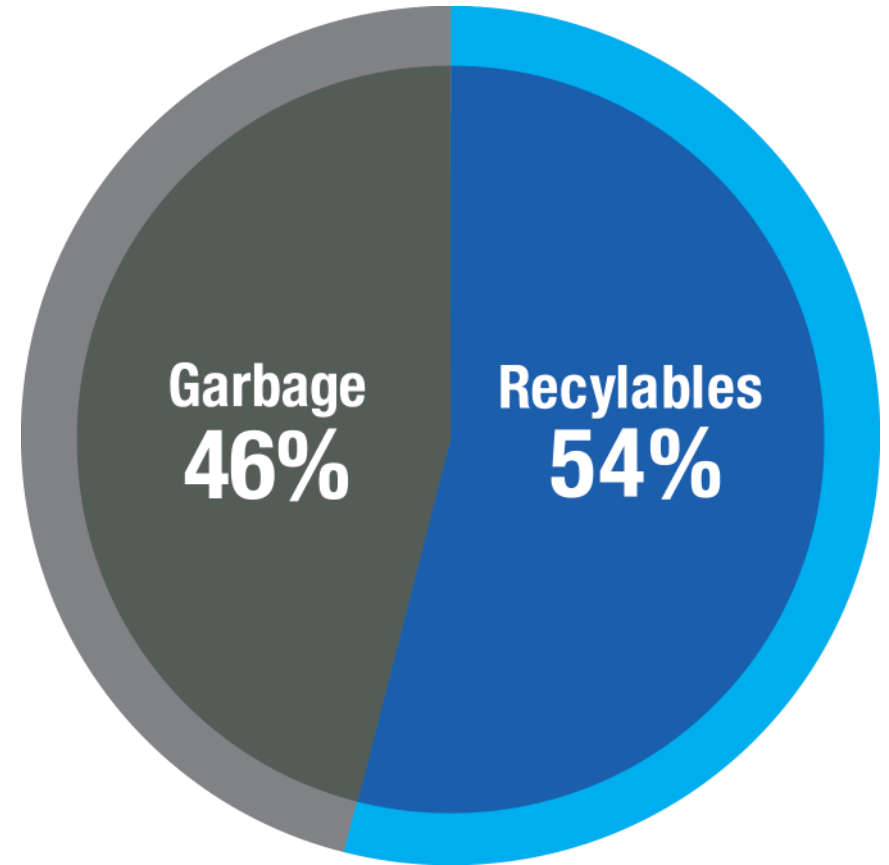
The Current Situation

What is happening today—26% Recycled



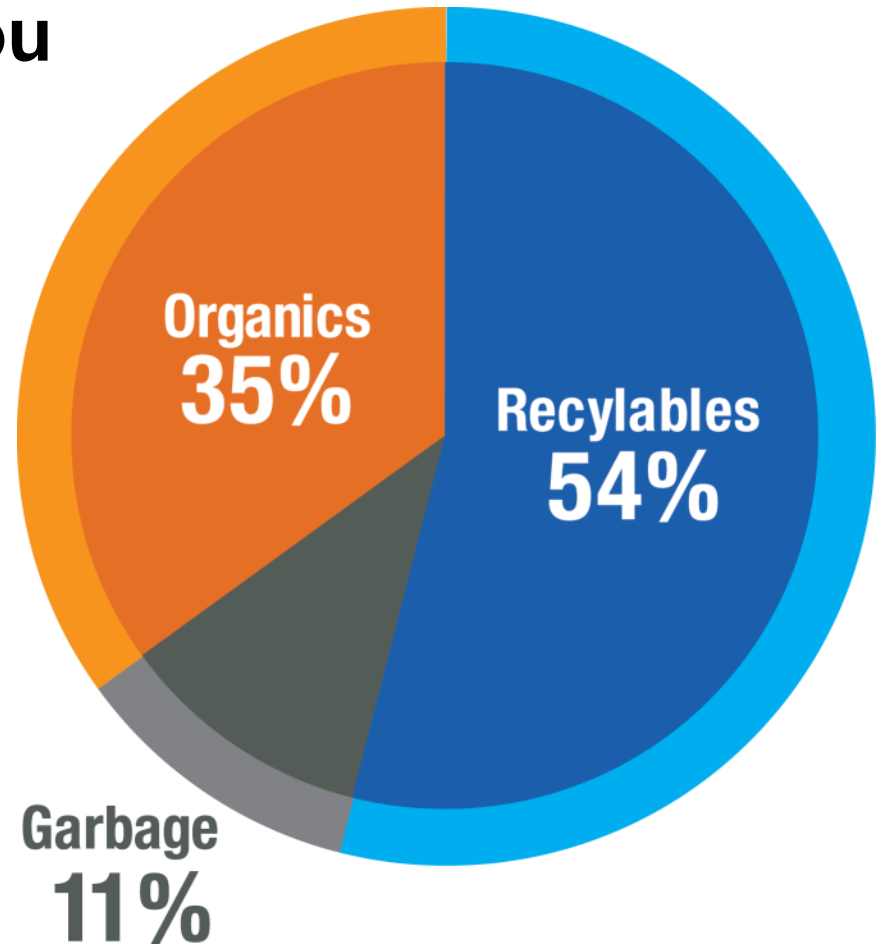
The Potential Situation

What should be happening under the new rules—
54% Recycled



The Potential Situation

What would happen if you
also separate Organics—
89% Recycled



Why Should We Recycle?

OX30

“...this is the way of the future if we're going to save our earth.”

-Mayor de Blasio

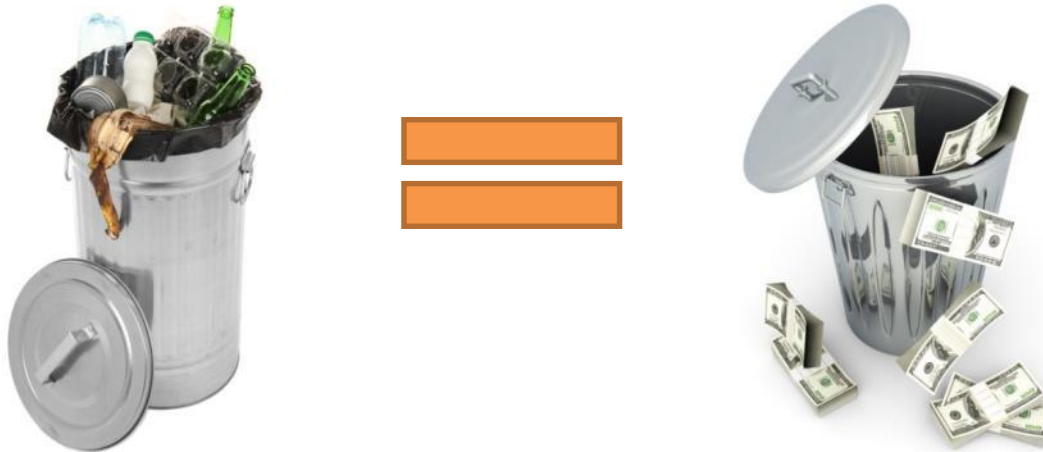
Evaluate Your Waste Stream

- US Environmental Protection Agency WasteWise Program
- Private Consultant
- Waste Stream Survey by private carter – nyc.gov/bic
- Periodic visual assessment



Reduce Waste

- Work with suppliers to reduce packaging
- Avoid overproduction and single use items
- Go paperless
- Maximize efficiency (staff training)
- Refillable, returnable containers (food service establishments)
 - Please follow relevant DOHMH regulations (§81.46)



