2017 RECYCLING GUIDE AND CURBSIDE COLLECTION GUIDE

CURBSIDE COLLECTION

CONTAINERS
Containers used for single-stream collection in the MCIA's program include:
- A rectangular blue container with lid
- A round blue container
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 into your new residence to obtain free containers. 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 service to ensure our residents and patrons 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 areas where Middlesex County residents can recycle 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. If interested in a free printed copy or possible inclusion in the next edition, contact Middlesex County Public Information Officer, Maria Prato, by emailing mprato@mciauth.com.

E-CYCLING

By law, most consumer electronics, including personal computers (desktops and laptops), 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) 337-6669 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, non CHR wrapping paper, office records, computer paper, file folders, receipts, telephone books, softcover books, hardcover books, greeting cards, paperback, such as non-waxed 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

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

Metal: Tin, tetra, aluminum and bimetal cans (such as soda, beer, canned pet food, soup and tunas 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

RECYCLING SERVICE INFORMATION

(800) 488-6242 (MCIA)
Municipal recycling schedules available at
www.mciauth.com

MCIA DIVISION OF RECYCLING
55 Edgeboro Road
East Brunswick, NJ 08816
Phone: (800) 488-MCIA
Fax: (732) 628-3338
Email: mcicarecycling@mciauth.com
Edward J. Windas, Recycling Manager

MCIA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
101 Interchange Plaza Ste. 202
Cranbury, NJ 08512
Phone: (609) 655-5141
Fax: (609) 655-5748
Email: mciaadmin@mciauth.com
Website: www.mciauth.com

MCIA BOARD
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Requests for assistance or materials in alternate formats should be directed to
Maria Prato by phone at (908) 655-5141,
through the New Jersey Relay Service at
(908) 892-7899 or by email at mp@mciauth.com
SAFETY REMINDERS

- Use caution when handling sharp objects. sharp edges or corners.
- Keep children and pets away from recycling bin.

FCC STATEMENT

- This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:
  1. This device may not cause harmful interference, and
  2. This device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

NOTICE

- Unauthorized copying of copyrighted material may violate copyright laws.

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 gallons 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 mica@micauth.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 your earliest availability.

CUT IT AND LEAVE IT

"GRASSCYCLE" FOR A HEALTHIER LAWN

- Leave short grass clippings on the lawn rather than bagging them and dragging them to the curb.

Saves you time, money & your town's money!

- Experts say 35 percent of our lawn-care time is spent getting rid of clippings. Grass-cycled lawns need less water and fertilizer, and you don't have to buy lawn waste bags. Your town also saves the disposal cost of your lawn clippings.

GRASSCYCLING WORKS BECAUSE:

- Short clippings act as a natural fertilizer, shelter tender grass roots from the sun and conserve moisture. The result is a healthier greener lawn.
- Grass-cycled lawns are more resistant to weeds and certain lawn diseases.
- Grass cycling does not cause thatch. Short clippings decompose in a few days. Thatch – dead grass roots and stems – is the result of overwatering, overfertilizing and cutting your lawn too short.

Call (800) 488-6242 (MCIA) for a brochure. For information on grasscycling, call Rutgers Cooperative Extension at (732) 398-5220 or visit www.nce.rutgers.edu.

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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 the last day before the holiday.

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.micauth.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 Education Department offers free recycling presentations to schools, civic and business organizations, senior groups and more.

We now have the latest version of M.C. Blue, the County’s fully recyclable robot. Accompanied by an MCIA representative, M.C. Blue is the star of the recycling programs. He has both audio and video capabilities and his presentations are entertaining, as well as educational.

Offerings:
- Planet Paper
- Recycle It or Not
- Recycling Trivia Challenge
- Recycling Show & Tell
- Energy: Less is More
- Recycling & the Landfill

Programs are offered to pre-K to grade 2, pre-K to grade 2 or grades 3-6, grades 3-6 or grades 3-6 at $25 for a half-day and $40 for a full-day program.

Bookings are on a first-come, first-serve basis. For information and reservations, call the MCIA Education Office at 609-409-5033 or email js@micauth.com.