



Multi-Family Recycling in Montgomery County Makes a Difference!

Every February 1st, multi-family properties in Montgomery County submit their Annual Recycling and Waste Reduction Report. This past February, 665 multi-family properties submitted their reports to the Division of Solid Waste Services (DSWS) for calendar year 2014. These field verified and approved reports show multi-family properties recycled an estimated 72,000 tons of mixed paper, commingled materials, scrap metal, yard trim, and Christmas trees during calendar year 2014.

Beyond helping the County work toward meeting its goal to reduce waste and recycle 70 percent of all waste generated by the year 2020, this recycling achievement has a significant beneficial impact upon our environment. By diverting these materials from the waste stream, multi-family properties saved energy and natural resources, and provided feedstocks for the manufacturing of recycled-content products. Entering the total reported amounts of mixed paper, commingled materials, scrap metal, and electronics recycled by all multi-family properties in 2014 into DSWS' Environmental Footprint Calculator (www.montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/footprint/), we see that multi-family properties helped save more than 200,000 trees, 2.7 million gallons of oil, 40 million hours of electricity, and 64 million gallons of water (see figure 1 below).

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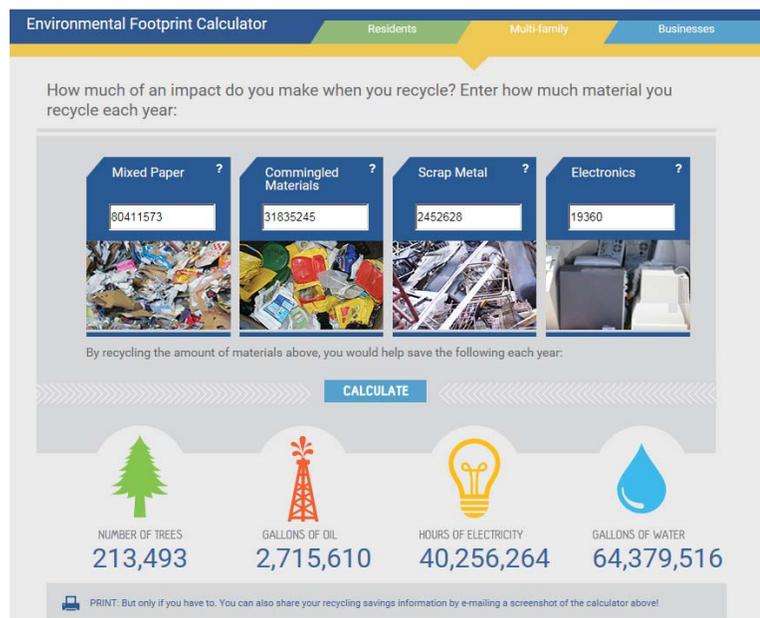


Figure 1. DSWS Environmental Footprint Calculator with Multi-Family results

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The 72,000 tons of materials recycled represents 28 percent of all waste generated by multi-family properties in the County in 2014. Last year, nearly 71 percent of all multi-family properties recycled more than 20 percent of their waste. This is a nine percentage point increase from 2013 and marks the seventh consecutive year of improvement in this category. (See figure 2) The average reported recycling rate for multi-family properties in the County is 30.5 percent. We also observed the continued decrease in the number of properties with the lowest recycling rates (i.e., less than 10 percent), which has dropped from a high of 182 properties in 2007 to 42 properties in 2014 (see figure 3).

While these trends are encouraging, there is still room for improvement. In order for Montgomery County to reach its recycling goal, we need everyone to recycle as much as they can. The goal of the TRRAC Program is to help and assist multi-family properties do just that.

Let us know how we can help your property.



Figure 2. Percentage of Properties exceeding 20% recycling rate on their annual reports

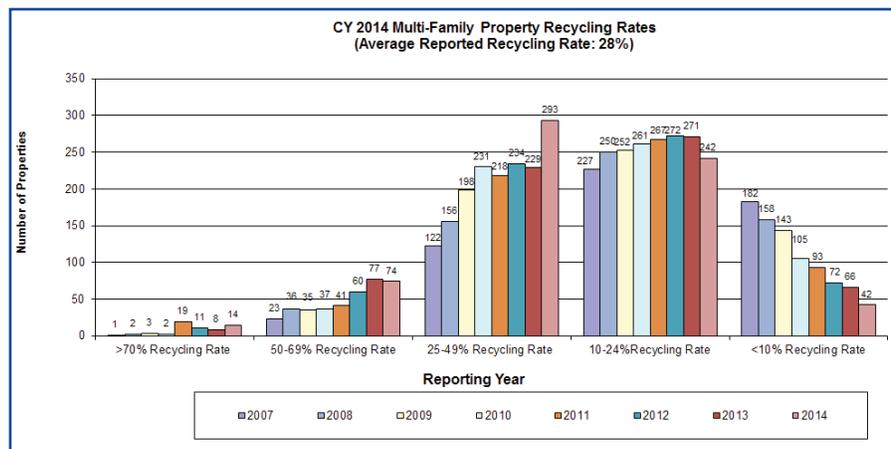


Figure 3. Multi-family property recycling rates, 2007-2014, as reported on annual recycling reports

New Bilingual Multi-Family Recycling Post Cards

The latest educational tool being offered by TRRAC is our new "Make a Difference in Your Community. Reduce Waste and Recycle 70% by 2020" post card. This two-sided, full-color postcard measures 12 inches long by 8 inches wide and provides photographs and descriptions of the five categories of materials that must be recycled in Montgomery County (Mixed Paper, Commingled Materials, Scrap Metal, Yard Trim, and Christmas Trees). All of the information and descriptions are in English on one side and Spanish on the other.

The large size and clear images and descriptions are designed to help residents quickly identify what is recyclable. Distribute these to your residents and encourage them to keep it on their refrigerator or bulletin board as a quick reference guide!

To order your postcards, contact David Frank, TRRAC Program Manager, at 240-777-6446 or david.frank@montgomerycountymd.gov.





RECYCLE MORE NOW!

Recycle 70% by 2020!

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES
WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING SECTION

Multi-Family Recycling Program

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County Recycling Center Tours: 301-417-1433



To receive this newsletter electronically, simply subscribe at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling.

This information is available in an alternative format by calling David Frank at 240-777-6446.



Please print on recycled and recyclable paper

Calendar of Events

Saturday, October 31, 2015

Paint Giveaway at the Transfer Station -
Final day for 2015

7:00am to 5:00pm

16101 Frederick Road

Derwood, MD 20855

Saturday, November 14, 2014

Community Paper Shredding & Recycling Event

10:00am to 2:00pm

Northwest High School

13501 Richter Farm Road

Germantown, MD 20874

Saturday, November 7, 2015

America Recycles Day Recycling/Composting
Information Display

11:00am to 3:00pm

Habitat for Humanity ReStore Silver Spring

12006 B Plum Orchard Drive

Silver Spring, MD 20904

Saturday, November 21, 2015

Montgomery County Thanksgiving Parade

10:00am to 12:00noon

Silver Spring Civic Building at Veterans Plaza

One Veterans Place

Silver Spring, MD 20910

