Waste Management
Boston Green Tourism

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THINK GREEN®
Global Recycling Industry Developments

Ministry of Environmental Protection of the People’s Republic of China (MEP) Informed the World Trade Organization of Its New Waste Policies

Changes to China’s Import Policies Effective 1/1/2018

1) Ban the import of 24 recyclable commodities
   - Mixed paper
   - Mixed plastics (3-7s)

2) Reduce contamination threshold to .5% [3/1/18]
   - Industry standard set by Institute for Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI) is 1.5% - 5% depending upon the grade

3) Suspend all new import license approvals
   - Limit flow of material by restricting the issuance of required import licenses to mills
Global Recycling Industry Developments

Expect Volatility in 2018

1) China is the largest importer of recyclables in the world
   - 50% of the global recyclable paper, plastics and metals waste (2016)
   - European Union exports over 95% of its plastic to China
   - US and EU are the largest importers of paper grades into China

2) China is the single largest consumer of recyclable materials generated in North America
   - 1/3 of all scrap material collected in the US is shipped overseas, with the large majority of this material going to China
Global Recycling Industry Developments

Global/Local Impacts and POA

1) Manufacturers debate using raw vs recyclable materials
2) Taxes and bans considered on some plastics
3) Commodities market downslide
4) Assessment of product design to disposal for recyclability
5) Stockpiling, burning or landfilling recyclables
6) Diversify end markets
7) QUALITY: Technological improvements and consumer education
Waste Management

Accountability and Action: Mitigating Impact to Customers

1) Reduce contamination at the point of collection and tipping by drivers and load operators evaluating material

2) Sort more types of plastics at MRFs to reduce the amount of mixed plastics banned

3) Educate and communicate contamination issues to all waste generators and handlers
Contaminant-Free Recyclables

New England Communities and Competitors

1) Ecomaine (recycling co. in ME) now charging $40-$70 per ton for contamination
   http://www.dailybulldog.com/db/features/town-faces-extra-costs-if-recycling-trends-continue/comment-page-1/#comments

2) ABC Disposal threatens to stop collecting recyclables from several MA towns effective July 1st unless towns cover the increased costs of recycling

3) Republic Services no longer collecting bagged recyclables or contaminated recycling

4) Casella Recycling no longer accepting recyclables in plastic bags as of 1/1/19

5) Falmouth $$ recycling https://www.capenews.net/regional_news/stricter-chinese-policies-boost-cost-of-recycling/article_77ea8039-1e78-51fb-8ab2-d79209741fe0.html

6) Russel Disposal requests Wilmington share cost increase
Contaminant-Free Recycling

Current Signage

RECYCLABLE CONTAINERS MUST BE EMPTY AND DRY, NO LIQUID OR FOOD WASTE RESIDUE PERMITTED, NO BAGGED RECYCLABLES

- Steel, Tin & Aluminum Cans
- Plastic Bottles & Containers 1, 2 & 5
- Office Paper, Brown Paper Bags, Newspapers, Magazines & Junk Mail
- Paper Cardboard Dairy & Juice Containers
- Flattened Cardboard & Paperboard
- Glass Bottles & Jars
- DO NOT INCLUDE: Plastic bags, recyclables bagged in plastic bags, food waste or polystyrene foam/plastics #6 and other plastics #3, 4 & 5

NO INCLUYES: Bolsas de plástico, bolsas de basura y piezas de goma de poliestireno

For a complete list of accepted recyclable materials, please visit: http://RecycleOftenRecycleRight.com

Single-Stream Recycling
Reciclaje de corriente única

Most Common Contaminants
Keep these common contaminants OUT of your recycling bin.

- NO Recyclables in Plastic Bags
- NO Food & Liquids
- NO Electronics & Small Appliances
- NO Textiles, Bedding, Rugs & Carpet
- NO Hoses, Lights, Hangers & Cords
- NO Plastic Bags, Film, Sheeting & Flexible Film Packaging
- NO Paper Napkins, Plates, Cups & Tissues
- NO Polystyrene Foam

DO NOT INCLUDE: Plastic bags, recyclables bagged in plastic bags, food waste or polystyrene foam/plastics #6 and other plastics #3, 4 & 5

For more information on recycling, visit RecycleOftenRecycleRight.com or call 1-800-972-4046

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