

2019 RECYCLING GUIDE AND CURBSIDE COLLECTION GUIDE

Recycling simplified with RECYCLE COACH

Whether it's remembering to take out the recycling or figuring out what you can and can't recycle, Recycle Coach has you covered. Download now and let the Coachlings set you up with a personalized recycling calendar or use the *What Goes Where?* search tool to help stop the guesswork. Available on the Apple Store or Google Play.

CURBSIDE COLLECTION

CONTAINERS

Containers used for single-stream collection in the MCIA's program include:

- Blue containers with Middlesex County logo. Overflow can be placed in your own unlidded plastic or metal container no larger than 32 gallons in capacity or exceeding 50 lbs. in weight.

Write your name and address on the containers. Place your recyclables in the containers and put the containers out on the curb before 6 a.m. on your collection day.

Collection times are subject to change, and all materials must be ready for pick-up by 6 a.m.

NOT ACCEPTED!

- Recyclables in plastic bags
- Recyclables in containers not at the curb, such as those left near the house, garage or at the top of the driveway

Replacement Containers: If your containers are lost, stolen or broken, replacement containers can be purchased from your municipal recycling coordinator. The phone number is listed in the municipal section of this brochure. We sell these containers to your municipality at the same price we pay the manufacturer.

New Homeowners: Contact your municipal recycling coordinator within three months of moving in to obtain a free container. Contact numbers can be found in the municipal section of this brochure.

CUSTOMER SERVICE PLEDGE

The Middlesex County Improvement Authority strives to provide the best quality of services to ensure our residents and patrons have a satisfactory experience. Should you have any questions, concerns or compliments, feel free to contact the Recycling Manager at mcia Recycling@mciauth.com.

THE NEW REUSE-IT BOOK

The New Reuse-It Book is a guide to area locations where Middlesex County residents can freecycle or donate their unwanted goods for reuse. The MCIA has made this most recent edition available online at www.mciauth.com for anyone who would like electronic access to the most up-to-date information.

E-CYCLING

By law, most consumer electronics, including personal computers (desktops and laptops), printers, fax machines monitors and televisions are not allowed in the trash. Check with your municipality's Department of Public Works to inquire if they maintain a recycling drop-off and if these items are acceptable. For additional drop-off locations, please contact the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection at (866) 337-5669 or the Middlesex County Division of Solid Waste Management at (732) 745-4170.

ACCEPTED RECYCLABLE ITEMS

NEWSPAPER & MIXED PAPER

Newspaper, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, brown paper bags, nonmetallic wrapping paper, office records, computer paper, file folders, receipts, telephone books, softcover books, hardcover books, greeting cards, paperboard, such as non-wax-coated food and cereal boxes, pizza boxes, tissue boxes, shoe boxes and gift boxes.

If you have more newspaper and mixed paper than you can fit in your container, place the overflow in brown paper grocery bags (not plastic grocery bags). Additional newspaper may be bundled, tied and placed next to your container.

NOT ACCEPTED!

- Newspaper and mixed paper in plastic bags or paper leaf bags

CARDBOARD/PAPERBOARD

Corrugated cardboard, layered cardboard with a center that is shaped into ridges, folds or grooves (such as shipping boxes and the packaging for most appliances or larger household items). **Flatten, bundle and securely tie the cardboard and tie the sheets into stacks no larger than 48 inches square and 12 inches high. These items may be placed next to recycling containers.**

NOT ACCEPTED!

- Cardboard in bundles larger than 48 inches square
- Cardboard in plastic bags

NOTE: The maximum number of recycling bundles of cardboard and/or paper bags of mixed paper that the collector will pick up from individual households, each collection, is six (6).

CANS, BOTTLES AND PLASTIC

COMMINGLED RECYCLABLES

Place metal cans, glass and plastic bottles in an appropriate container. Any overflow can be placed in your own unlidded plastic or metal container (no larger than 32 gallons in capacity or exceeding 50 pounds in weight). **Please do not overfill containers.**

Metal: Tin, steel, aluminum and bimetal cans (such as soda, beer, canned pet food, soup and tuna cans). Rinse the cans and crush them to maximize capacity. We take the lids too.