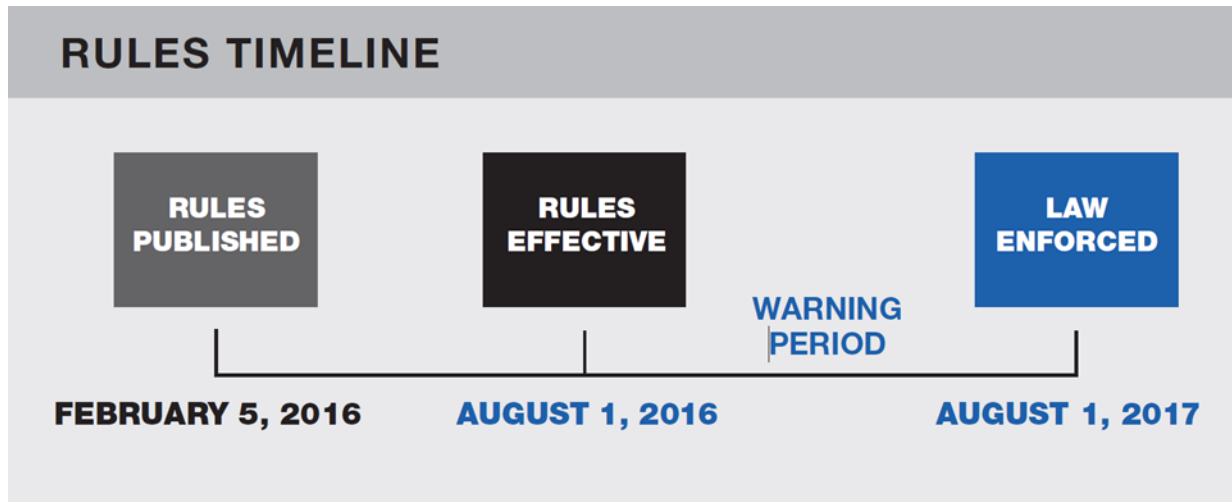
Reuse And Donate

donate
NYC



Avoiding Recycling Violations

1. What to recycle
2. Hire a carter
3. Set up your building to maximize recycling
4. Notify your tenants (if applicable)



What To Recycle

Metal, Glass, Plastic, and Beverage Cartons



**Metal Cans,
Aluminum Foil**



**Glass Jars
and Bottles**



Rigid Plastic



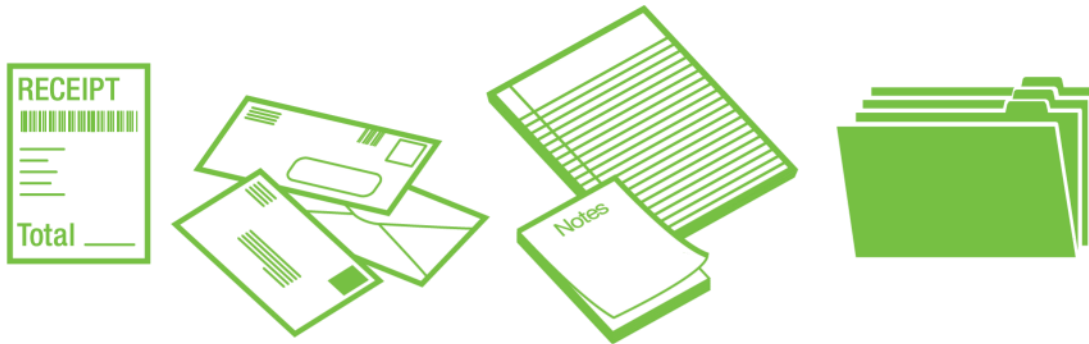
**Mixed Metal/
Plastic Objects**



Beverage Cartons

What To Recycle

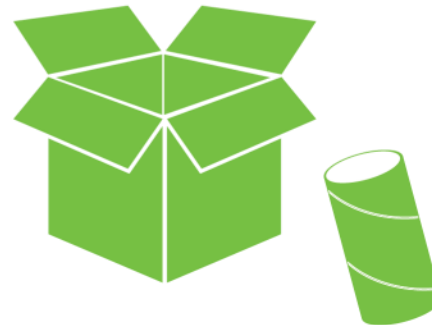
Paper



Receipts, Mail, Office Paper, Folders



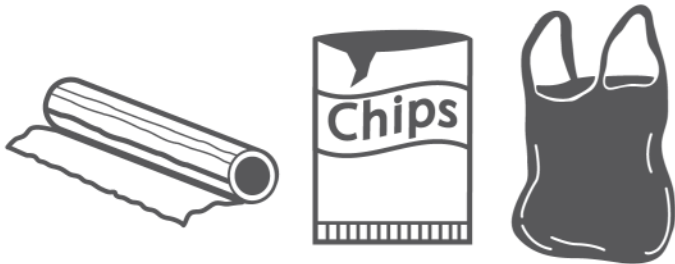
Newspapers, Magazines, Catalogs



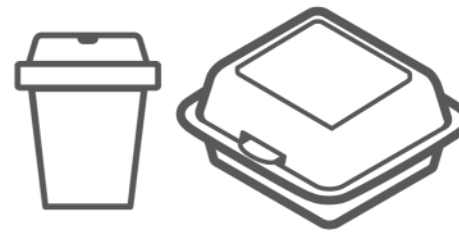
Cardboard

What Is Garbage

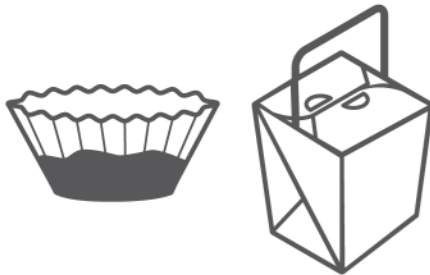
Garbage



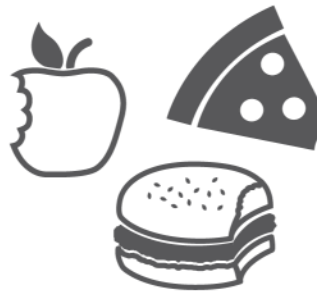
Plastic Film and Wrap, Plastic Bags*



Foam Products



Soiled or Coated Paper



Food Scraps**



Furniture

*Unless your business is covered by NYS Plastic Bag and Film Wrap law **Unless your business is covered by Commercial Organics law

What To Recycle / Special Cases



TEXTILES: 10% of your waste during any month



YARD OR PLANT WASTE: 10% of your waste during any month



ORGANICS:

- **Arenas and Stadiums** (15,000 or more seats)
- **Food Manufacturers** (25,000 sq. ft. or more)
- **Food Wholesalers** (20,000 sq. ft. or more)
- **Food Service in Hotels** (150 or more rooms)

Special Cases: Landscapers

WHO: Commercial Landscapers

WHAT: Yard Waste

HOW: Landscapers must take yard waste to a permitted composting facility.

WHERE: DSNY operates Staten Island Compost Facility where registered landscapers can dispose of yard waste and purchase compost. *Other options are available.*



Hire a Carter

- Price is based on volume, weight, or a flat rate.
- You have the right to have a waste stream survey performed by the carter. Check the survey's accuracy to ensure you are getting the best rate.
- It is illegal for your carter to collect recyclables in the same truck as garbage, if you suspect this is happening file a complaint by calling 311 or at on.nyc.gov/dsny-complaints.



NOTE: If your business prefers to transport your own recyclables, a registration must be obtained from BIC.

TIP! | Shop around for a carter that fits your needs and material types.

