

# Chicago Recycling Ordinance- *Update*

September 2016



# Residential Recycling

## City of Chicago

### Blue Cart Recycling

Is available to all low-density residential households in the City of Chicago.

- **Who**
  - Single Family Homes
  - Buildings with 4 units or less who currently receive City trash pickup
- **What**
  - Single stream/separate collection
  - Approximately, 100,000 tons per year
- **When**
  - It is now a city-wide program
  - Completed expansions in October 2013
  - Collections are EVERY OTHER WEEK



# Managed Competition

- Since October 2011, recycling has been collected by both private contractors and DSS
- Goal: reduce program costs
- Results: it has saved tax payer dollars and improved (city) crew performance
- Reduced cost collections by \$12M annually



# Recycling Ordinance

- The existing ordinance is over 20 years old, dates back to early 1990's.
- Covers multi-unit residential, retail, & office buildings- essentially, anyone with private garbage/recycling service.
- Recommended source separated recycling- **did not require it.**
- Allowed for post-collection recycling.
- Required education/info for residents.



# Recycling Ordinance- Update

- Requires separate recycling collection.
- Requires education/signage for residents.
- Eliminates post-collection recycling- blue bag recycling.
- Requires 30-day compliance upon inspection.
- Updates fines to \$500-\$5000, with three tiers of enforcement



# Single Stream Recycling:

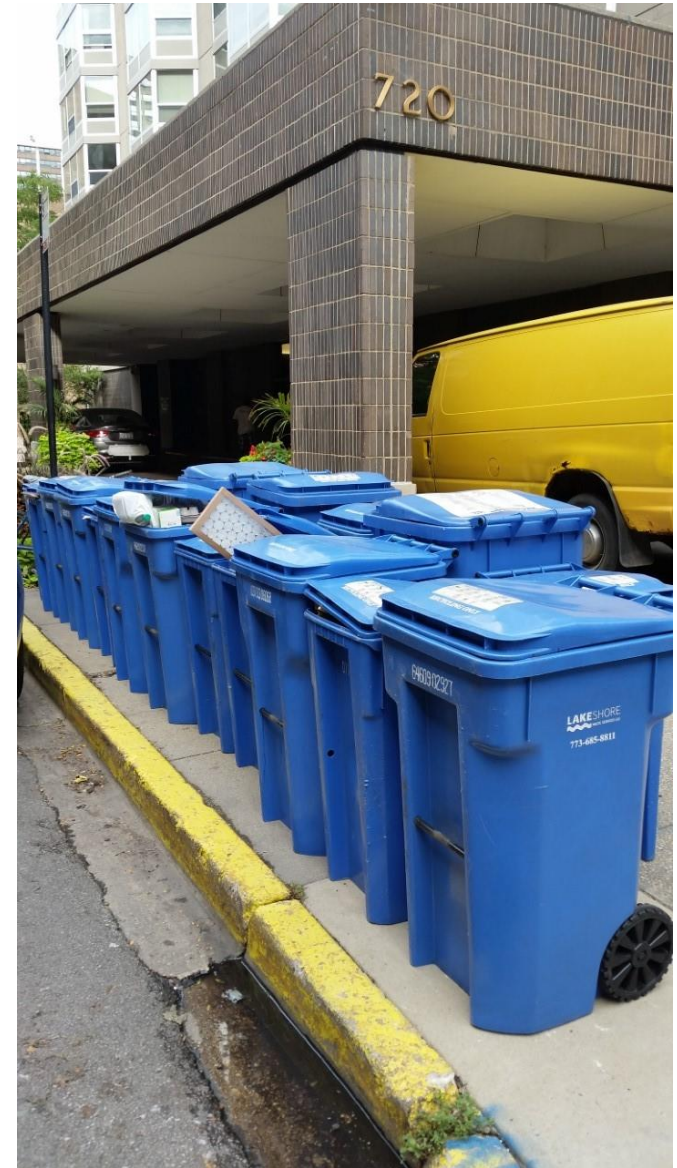
- All recyclables placed together, no sorting or special bags needed.
- The industry standard.
- Increased recycling rates and yields that average 30 percent above those from previous recycling programs.





# Multi-unit Residential Example:

- Condo Building- in Uptown 700 West XXX (built 1967).
- 22 floors/268 condo units.
- Recycling service, 2x a week.
- Single Stream, cart system per floor
- Monthly refuse charge: \$1,512
- Monthly recycling charge: \$264



# Household Chemicals & Computer Recycling Facility

Location: 1150 N. North Branch

**Chemicals** - bleach, drain cleaner, batteries, oil-based paints, solvents, medications, fluorescent light bulbs, antifreeze, motor oil, herbicides, pesticides, propane tanks, mercury, small fire extinguishers

**Electronics** - cell phones, computers, fax machines, scanners, printers, TVs, DVD players, zip drives, PDAs, computer cables

**Hours:** Tues 7a-12p & Thurs 2p-7p

First Saturday each month, 8a-3p





# Additional Recycling Initiatives

## Pharmaceuticals

Bring your old or unused prescription or over the counter medications to any Chicago Police Department area headquarters, open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week



# Info Resources:

311 or 312-744-2413

[www.chicagorecycles.org](http://www.chicagorecycles.org)

*[New Educational Website](http://www.recyclebycity.com/Chicago)*

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Questions?