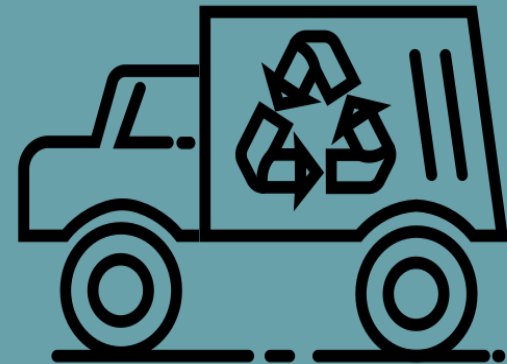


HOWARD COUNTY, MD RECYCLING STREAM AUDITS: EXPERIENCE & OBSERVATIONS



Goals:

- Determine the composition of the recycling stream
- Determine what areas for improvement exist
 - *Develop outreach material with new messaging*

The Process: set up



- Determine a schedule, rotate through routes and County staff
- 26 sorts completed
 - *15 residential routes*
 - *1 FE route, 1 cart route & Residents' Convenience Center*
- Informed County Collection staff, did not tell haulers

The Process – sorting

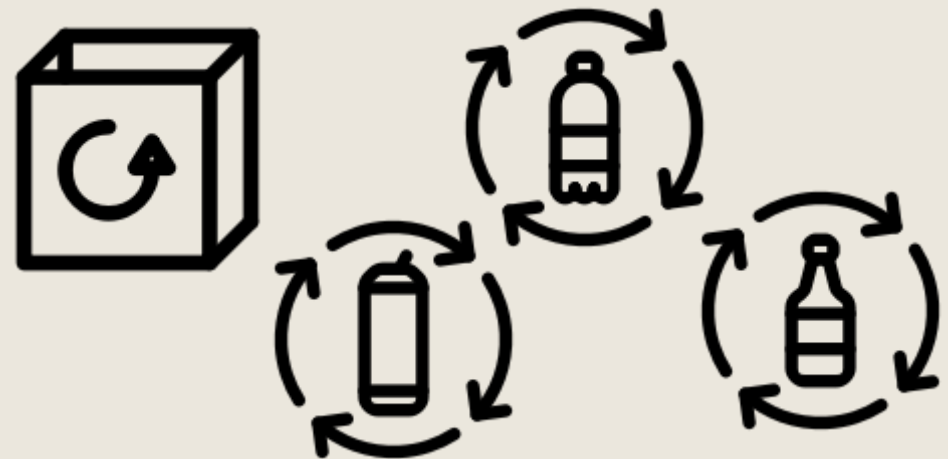


- Truck arrives at MRF
- Scalehouse directs the truck where to unload
- Sample taken from middle of load (avg 345lbs)
- Sorted by material category:
 - OCC
 - *Mixed Paper*
 - *Plastics #1, #2 (natural & colored), #’s 3-7 and bulky/rigid*
 - *Aluminum*
 - *Steel & tin*
 - *Scrap metal*
 - *Glass*
 - *Residue*
 - *Bagged material – weighed then sorted*
- Weighed sorted material
 - *Handheld scale*
- Tracked the data

The Results!



- Paper and Cardboard 63%
- Plastics 10%
- Metals: 3%
- Glass 12.5%
- Residue: 11%
- Bagged: 14.5%



The Results!



- Know Before You Throw!
 - Game (through ReCollect)
 - Videos (aerosol cans, tanglers, glass, foam)
 - *KnowBeforeYouThrow.org*
- Wording choices in brochures & newsletters



Know Before You Throw!

✓ Clean ✓ Empty ✓ Dry

*Keep it Loose
Lose the Bag*

YES!  Aluminum & Steel Cans Lids can be recycled	YES!  Cardboard Boxes & Cartons Flatten boxes	YES!  Glass Bottles & Jars	YES!  Paper, Newspaper, Magazines & Books	YES!  Kitchen, Laundry, Bath: Bottles & Containers Lids on
NO!  No Trash or Yard Trim	NO!  No Tanglers No hoses, wires, chains, or cords	NO!  No Food No food or food-stained paper	NO!  No Styrofoam	NO!  No Textiles No clothing, shoes, towels or rugs

410-313-6444 help@HowardCountyRecycles.org HowardCountyRecycles.org

65890 Rev. A



WM
WASTE MANAGEMENT

125 lb

12.6 lb

12.1 lb

12.6



25

1260

INEDIBLE

12616

FLAMMA
KEEP FIRE



Strong Hold

0208
CELTIC

To be a part of our customer lives, we

MOON

BARD &

CREAK

SAVING

Slans









QUESTIONS?

Gemma Evans, Recycling Coordinator

gevans@howardcountymd.gov

410-313-6434

HowardCountyRecycles.org