Set Up Options

1. SOURCE-SEPARATED RECYCLING

2. SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING



SET UP: Collection Options

SOURCE-SEPARATED RECYCLING

Metal, Glass, Plastic, and Beverage Cartons

Paper

Garbage



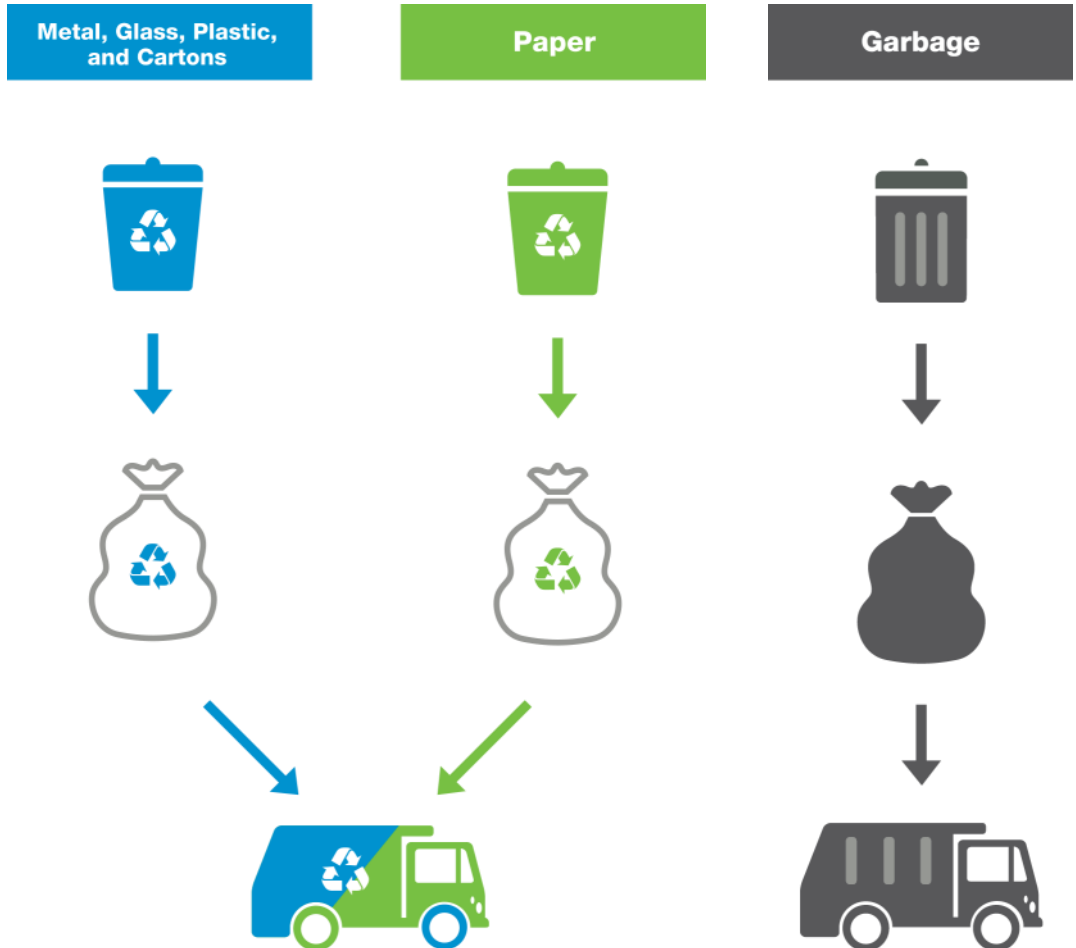
SET UP: Collection Options

SOURCE-SEPARATED RECYCLING

CO-COLLECTION:

Authorized private carters are permitted to co-collect source-separated recyclables in the same truck/compartment.

Businesses should be aware of this alternative, but the building set up does not change.



SET UP: Collection Options

SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING

Businesses must post a sign indicating that single-stream is used and the name of the carter authorized to collect single-stream recycling.



Post Carter Sign

SIGN MUST INCLUDE:

- Name, address, license and phone number of carter
- Service provided
- Recycling Type
- Days and times the carter makes collections

CITY OF NEW YORK Business Integrity Commission nyc.gov/bic		CONTROL NUMBER 00000000
COLLECTION PROVIDED BY Company: BIC #: Phone:	AUTHORIZED FOR <input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE-STREAM <input type="checkbox"/> CO-COLLECTION <input type="checkbox"/> SOURCE-SEPARATED	
REFUSE COLLECTION <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Collection Days: SUN. MON. TUES. WED. THURS. FRI. SAT. Collection Time: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		
MGP COLLECTION <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Collection Days: SUN. MON. TUES. WED. THURS. FRI. SAT. Collection Time: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		
CARDBOARD/PAPER COLLECTION <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Collection Days: SUN. MON. TUES. WED. THURS. FRI. SAT. Collection Time: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		
SINGLE-STREAM COLLECTION <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Collection Days: SUN. MON. TUES. WED. THURS. FRI. SAT. Collection Time: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		
COMPLAINTS: Call 311		

Note: Prominently display carter sign where easily visible on a window near the principal entrance

SET UP: Sample Customer/Staff Area

Source-Separated Recycling



OR

Single-Stream Recycling

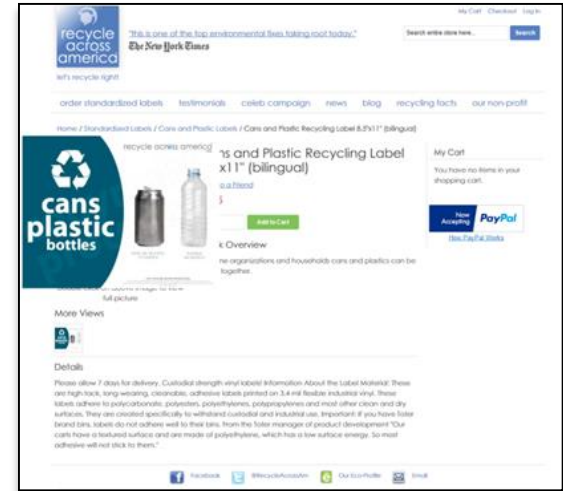


TIP! | Wherever there are garbage containers, there should also be recycling containers.

Educate Customers And Staff



Download samples of signage at
on.nyc.gov/zerowaste-business-resources



Purchase signage at
recycleacrossamerica.org.

TIP! | Color code your recycling program.

