

This brochure was created by the members of Ewing's Green Team and Environmental Commission to inform residents about making more sustainable choices in their recycling practices.



Important Contacts

Mercer County Improvement Authority

(MCIA) (mcianj.org)

80 Hamilton Ave, Trenton, NJ
609-278-8100

Ewing Twp Dept of Public Works

www.ewingnj.org/departments/public-works.aspx

136 Scotch Road, Ewing, NJ
609-882-3382

Ewing Green Team

www.ewinggreenteam.org
ewinggreenteam@gmail.com

Ewing Environmental Commission

www.ewingec.org | eec@ewingnj.org

Resources

<http://ewingrecycles.org>



609-883-2900

Bert H. Steinmann, Mayor

Ewing Township Municipal Building
2 Jake Garzio Drive
Ewing, NJ 08628

www.ewingnj.org

Trash Talk recycling in crisis

GT/EC Sustainability Series

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Rethinking Recycling

Why Recycle...

- Recycling keeps millions of tons of materials out of landfills and our oceans.
- Recycling creates new raw materials conserving finite natural resources.
- Recycling saves energy by reducing the need to make new materials from scratch while reducing water usage and emissions of air pollutants.

Recycling History

New Jerseyans should be proud that we were the first state to introduce recycling in 1987 under Governor Tom Kean. It was very successful and became a source of revenue for municipalities. Unfortunately, in the early 2000s with the advent of single stream recycling, as recycling rates increased, so did **CONTAMINATION RATES**.

Contamination Facts

Contamination consists of things that **SHOULD NOT** go in the recycling bin such as plastic bags, garden hoses, food waste, pizza boxes, dirty food containers, i.e. ketchup and mayonaise bottles, and more. Plastic bags, for example, jam operations for 1 - 2 hours at recycling centers. One piece of garbage makes it all garbage.



One piece of garbage makes it all garbage!
When in doubt,
throw it out!

Our New Recycling Reality

In January 2018, China stopped accepting the world's waste for recycling, except for a very small percentage. As of March, 2018, China set a 0.5% contamination limit on the small amount they will take. **Shipments must be 99.5% pure. The current rate for Mercer County is 11.4%**

What This Means For Us

We **MUST** do a better job of recycling or face:

- **HIGHER TAXES**- because of skyrocketing recycling costs.
- More landfills to bury contaminated recycling.
- Risks for wildlife, waterways, oceans, and quality of life on our planet.
- Imperiled futures for our children and grandchildren.

There is no magic wand to wave away our trash! We are facing the consequences of thoughtless consumption and waste. We **MUST** rethink our disposable lifestyles.



Curbside Recycling in Ewing Twp.

The Mercer County Improvement Authority (MCIA) manages residential curbside recycling for nine of the municipalities in Mercer County including Ewing. It also holds Household Hazardous Waste/E-Waste and Document Shredding Events several times throughout the year.

Recycling pickup is every other Tuesday in Ewing. If the recycling collection day falls on a major holiday, pickup is on the following Saturday.

Recycling Requirements

- All recyclables must be in official buckets and be at the curb by 7 am and no earlier than sundown the evening prior to the collection day.
- Single Stream Recycling – all recyclables in EITHER the yellow or the green bucket!
- Replacement Buckets are available at the Ewing Township Convenience Center at 136 Scotch Rd. (call for availability) and at Mercer County Connections, Route 33, Acme Shopping Center, Hamilton.
- **Missed collection?** Call the MCIA Hotline at 609-394-0100.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Follow these rules to ensure that that the jumbled mass of recyclable items in your recycling can have a useful second life saving you taxpayer dollars and doing your part to save the planet. It's not too much to ask for a better future for generations to come.

RECYCLING RULES



NO plastic bags (ever) !!!



Recycle all glass bottles, cans and paper.



Recycle cardboard, flattening into manageable bundles.



NO containers with food still in them.



Recycle plastics with the numbers 1 and 2 in the little triangle on the bottom only.



**TO LEARN MORE VISIT
EWINGRECYCLES.ORG**



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When in doubt,
throw it out!**



Flattened Cardboard



NO plastic bags



Food & beverage cans



NO recycling in plastic bags



Glass Food & Beverage Jars



NO food waste



Plastic bottles and containers



NO styrofoam cups & containers



Paper



NO needles

MCIA LIST OF ACCEPTED RECYCLABLES

Mixed Paper, Office Paper & Window Envelopes | Corrugated Cardboard (Flatten Boxes and /or Cut into Manageable Bundles) | Telephone Books & Soft Cover Books | Hard Cover Books (Hard Cover Must Be Removed) | Glass Food & Beverage Jars/Bottles (All Colors) | Aluminum & Metal Beverage Containers | Pet Food Cans | Milk Jugs & Plastic Beverage Bottles | Detergent & Shampoo Containers | Juice Boxes & Juice Beverage Cartons | Plastics With #1 or #2 Symbols



MCIA LIST OF NOT ACCEPTED MATERIALS

PLASTIC BAGS !!! | Pizza Boxes | Light Bulbs | Aluminum Foil/Baking Pans | Drinking Glasses, Dishes & Broken Window Glass | Ceramics & Pottery | Aerosol Cans | Motor Oil & Anti-Freeze Containers | Clothes Hangers | Bandage Tins & Cookie Tins | Carbon & Waxed Paper | Tissue Paper, Napkins, Paper Plates & Paper Towels | Styrofoam | Plastics with #3 - #7 Symbols

