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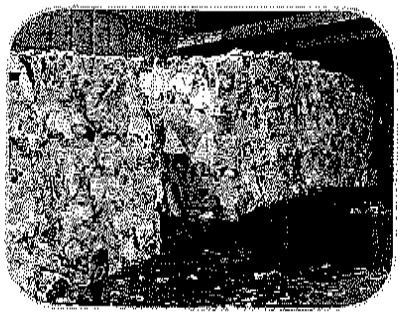
WASTE MANAGEMENT
Recycle America™

Single Stream Recycling

Simply the Better Solution for Public Sector Recycling Programs



New Challenges Require New Solutions.

Throughout the United States, communities are looking for new, more effective ways to extend landfill life, promote environmental sustainability, fight climate change and lower overall costs through increased solid waste recycling. Of all the programs currently in use, none comes close to matching the ease, acceptance and cost-effectiveness of Single Stream Recycling.

What is Single Stream Recycling?

Single Stream Recycling is a technology that allows participants to place all their recyclables—such as fiber (newspaper, office paper and cardboard) and non-fiber (plastic bottles, steel and aluminum cans)—into a single container for subsequent collection, processing and remarketing. In some markets glass bottles and jars are included. There's no sorting of materials into separate bins and no use of multiple collection vehicles.

Single Stream Recycling is Simple and Easy.

Single Stream Recycling is being adopted by an increasing number of American communities with mandates to increase diversion rates, lower local governmental costs and/or increase recycling program efficiencies. They are adopting Single Stream Recycling because it WORKS. The simplicity of a single cart and the program's ability to accommodate a wider range of materials has allowed communities with Single Stream Recycling to collect, on average, 30 percent more recyclables compared to previous dual- or multi-stream programs.

What Makes Single Stream Recycling Possible?

Recent improvements in automated sorting and screening technologies have made it possible to cleanly separate a wide variety of material streams coming from a single source. Even fiber products—which previously needed to be manually source-separated from other recyclables to avoid costly contamination—can now be part of a Single Stream Recycling program thanks to processing innovations that significantly reduce paper contamination levels. Ongoing improvements in this technology will improve the economic viability of Single Stream Recycling programs.

The Benefits of Single Stream Recycling.

Communities of all sizes enjoy major benefits from Single Stream Recycling programs. These benefits include:

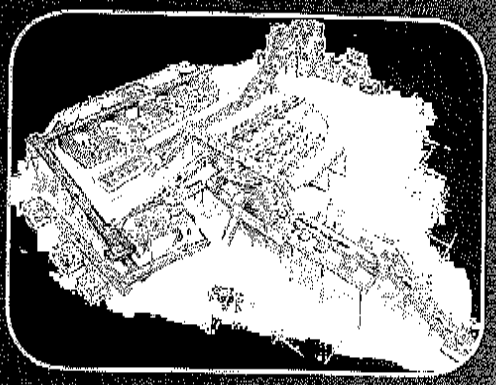
- Single cart collection programs
- Increased recycling rates and recyclable household yields that average 30 percent above those of previous recycling programs
- Fewer trucks on the road, which result in less traffic and wear-and-tear to pavement
- Lower labor and fuel costs
- Extended landfill life
- Reduction of CO_2 and methane emissions, gases linked directly to climate change
- Lower overall community costs

Waste Management: The Leader in Single Stream Recycling.

North America's leading environmental services company, Waste Management has a long history of leadership in recycling innovation. We were the first major solid waste company to focus on Single Stream Recycling, having introduced the technology in the mid-1990s. We have since established Single Stream Recycling programs in scores of communities throughout the United States. Through our wholly-owned subsidiary, Waste Management Recycle America (WM Recycle America), we now recycle more than 2 million tons of waste via Single Stream Recycling collection. This is up some 200 percent from the 722,000 tons of Single Stream Recycling we did in 2002.

About WM Recycle America.

In 2006 Waste Management and WM Recycle America processed approximately 5.5 million tons of recyclables and marketed more than 8 million tons to customers worldwide. We operate more than 100 Material Recovery Facilities across the United States and Canada, providing recycling services to most major markets. Our total recycling processing efforts save enough energy to power approximately 1.6 million households.



Typical Single Stream Recycling Facility Layout

For More Information:

For more information on Single Stream Recycling and other recycling programs available from WM Recycle America, contact: **info@recycleamerica.com**

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Recycle America.

From everyday collection to environmental protection. Think Green. Think Waste Management.

- By recycling 5.5 million-plus tons of commodities in 2006, we prevented the release of more than 4.1 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions. If those 5.5 million tons were put on rail cars, that train would be about 1,300 miles long and stretch from Denver to Portland.

- By recycling more than 4.1 million tons of paper, we save more than 41 million trees.

- WM Recycle America and Wheelabrator Technologies processed more than 209,000 tons of metals in 2006, thereby reducing greenhouse gases equivalent to taking about 324,000 cars off the road last year.

WM
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Recycle America.

For more information,
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