

Recycling Guidelines for Multifamily Complexes

To ensure that residents of multifamily complexes have access to adequate and convenient recycling opportunities which shall maximize recycling rates and minimize contamination, the County has established Recycling Guidelines for developers and owners of these complexes. These guidelines, set forth below, shall apply to multifamily complexes that rely upon centralized areas for waste and recycling collection. They do not pertain to complexes where solid waste and recycling are collected curbside in the same manner as single-family homes.

Complexes that comply with these guidelines may be eligible for weekly recycling collection provided by the Burlington County Regional Recycling Program. Entities planning to develop multifamily housing projects are strongly urged to consult with the County Office of Recycling regarding the design of recycling areas prior to finalizing site plans. The County is under no obligation to offer Regional Program Recycling services to complexes that cannot meet the service requirements described below.

Please note that there may be financial consequences to multifamily complex owners whose failure to comply with these guidelines results in poor recycling rates and/or high levels of contamination at their site. Multifamily complex owners are advised that in accordance with C.40:66-1.3, to be eligible for solid waste collection services or reimbursement for those services, multifamily complexes must comply with all recycling requirements generally applicable to all other residential properties within the municipality. If a certified public works manager employed by the municipality determines that a multifamily complex is not in compliance with municipal recycling requirements, then the municipality may terminate solid waste and recycling collection services to the complex or reduce its reimbursement payments by an amount equal to the landfill or disposal costs that would be saved if the recyclables were separated from the other solid waste.

Additionally, it is a violation of NJDEP rules (N.J.A.C. 7:26A-8.3) for solid waste and recycling transporters to knowingly collect commingled solid waste and recycling. Multifamily complexes risk refusal of service by their solid waste and/or recycling transporter if they fail to prevent cross contamination of recycling with solid waste.

Guideline #1 – Location and Site Access

Stand-alone sites for solid waste and recycling collection reduce resident convenience and result in cross contamination. Unless determined by a municipality to be not feasible due to serious, existing site constraints, recycling containers for designated recyclables listed in Guideline #3 shall be co-located at all solid waste collection sites within a multifamily complex.

Recycling areas must be designed to be accessible to Regional Program vehicles.

Recycling containers must be front-load style dumpsters. The size, style and color of the dumpster must be approved by the Regional Program's service provider prior to acceptance into the Program.

The dumpsters must be located so that they may be serviced without the need for the driver to exit the vehicle.

Guideline #2 – Minimum Container Capacity Requirement

A minimum of 1 cubic yard of container capacity shall be required for every 8 dwelling units.

The required container capacity formula is based upon Burlington County Regional Recycling Program data and the following considerations:

- Paper, corrugated cardboard, glass containers, aluminum and steel cans, aseptic cartons, and plastic bottles (as defined in the District Plan) will be placed in a complex's recycling containers. Changes to this list of recyclables pursuant to the District Plan or municipal recycling ordinance or changes in the generation of specific items may result in adjustments to the container capacity requirements. Any such changes will be posted in the recycling section of Burlington County's website (www.burlcorecycles.com).
- Recycling collection service will be provided on a weekly basis.
- Recyclable materials shall not be mechanically compacted on site.

Guideline #3 – Signage

Recycling areas and containers shall have prominent, easily understandable signage indicating the materials to be recycled and basic material preparation requirements. The County may, at its discretion, assist complexes with the provision of appropriate signage and other educational tools.

Requirement to Contract for Private Recycling Service

Complexes that cannot meet the requirements set forth above must contract privately for recycling services.

Private recycling haulers that provide recycling containers as part of their service to complexes shall comply with container labeling requirements and provide a level of service that ensures that complexes have adequate storage for the recyclables generated.

County Recycling Contact Information

Email – recycle@co.burlington.nj.us

Phone – 609-499-1001

Website – www.burlcorecycles.com