Commercial Recycling Fines

Per Violation (Within a 12-month Period)

First Offense: \$100

Second Offense: \$200

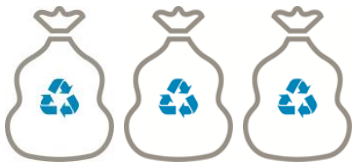
Third Offense: \$400



Set Up: Storage Area, Source-Separated



OR



MGP Only



Paper Only



Garbage Only



Set Up: Storage Area, Single-Stream



OR



All Recyclables



Garbage Only

Notify Tenants

- **Property owners or building management must notify tenants about recycling and waste management policies annually.**
- **This notification must be available upon request by DSNY.**
- **Notification must include**
 1. Information about what materials must be recycled
 2. How to separate such materials

Recycling Rules Review

- Businesses must contract with a licensed private carter (minor exceptions)
- Business must post a sign identifying all carters utilized and what material they collect.
 - For recyclables, the sign must indicate how those recyclables are collected (source-separated, co-collected, or single-stream).
 - Sign must be posted in a place that is visible from the sidewalk.
- All containers must have a label stating what material type the container is being used to collect.
- All recyclable material must be kept separate from garbage at all times.
- Post and maintain signs in public and staff areas describing how recyclables and garbage should be separated.
- Post and maintain signs in maintenance areas or waste storage areas describing how recyclables and garbage should be separated.

How to Avoid Violations: Business Organics 2018



Bureau of Recycling and Sustainability

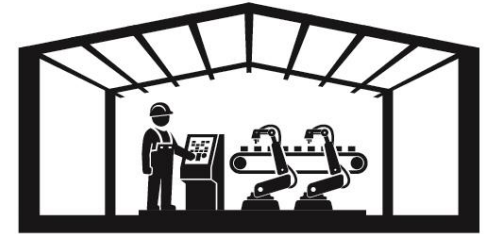
Commercial Organics

Do you own, operate, manage, or work in one of the following building types?

If the answer is **YES**, then the following section applies to you!



Arenas and Stadiums
15,000 or more seats



Food Manufacturers
25,000 sq. ft. or more



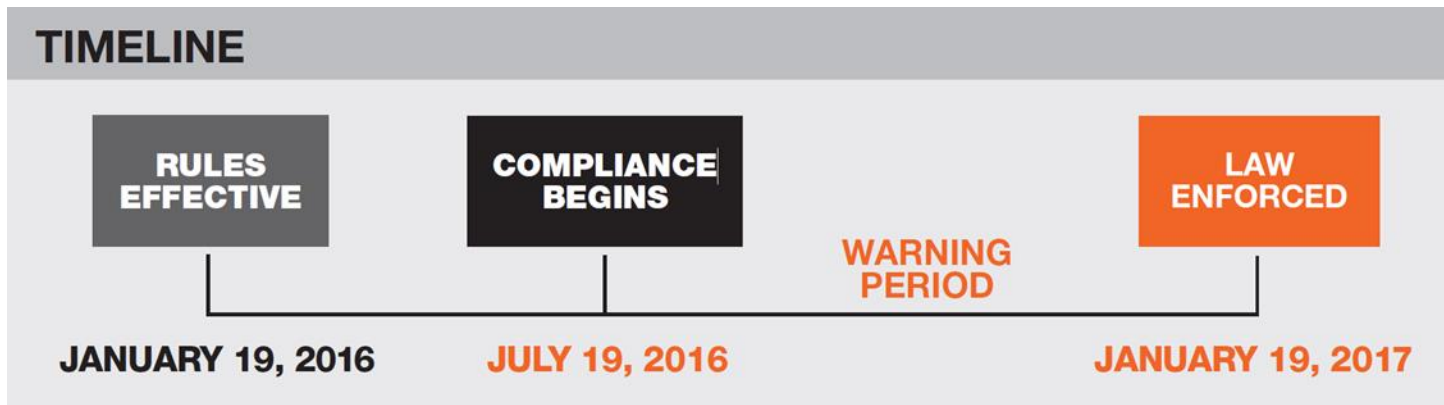
Food Wholesalers
20,000 sq. ft. or more



Food Service in Hotels
150 or more rooms

Avoiding Organics Violations

1. What organics to separate
2. Choose a transportation or processing method
3. Set up your building to maximize separation



What Organics To Separate



Food Scraps

Does not include material sold to farmers or rendering companies, or food that is donated



Plant Trimmings



Food-Soiled Paper



Certified Compostable Products

Must meet processor certification requirements

TIP: Donate Leftover Food

Help feed those New Yorkers in need. Arrange regular donations to a local charity or not-for-profit or contact one of the following organizations.

Some organizations will even make free pickups, eliminating your hauling costs!



nyc.gov/donate



TIP: One Man's Waste...

Organics that are sold or donated to a rendering company or farmer are not covered by this law as long as the material does not end up in a landfill or incinerator.



Choose A Transportation Or Processing Method

Which method or combination of methods is best for your business?



