

Element 7 *Recycling*

The New Jersey Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act establishes a goal of fifty (50%) percent reduction of municipal solid waste and a sixty (60%) percent reduction of all solid waste through source separation and recycling. The Cape May County Solid Waste Management Plan was updated in December 2006 and sets forth designated recyclables within the County. In order to comply with State goals, each municipality is required to update the recycling element in its municipal master plan after adoption of a new recycling ordinance.

West Wildwood is committed to meeting the State's mandated recycling goals. Recycling will reduce the municipality's expense of solid waste disposal, conserve energy and valuable resources, extend the life of the Cape May County landfill, and has the potential to produce revenues from the sale of recyclable. In January 2008, the Borough adopted a new recycling ordinance in order to expand the list of Designated Recyclable Materials, consistent with the County Plan update.

Designated Recyclable Materials collected curbsides by the municipality (Category 1) include:

- Paper products
- Glass, metal and plastic (1 or 2) food and beverage containers
- Plastic bottles and jugs;
- Christmas trees, leaves, grass.

Fifteen other categories of Designated Recyclable Materials (Category 2) are to be recycled by the individual generator through drop-off programs offered by the Cape May County Municipal Utilities Authority (MUA). These include: all vegetative material; metals; electronic waste; motor, kerosene, and heating oil; wood pallets and crates; batteries; propane tanks; contaminated soil; commercial cooking grease; asphalt and concrete; auto and truck bodies; tires; used oil filters; anti-freeze; rechargeable and lead acid batteries.

The Category 1 recyclables are taken by the municipality (contract) to the Cape May County Municipal Utilities Authority's Recycling Center, where they are separated and marketed to end users. If the value of the recyclables is greater than the MUA's cost to process and market, West Wildwood receives a rebate check from the MUA.

It is mandatory for all residents, owners of commercial establishments as well as public entities within the Borough to separate Designated Recyclable Materials from all solid waste. The

Mandatory Recycling Ordinance sets forth the regulations relative to whom, when, where, and how materials are collected. Enforcement regulations are also set forth in the Ordinance.

Recycling education will take place at least two times per year by the municipality. For multi-family units, including condominium complexes and motels, the management or owner is responsible for setting up and maintaining the recycling system. Notification to guests or owners shall be issued at least every six months by the owner or manager.

Recycling compliance is the responsibility of each residential or commercial property owner. Any Category 2 materials generated within the Borough that are recycled, must be reported quarterly by the generator.

New developments of at least three (3) single family homes, or any commercial development of 1,000 square feet or more, requires a recycling plan as part of a planning board application. The plan must include a detailed analysis of the expected composition and amounts of solid waste and recyclables generated at the proposed development. The plan must also include locations on the site plan where recycling will be stored so that the Recycling Coordinator can ensure sufficient size, convenient location, other attributes such as signage that will lead to a successful recycling program.

In addition, prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy, a hauling contract for the collection of recyclables must be provided if the Borough does not provide such service.

Any other construction or demolition that takes place in the Borough must also submit a Designated Recyclables Material plan. The plan addresses how material will be collected and transported to a recycling facility during construction.

Enforcement of the Mandatory Recycling Ordinance is carried out by the Municipal Recycling Coordinator and the Public Works Supervisor. The Cape May County Health Department is also empowered to enforce the Ordinance.