

THE CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE

Recycling Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Why and how is recycling so good for the environment?

A. Significant energy and natural resources are used to make the products and packaging we utilize every day. When these products are recycled, the energy and resources embodied in the products is not wasted and greenhouse gas emissions are reduced.

Q. Am I legally required to recycle?

A. Yes. City Ordinance requires it as well as State Law.

Q. Why does the City of Poughkeepsie require me to recycle?

A. Recycling is required for several reasons. It is good for the environment and it saves money. Disposing of trash costs \$79 a ton while recyclables cost the City \$0.

Q. What can be recycled?

A. Glass bottles and jars; plastics #1 - #7; metal cans and aluminum cans; foil and foil pans; corrugated cardboard; coated and non-coated flat cardboard (cereal boxes, gift boxes, beverage cartons, etc.). No plastic bags are to be placed in the recycle bin.

Newspapers, catalogs, magazines and loose paper (including junk mail): They can be placed in the recycle bin, placed in paper bags or bundled with string. No plastic bags are to be placed in the bin.

Yard Waste: collected Wednesdays from April through November and it is composted. Yard waste is defined as grass clippings, leaves and branches/twigs less than 2 inches in diameter and less than 3 feet in length and must be in either biodegradable bags, clean garbage cans, or bundled and tied.

Please bring the following items directly to the transfer station. Fees may apply to certain items.

- Electronics including computers, computer components, televisions, etc.
- Household items such as furniture, rugs, mattresses, etc.
- Construction debris - windows, doors, cabinets, sheetrock, wood, sinks, etc.
- Tires
- Propane tanks

Q. If it costs less to get rid of recyclables than trash how does this save ME money?

A. Your tax dollars are used to pay for these fees. The budget is built with these fees included. A 10% reduction in trash disposal due to an increase in recycling results in a savings of \$102,000 that equates to about three-quarters (3/4) of a percent of the property tax.

Q. The lower the cost, the less the City needs to budget so that means I pay less in taxes?

A. Yes and recycling is easy to do.

Q. What are the consequences if I don't recycle?

A. City Ordinance provides that if trash and recyclables are mixed together, it does not have to be collected and a large fine can be issued.

Q. Who do I call for additional information?

A. Call the Recycling Coordinator's office at 451-4050 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday-Friday for recycling questions.

Call the City of Poughkeepsie Transfer Station at 451-4108 during operation hours from 7:00 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Monday - Friday and 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Saturdays for questions relating to the fees and operation of the Transfer Station at 26 Howard Street.

REMEMBER THE THREE **R**'S:

Reduce,
Reuse,
Recycle

City of Poughkeepsie Department of Public Works
26 Howard Street
Poughkeepsie, New York 12601
Recycling Coordinator: 451.4050
Transfer Station: 451.4108