

**SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES
FOR BUILDING OWNERS AND OCCUPANTS**

RECYCLING

**RECYCLING
COMPOST**

Recycling

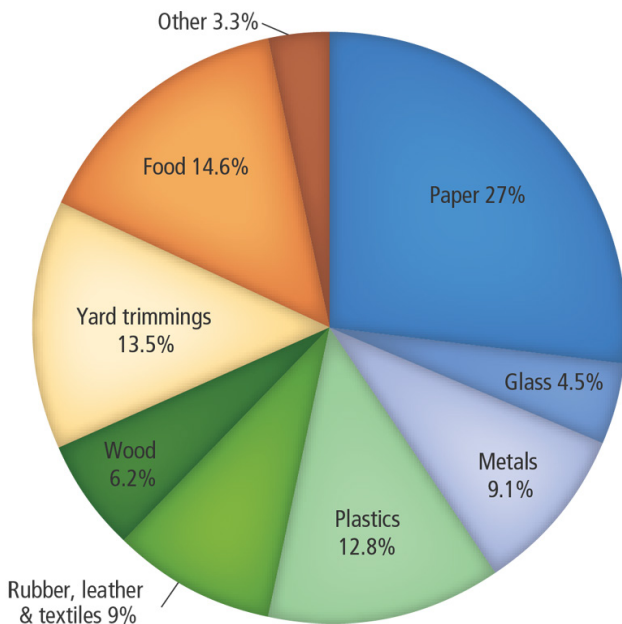


Background:

The City of Rochester has developed the Mixed Recycling program to make it easier for all members of the Rochester community to recycle. Mixed recycling refers to the process whereby recyclable materials do not need to be separated during disposal. For example, glass, paper, and aluminum can all be recycled in the same container.

Concept:

Recycling programs such as the Mixed Recycling Program are intended to keep recyclable material out of landfills. By not forcing the consumer to sort their recyclables, it is intended that recycling stream volumes will increase.



2013 Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Generation**

Did you know?

In 2011, New York set a goal to reduce MSW from 4.5 lb/person/day to 0.6 lb/person/day by 2031? - NYSDEC*

Key Statistics:

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in 2014 the amount of materials recycled or composted provided an annual reduction of CO₂ emissions comparable to the annual emissions of 38 million cars.

Did you know?

It is illegal not to recycle in the City of Rochester according to Section 20 of the Rochester City Code. To understand what can be done, refer to the next page.

Sources: *New York State Department of Environmental Protection (NYSDEC) - <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/47861.html>

**Photo Courtesy: United States Environmental Protection Agency

Recycling



TARGET GROUP	WHAT CAN I DO
All members of the Rochester Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be aware that it is required by law to recycle. Monetary fines can be levied for non-compliance. Be aware of what materials are and are not recyclable by viewing this list.
Developer, Landlord, Business Owners, Institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare a plan for source separation and collection of recyclables. Pickup may either be public or private but must abide with Chapter 20 Article IV of the Rochester City Code.
Homeowner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you do not have a recycling container, click here to request one from the City of Rochester. To find out when your recyclables will be picked up, click here.
Landlord 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be aware that you may apply for a waiver of primary responsibility for recycling by showing proof tenants have assumed this responsibility.
Tenant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirm whether your lease obligates you as the primary responsible party for recycling. Ask the landlord about recycling if it is not currently implemented in the apartment complex.

Use this link to view the full Recycling and Recyclables Code for the City of Rochester: [Rochester City Code - Chapter 20 Refuse Collection, Article IV Recycling and Recyclables](#)

To learn about the Mixed Recycling Program: [City of Rochester Mixed Recycling Program](#)

Compost



Background:

Currently in Rochester, food and organic waste go directly to the landfill. However, food and organic waste could be diverted from the landfill via composting. Composting is an environmentally preferable way to dispose of food or organic waste as it can be reused as fertilizer for soil treatment.

Concept:

Moisture, carbon, oxygen, and nitrogen are key factors involved in composting. At a residential scale, most people approach composting with simply a pile or a bin. On a commercial scale, composting can be aerated to expedite the process.

Key Statistic:

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) food scraps and yard waste currently make up 20 to 30 percent of waste and could be composted instead.



Did you know?

New York City (NYC) has a law which requires certain food industry businesses to separate their organic waste. NYC is also on its way towards providing all residents the option to use a “brown bin” to separate organics^{1,2}.



Sources: ¹<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/06/02/nyregion/compost-organic-recycling-new-york-city.html>

²<http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dsny/zerowaste/businesses/food-scraps-and-yard-waste.shtml>

³<http://www.seattle.gov/util/MyServices/Garbage/HouseResidentsGarbage/FoodWasteRequirements/index.htm>

Compost



TARGET GROUP	WHAT CAN I DO
<p>Developer, Landlord, Business Owners, Institutions</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While Monroe County has limited commercially viable composting facilities for food/organic waste (as of July 2015 only one facility was registered¹), on-site measures could be taken such as educational materials and small-scale composting bins. • Consider using private companies which will take food waste from commercial entities.
<p>Homeowner, Tenants</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider using private companies that will pickup compost. • Start your own composting bin on-site. Learn key information on how to compost through the EPA via this link.

Sources: ¹Monroe County Department of Environmental Services. July 2015. Final Local Solid Waste Management Plan.