

# 2016 RECYCLING GUIDE AND CURBSIDE COLLECTION GUIDE

## CURBSIDE COLLECTION

### CONTAINERS

Containers used for single-stream collection in the MCIA's program include:

- A rectangular blue container with lid
- A round blue container

Write your name and address on the containers. Place your recyclables in the containers and put the containers out on the curb before 6 a.m. on your collection day.

**Collection times are subject to change, and all materials must be ready for pick-up by 6 a.m.**

### NOT ACCEPTED!

- Recyclables in plastic bags
- Recyclables in containers not at the curb, such as those left near the house, garage or at the top of the driveway

**Replacement Containers:** If your containers are lost, stolen or broken, replacement containers can be purchased from your municipal recycling coordinator. The phone number is listed in the municipal section of this brochure. We sell these containers to your municipality at the same price we pay the manufacturer.

**New Residents:** Contact your municipal recycling coordinator within three months of moving in to obtain free containers. Contact numbers can be found in the municipal section of this brochure.

## THE NEW REUSE-IT BOOK

The New Reuse-It Book is a guide to area locations where Middlesex County residents can freecycle or donate their unwanted goods for reuse. The MCIA has made this most recent edition available online at [www.mciauth.com](http://www.mciauth.com) for anyone who would like electronic access to the most up-to-date information. If interested in a free printed copy or possible inclusion in the next edition, contact MCIA Public Information Officer Maria Prato by emailing [mp@mciauth.com](mailto:mp@mciauth.com).

## E-CYCLING

By law, most consumer electronics, including personal computers (desktops and laptops), monitors, keyboards, scanners, modems, printers, cables and televisions are not allowed in the trash. Check with your municipality's Department of Public Works to inquire if they maintain a recycling drop-off and if these items are acceptable. For additional drop off locations, please contact the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection at (866) 337-5669 or the Middlesex County Division of Solid Waste Management at (732) 745-4170.

## ACCEPTED RECYCLABLE ITEMS

### NEWSPAPER & MIXED PAPER

Newspaper, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, brown paper bags, nonmetallic wrapping paper, office records, computer paper, file folders, receipts, telephone books, softcover books, hardcover books, greeting cards, paperboard, such as non-wax-coated food and cereal boxes, pizza boxes, tissue boxes, shoe boxes and gift boxes.

If you have more newspaper and mixed paper than you can fit in your container, place the overflow in brown paper grocery bags (not plastic grocery bags). Additional newspaper may be bundled, tied and placed next to your container.

### NOT ACCEPTED!

- Newspaper and mixed paper in plastic bags or paper leaf bags

### CARDBOARD/PAPERBOARD

Corrugated cardboard, layered cardboard with a center that is shaped into ridges, folds or grooves (such as shipping boxes and the packaging for most appliances or larger household items). **Flatten, bundle and securely tie the cardboard and tie the sheets into stacks no larger than 48 inches square and 12 inches high. These items may be placed next to recycling containers.**

### NOT ACCEPTED!

- Cardboard in bundles larger than 48 inches square
- Cardboard in plastic bags

*NOTE: The maximum number of recycling bundles of cardboard and/or paper bags of mixed paper that the collector will pick up from individual households, each collection, is six (6).*

### CANS, BOTTLES AND PLASTIC

#### COMMINGLED RECYCLABLES

Place metal cans, glass and plastic bottles in an appropriate container. Any overflow can be placed in your own unlidded plastic or metal container (no larger than 32 gallons in capacity or exceeding 50 pounds in weight). **Please do not overflow containers.**

**Metal:** Tin, steel, aluminum and bimetal cans (such as soda, beer, canned pet food, soup and tuna cans). Rinse the cans and crush them to maximize capacity. We take the lids too.

**Glass:** Glass bottles and jars of all colors (such as juice, soda, beer and liquor bottles, mayonnaise and spaghetti sauce jars). Rinse the bottles and jars. Remove and dispose of lids.

**Plastic:** #1 PETE and #2 HDPE containers (such as milk and juice jugs, water bottles, laundry detergent, shampoo and soda bottles). Check the bottom of the container to make sure the plastic is either #1 PETE or #2 HDPE. Rinse the containers and crush them to maximize capacity. Remove and dispose of caps.

