Working Together to Drive our Industry Forward

Cleaning the curbside mix
The industry is changing
The Perfect Storm

Challenges

• Stream Composition Changes
  • Rising Labor Costs
• Increasing Maintenance/Processing Costs
  • Depressed Commodity Prices
  • Global Conditions
We can’t control the markets
or the global economy
But
We can control what we have control over:
The Curbside Mix
The Curbside Mix Must be Cleaned Up

Biggest Curbside Recycling Issues

• Non-Acceptable items
• Non-Recyclable Items
• Moisture
Contamination

**WISHFUL RECYCLING**

Residents toss items in the recycling bin/cart hoping materials can be recycled, even if not officially acceptable.

**UNSAFE MATERIALS**

Yard Waste, wood, hoses, wires, cables, medical items, diapers, and needles create dangerous conditions for employees.

**HOUSEHOLD WASTE**

Residents are simply treating the recycling bin/cart as an extra trash can, contaminating the stream with food waste, dirt, plastic bags, which cause significant downtime at the MRF.
Whose fault?
PUBLIC and PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP WE MUST WORK TOGETHER AND ADAPT TO INDUSTRY CHALLENGES
Partners

- Association of New Jersey Recyclers
  - Counties
  - Municipalities
  - Recycling Industry
- Rutgers Office of Continuing Professional Education
- New Jersey Paper Recycling Association
  - Processors
  - Brokers
  - Mills
The Curbside Mix Must be Cleaned Up

• Continuous Education
• A System for Enforcement
• Flexible and Transparent Partnerships with Sustainable Deal Structures that evolve with the ever changing dynamics and economics of recycling

Production of High Quality Recycled Material = Max Value
Quality Control Begins at the Curb

• Presentations at Statewide Meeting
• Regional Discussion Groups
• Presentations and Panel at Statewide Meeting
• Regional Workshops
• County Workshops
• Tours
• ?
Working Together

Without a plan for constant education and enforcement the curbside stream will not change.

And it must change for recycling to be sustainable
Recycling is an important component of the sustainability initiative of the world. We must invest in it accordingly.
Thank you

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