Private Carter



Self-Transport



On-Site Processing

Private Carter

- Hire a private carter to collect the organic waste for the purpose of processing by composting or anaerobic/ aerobic digestion.
- Use setout containers that meet your carter's specifications and have latching lids that are resistant to tampering by rodents or wildlife.
- Set out organic waste in containers with lid securely latched.



CITY OF NEW YORK
Business Integrity Commission
nyc.gov/bic | Complaints: Call 311

ORGANICS

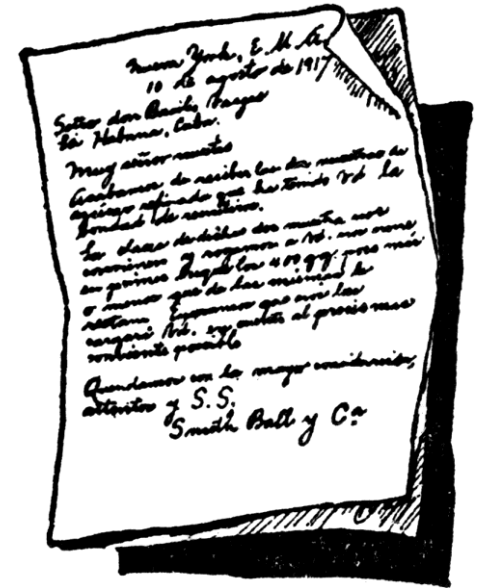
COLLECTION PROVIDED BY:
Company:
BIC#:
Phone:

COLLECTION DAYS/TIME:

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
THURS.	FRI.	SAT.	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	

Self-transport

- Register with the NYC Business Integrity Commission (BIC) to legally transport organic waste.
- Transport your own organics directly to a processor for composting or anaerobic/ aerobic digestion, or to a transfer station that will ensure that the material remains separate from other waste and will be transferred to a final location for proper processing.
- Keep a copy of the written agreement with the processor or transfer station and make available to DSNY upon request.



On-site Processing

- Process the material by composting or aerobic/anaerobic digestion. A food waste grinder is not permitted.
- Submit the on-site processing form at on.nyc.gov/commercial-organics to DSNY within 30 days of installation.
- Once DSNY receives completed form (all required information provided), DSNY will issue an on-site processing decal via mail.
- On-site processing decal must be displayed on a window near the principal entrance.
- Record weights or volumes and retain for a minimum period of three years.
- Any remaining organic waste must be separated via one of the other options.



COOPD: Comm Org Onsite Processing Decal 1.17

SET UP: Post Transport/Processing Sign

Post a sign next to your other BIC decals indicating your transport/processing arrangement. Must make sure that all decals/signs have complete information.



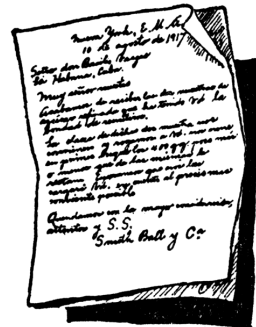
Private Carter

Official BIC organics decal



Self-Transport

Official BIC self-transport registration



On-Site Processing

DSNY-issued on-site processing decal



©2016 Greenlog/On-Site Processing Decal 1.17

SET UP: Containers And Signs For Staff

- Containers must have organics specific labeling.
- Signage must be posted with instructions on separating organics wherever staff handles organics.
- Organics is never mixed with garbage or recyclables.



Commercial Organics Fines

Per Violation (Within a 12-month Period)

First Offense: \$250

Second Offense: \$500

Third Offense: \$1,000



Resources

Resources can be found at on.nyc.gov/zerowaste-business-resources

- Sign up for a training or find out how to host your own
- Watch a video of this presentation

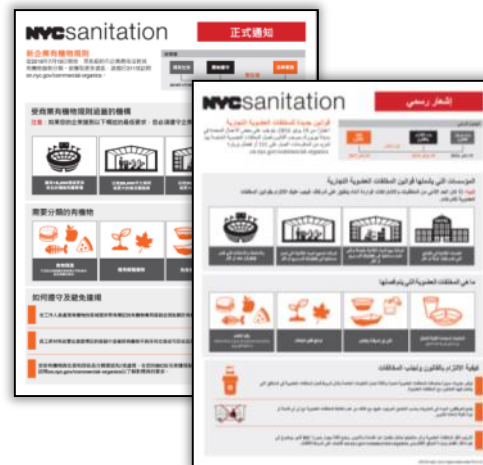
Order Free Materials

English-Chinese-Spanish
Official Mailer



Download Materials

Notices in 11 Languages



Sample Signs



Questions?