Glass: Glass bottles and jars of all colors (such as juice, soda, beer and liquor bottles, mayonnaise and spaghetti sauce jars). Rinse the bottles and jars. Remove and dispose of lids.

Plastic: #1 PETE and #2 HDPE containers (such as milk and juice jugs, water bottles, laundry detergent, shampoo and soda bottles). Check the bottom of the container to make sure the plastic is either #1 PETE or #2 HDPE. Rinse the containers and crush them to maximize capacity. Remove and dispose of caps.

NOT ACCEPTED!

- drinking glasses
- window glass
- mirrors
- Pyrex® glassware
- light bulbs
- plastic toys
- plastic packaging
- aluminum foil
- gardening or garage plastics
- polystyrene or Styrofoam™ (such as plastic cups or food trays)

RECYCLING SERVICE INFORMATION

(800) 488-6242 (MCIA)

Municipal recycling schedules available at www.mciauth.com

MCIA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

101 Interchange Plaza Ste. 202

Cranbury, NJ 08512

Phone: (609) 655-5141

Fax: (609) 655-4748

Email: mciaadmin@mciauth.com

Website: www.mciauth.com

MCIA BOARD

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12/18



PLAINSBORO

Recycling Guide 2019

Operated by:



MIDDLESEX COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Middlesex County Improvement Authority's Program collects recyclables in single-stream fashion. Now all curbside recyclable items, such as bottles, cans, paper and small flat cardboard can be mixed together in a single recycling container as long as they are kept separate from trash.

MONDAYS

CURBSIDE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

January	7 • 21	July	8 • 22
February	4 • 18	August	5 • 19
March	4 • 18	September	*7 • 16 • 30
April	1 • 15 • 29	October	14 • 28
May	13*	November	11 • 25
June	*1 • 10 • 24	December	9 • 23

***Memorial Day:** May 27th changed to June 1st.

***Labor Day:** September 2nd changed to September 7th.

NOTE: Municipal Public Works holidays do NOT affect the recycling collection schedule.

thank you...
for your commitment
to recycling and for
helping to make
Middlesex County a
New Jersey recycling
leader.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

(609) 799-0099

Neil L. Blitz, Supt. of Public Works/Recycling Coordinator

Recycling Hotline: (800) 488-6242 (MCIA) for curbside recycling collection, service matters & general information.

Notifications and/or changes to any Township scheduled programs will be posted on our website at www.plainsboronj.com.

WEATHER EMERGENCIES

Check with the DPW at (609) 799-0099 or at www.plainsboronj.com for changes in collection schedules due to weather emergencies or other emergency situations. You may also check for changes on the website at www.mciauth.com.

SPECIAL ITEMS

Plainsboro's Conservation Center serves Township residents only. No commercial vehicles allowed.

PLAINSBORO'S CONSERVATION CENTER is located off Grovers Mill Road. The hours of operation are:

Spring-Fall: April 2, 2019 – December 8, 2019
Monday, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Winter: December 9, 2019 – March 31, 2020
Saturday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. only

Please call Township Public Works Dept. at (609) 799-0099.

ITEMS ACCEPTED: Loose grass clippings, leaves, brush, motor oil, auto oil filters, auto batteries, auto tires and auto antifreeze. Items collected through the curbside recycling program are NOT accepted for drop-off at the Conservation Center.

BULKY WASTE ITEMS such as furniture, appliances, bicycles, etc., are accepted at the Conservation Center four times annually.

- **Saturday Dates for 2019:** April 6, June 8, August 10 and November 2
- **Bulky Waste Hours:** 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- **Bulky waste items will be accepted for drop-off on these days ONLY and are NOT collected curbside. Construction and renovation debris WILL NOT be accepted.**

TRASH AND RECYCLING collections may occur on the same day in some areas. Please be especially careful in using additional containers for your recyclables. Be certain that additional containers are open, without tops and placed at the curb with your blue MCIA containers, so that they are not mistaken for trash.