### NOT ACCEPTED!

- drinking glasses
- window glass
- mirrors
- Pyrex® glassware
- light bulbs
- plastic toys
- plastic packaging
- aluminum foil
- gardening or garage plastics
- polystyrene or Styrofoam™ (such as plastic cups or food trays)

## RECYCLING SERVICE INFORMATION

(800) 488-6242 (MCIA)

Municipal recycling schedules available at

[www.mciauth.com](http://www.mciauth.com)

### MCIA DIVISION OF RECYCLING

55 Edgeboro Road  
East Brunswick, NJ 08816

Phone: (800) 488-MCIA

Fax: (732) 628-0338

Email: [mciarecycling@mciauth.com](mailto:mciarecycling@mciauth.com)

Edward J. Windas, *Recycling Manager*

### MCIA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

101 Interchange Plaza Ste. 202  
Cranbury, NJ 08512

Phone: (609) 655-5141

Fax: (609) 655-4748

Email: [mciaadmin@mciauth.com](mailto:mciaadmin@mciauth.com)

Website: [www.mciauth.com](http://www.mciauth.com)

### MCIA BOARD

Leonard J. Roseman, *Chairman*

Robert J. Mantz

Jacque Eaker

Anthony Raczynski

Camille Fernicola

Richard Pucci, *Executive Director*

Carol Bellante, *Freeholder & MCIA Liaison*

### MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

Ronald G. Rios, *Freeholder Director*

Carol Bellante, *Deputy Freeholder Director*

Kenneth Armwood

Charles Kenny

H. James Polos

Charles E. Tomaro

Blanquita B. Valenti

*Requests for assistance or materials in alternate formats should be directed to*

**Maria Prato** by phone at (609) 655-5141, through the New Jersey Relay Service at (800) 852-7899 or by email at [mp@mciauth.com](mailto:mp@mciauth.com).

# Middlesex County

SINGLE-STREAM  
COLLECTION INFORMATION INSIDE



Art rendered by fourth-grader Angelina Xu of East Brunswick.

## SOUTH AMBOY

# 2016



# Recycling Guide

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

As of March 30, 2015, the Middlesex County Improvement Authority has transitioned to single-stream recycling collection. Now all curbside recyclable items, such as bottles, cans, paper and small flat cardboard can be mixed together in a single recycling container as they are kept separate from trash.

**FRIDAYS**

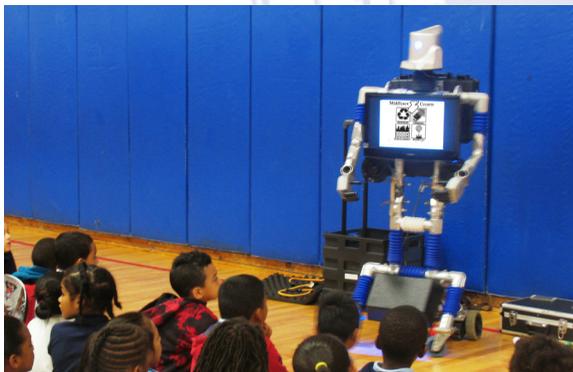
**CURBSIDE COLLECTION SCHEDULE**

January	*2 • 15 • 29	July	1 • 15 • 29
February	12 • 26	August	12 • 26
March	11 • 25	September	9 • 23
April	8 • 22	October	7 • 21
May	6 • 20	November	4 • 18
June	3 • 17	December	2 • 16 • 30

\*New Year's Day: January 1 changed to January 2.

**NOTE:** Municipal Public Works holidays do NOT affect the recycling collection schedule.

thank you...  
for your commitment to recycling and for helping to make Middlesex County a New Jersey recycling leader.



**IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

(732) 721-8100

Department of Public Works-Recycling

**Recycling Hotline: (800) 488-6242 (MCIA)** for curbside recycling collection, service matters & general information.

**WEATHER EMERGENCIES**

Check with the DPW at (732) 721-8100 for changes in collection schedules due to weather emergencies or other emergency situations. You may also check for changes on the website at www.mciauth.com or by calling (800) 488-6242 (MCIA) for specific information.

**MUNICIPAL PROGRAMS**

Please refer to your municipal contacts for information on consumer electronics and yard-waste disposal. For further details on consumer electronics drop-off sites, contact the Department of Environmental Protection at 1-866-337-5669 or at www.nj.gov/dep.