Comments, questions, and training inquiries can be sent to:

commercialprograms@dsny.nyc.gov

To host a training, be sure to include "Training" in the subject line of the email. There must be representatives from at least 5 unique locations in order to host a training.

To request an educational site visit, be sure to include "Site Visit" in the subject line of the email. Site visits are unscheduled and based on our outreach team's availability for your area. Wait times may vary.

Visit nyc.gov/zerowastebusinesses
for more information



Bureau of Recycling and Sustainability

How to be an Effective Citizen Lobbyist

Maggie Clarke, Ph.D.

NYSAR³ NYC Meeting
February 20, 2018

What can you accomplish as a Citizen Lobbyist?

- Educate Council, DSNY, etc.
- Get bills passed
- Get rules changed
- Increase budgets
- Critique operations

Narrow your focus

- **What's your passion?**
 - **Choose a topic →**
- **Narrow further**
(what do you want to accomplish?)
 - **Specific Bill**
 - **Budget \$\$**
- **Pay as you throw**
- **Increasing Diversion**
- **Reuse**
- **Organics curbside collection**
- **More effective education**
- **Better enforcement**
- **Waste prevention**
- **Real Zero Waste**
- **Better studies, pilots**
- **Long Range Zero Waste plan**

Educate Yourself

- **Critical to influencing others to your point of view**
 - **Not only legislators, executives**
 - **But also fellow activists and activist organizations**
- **Read Up on your topic; go to conferences, meetings**
 - **Reports, studies, articles, websites**
 - **Find out what's been done already by whom**
- **Seek out others who share your passion**
(Working in groups - far easier / necessary to effective lobbying)
- **Soon.. National Recycling Coalition Online Library**

Organizations to Work With

- In R³ do you want to work locally, statewide or nationwide? (Different groups)
- Locally: NYSAR³ ?, Manhattan and Brooklyn SWABs, Sierra Club, Lower East Side Ecology Center, NYC EJA, NRDC, NYPIRG, LCV, (CRAB?)
(some of these are membership & egalitarian, some not)
- Statewide: NYSAR³ legislative committee, Environmental Advocates, Sierra Club
- National: National Recycling Coalition, Zero Waste USA, Sierra Club, Reuse alliance, Reuse International, US Zero Waste Business Council

Influence others

- **Join / work in the right organizations / committees.**
- **Suggest your topic as a goal for the organization (be specific as to what you want to accomplish)**
- **Volunteer to meet with legislators / agency ppl**
- **Suggest concrete steps towards achieving goal**
- **Write fact sheets**
- **Write testimony**

How to keep up to date on what's going on in your topic

- **Listservs – GreenYes, Zero Waste International, NYSAR³**
- **Magazines – Resource Recycling, MSW Management, WasteDive, etc.**
- **LinkedIn groups**
- **Sierra Club, SWABs**

Meetings with Electeds, Agencies

- **Make Relationships!**
- **Testify at every hearing you can – make yourself known, respected**
- **Bring fact sheets, graphics to meetings**
- **Offer to submit legislative provisions, even create legislation**
- **Bring a few advocates with you to meetings on specific topics designed to educate, persuade**
- **Get agency contact to meet with you/ your organization on a regular basis to exchange info / point of view**
- **Work with legislators / committee chairs on questions to submit to agencies in hearings**

Hearings – How to Testify

- **Prepare! Well researched, well written testimony**
 - **Justify with research what you're asking for and why you are asking for it**
- **Create oral and written testimony – 2/3 mins. oral**
- **Make enough copies of written testimony**
 - **(20 or 30 single sided)**
- **If your organization has good relationship, ask for early placement**
- **If there's more to say in the allotted 2-3 minutes, bring a few more to speak**

At the Hearing

- **Get there early, sign up to speak**
- **Get to know the ppl in the room**
- **Watch the agency and legislators Q&A**
- **Be prepared to insert new material into your oral testimony based on earlier agency testimony or Council questions/answers**
- **Deliver with as much eye contact as possible**
- **Be prepared to answer their questions and agile in responses**

Follow up

- **After meetings, write a thank you along with your understanding of what the meeting accomplished, answer any questions they had, and propose some next steps.**
- **Don't let a lot of time elapse (don't want them to forget you or the topic urgency)**
- **Think strategically, create a roadmap, be flexible in responses.**
- **Persevere!**



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