COUNTY PROGRAMS

Please refer to the MCIA staff at 1-800-488-6242 (MCIA) or at www.mciauth.com for more information on:

- Household Hazardous Waste
- Compost Bins
- Tire Disposal
- Paint Drop Off
- Paper Shredding
- Cooking Oil

CUSTOMER SERVICE REQUESTS

To determine the cause of a service interruption or missed pick-up, please note whether:

- It's your municipality's day and/or week
- Your recycling was put out by the curb no later than 6 a.m.
- Your entire street's recycling has been affected
- A container no larger than 32 gallon has been used
- Any unapproved items are mixed within your recycling
- Your recycling was placed in plastic bags, which are not permitted

If you still have a concern, comment or question regarding your recycling pick-up, please send an email to mciaurecycling@mciauth.com, making sure to leave a name, address and telephone number in the body of the message so that a representative may contact you at their earliest availability.

LEAVES, BRUSH & GRASS

LEAVES are collected by section from late October through mid-December, weather permitting. Leaves shall be raked to the curb, but no closer than 10 feet to any storm drain inlet. Leaf piles shall contain no other form of debris; piles that contain debris shall be considered contaminated and will not be collected. Leaves are only allowed to be placed for collection no earlier than seven days prior to scheduled collection.

BRUSH is defined as trimmings from trees, shrubs and vines. Please leave branches as long as possible, but not to exceed 6 feet in length. Not accepted with brush collections are leaves, roots, stumps, grass, thatch, mulch, soil, sand, landscape construction materials and any form of non-vegetative debris.

Brush is collected on an alternate-month schedule from March – October and shall be placed at the curb or along the street directly abutting homeowners' property lines no earlier than seven days prior to a scheduled collection and no later than the first Monday of a scheduled month.

Residents not wanting to wait for their scheduled collection may bring their **leaves and brush** to the Conservation Center located off Grovers Mill Road.

GRASS CLIPPINGS may be brought loose to the Conservation Center, located off Grovers Mill Road.

ENFORCEMENT can occur to those residents not in compliance with the above.

MUNICIPAL PROGRAMS

Please refer to your municipal contacts for information on consumer electronics and yard-waste disposal. For further details on consumer electronics drop-off sites, contact the Department of Environmental Protection at 1-866-337-5669 or at www.nj.gov/dep.

NOTE: RECYCLING IN ANY TYPE OF PLASTIC BAGS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IF MY COLLECTION DAY FALLS ON A HOLIDAY?

If your collection day falls on any of these holidays - New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving or Christmas - collection is rescheduled for the following Saturday. Check your municipal collection schedule in this brochure for specific dates.

Recycling collection is not affected by municipal public works holidays such as Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Lincoln's Birthday, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Columbus Day, Election Day or Veterans Day. Recycling collections will take place on those days.

WHAT DO THE STICKERS ON MY RECYCLABLE ITEMS MEAN?

These are rejection stickers. The most common reasons for rejection are:

- Trash mixed in with recyclables
- Containers larger than 32 gallons
- Recyclables in plastic bags
- Cardboard not properly prepared

Only recyclables that are properly prepared will be collected.

WHAT IF MY RECYCLABLES WERE NOT COLLECTED?

Your recyclables should be placed curbside the night before your scheduled pick-up or by 6 a.m. on the day of the pick-up. Collection times are subject to change, and all material must be ready for pick-up by 6 a.m.

If your recyclables were out at the curb on time and were not collected, leave the recycling at the curb and contact us within 24 hours. If you delay contacting us, your recyclables may not be picked up until your next collection date.

Keep in mind to check our website at www.mciauth.com, under the Recycling Division's Customer Notification page, for updates, instructions or information on service interruptions.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

As part of our commitment to protect the environment and promote good recycling practices, the MCIA Recycling Department offers free presentations to schools, civic and business organizations, senior groups and more.

M.C. Blue, the County's fully recyclable robot, is currently under construction. The robot will have new features and the programming will be updated with new content covering a broader range of information.

Look for an announcement in Spring 2019!