**COUNTY PROGRAMS**

Please refer to the MCIA staff at 1-800-488-6242 (MCIA) or at www.mciauth.com for more information on:

- Household Hazardous Waste
- Compost Bins
- Tire Disposal
- Paint Drop Off
- Paper Shredding

**THE NEW REUSE-IT BOOK**

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*M.C. Blue has counted more than 100,000 Middlesex County residents and visitors among his audience-goers since 1995.*

“Middlesex County is definitely eco-friendly, as a result of the variety of recycling programs offered to residents: curbside programs for paper, newspaper, cardboard, cans and glass, as well as yard waste, grass, household hazardous waste, paint, paper shredding and tires.”

-Carol Bellante,  
Freeholder & MCIA Liaison

**CUT IT AND LEAVE IT**

**“GRASSCYCLE” FOR A HEALTHIER LAWN:** Leave short grass clippings on the lawn rather than bagging them and dragging them to the curb.

**SAVES YOU TIME, MONEY & YOUR TOWN'S MONEY!** Experts say 35 percent of our lawn-care time is spent getting rid of clippings. Grasscycled lawns need less water and fertilizer, and you don't have to buy lawn waste bags. Your town also saves the disposal cost of your lawn clippings.

**GRASSCYCLING WORKS BECAUSE:**

- Short clippings act as a natural fertilizer, shelter tender grass roots from the sun and conserve moisture. The result is a healthier greener lawn.
- Grasscycled lawns are more resistant to weeds and certain lawn diseases.
- Grasscycling does not cause thatch. Short clippings decompose in a few days. Thatch – dead grass roots and stems – is the result of overwatering, overfertilizing and cutting your lawn too short.

Call (800) 488-6242 (MCIA) for a brochure. For information on grasscycling, call Rutgers Cooperative Extension at (732) 398-5220 or visit [www.rce.rutgers.edu](http://www.rce.rutgers.edu).

**SCHOOL BOOK RECYCLING**

Students throughout the County are getting hands-on recycling education with the introduction of a book recycling program, sponsored by the MCIA and the County. Outdated hardcover and softcover books that can no longer be used, sold or given away are being recycled in this program. The recycling processor pays for each ton recycled. This program is not for residential use.

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**WHAT IF MY COLLECTION DAY FALLS ON A HOLIDAY?**

If your collection day falls on any of these holidays - New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving or Christmas - collection is rescheduled for the following Saturday. Check your municipal collection schedule in this brochure for specific dates.

Recycling collection is *not affected* by municipal public works holidays such as Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Lincoln's Birthday, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Columbus Day, Election Day or Veterans Day. Recycling collections will take place on those days.

**WHAT DO THE STICKERS ON MY RECYCLABLE ITEMS MEAN?**

These are rejection stickers. The most common reasons for rejection are:

- Trash mixed in with recyclables
- Containers larger than 32 gallons
- Recyclables in plastic bags
- Cardboard not properly prepared

Only recyclables that are properly prepared will be collected.

**WHAT IF MY RECYCLABLES WERE NOT COLLECTED?**

Your recyclables should be placed curbside the night before your scheduled pick-up or by 6 a.m. on the day of the pick-up. Collection times are subject to change, and all material must be ready for pick-up by 6 a.m.

If your recyclables were out at the curb on time and were not collected, leave the recycling at the curb and call us within 24 hours. If you delay calling, your recyclables may not be picked up until your next collection date.

**COMMUNITY EDUCATION**

As part of our commitment to protect the environment and promote good recycling practices, the MCIA Education Department offers free recycling presentations to schools, civic and business organizations, senior groups and more.

We now have the latest version of M.C. Blue, the County's fully recyclable robot. Accompanied by an MCIA representative, M.C. Blue is the star of the recycling programs. He has both audio and video capabilities and his presentations are entertaining, as well as educational.

**Offerings:**

- “Planet Beauty” pre-K to grade 2
- “Recycle It or Not” pre-K to grade 2 or grades 3-6
- “Recycling Trivia Challenge” grades 3-6 or adult
- “Recycling Show & Tell” grade 3 - adult
- “Energy: Less is More” grades 3-6
- “Recycling & the Landfill” high school and adult

Bookings are on a first-come, first-serve basis. For information and reservations, call the MCIA Education Office at 609-409-5033 or email [ja@mciauth.com](mailto:ja@mciauth.com).