

# COMMERCIAL RECYCLING

## Dear Business Community Member,

Philadelphia is taking commercial recycling to a whole new level. As we work to become America's Greenest City, we are calling on the entire Philadelphia business community to do its part. Not just because it's the law, but because Philadelphia's city-wide recycling program helps fund programs that will make our city a more beautiful, robust, tourist-friendly destination, which will be a major benefit to the entire business community.

Please take a moment to review this brochure. It will help you implement a sustainable recycling plan for your business, familiarize you with some of the many benefits of commercial recycling, and offer a few simple suggestions to help you comply.

For more in-depth information on business recycling, please view the Commercial Recycling Handbook prepared by the Philadelphia Recycling Office and posted on our web site. Simply go to [PhillyRecyclingPAYS.com](http://PhillyRecyclingPAYS.com) and follow the Commercial link to the handbook.

Recycling is required under Pennsylvania Act 101. You'll be gratified to know that the effort made by your business to recycle will help move Philadelphia to the forefront of sustainability and closer to the goal of "Greenest City." That's the ambitious mission of Greenworks Philadelphia, the group charged with developing the framework to face the challenges and opportunities created by environmental and energy demands, and repositioning Philadelphia for the 21st century as the City of the Future.

The Philadelphia Recycling Office is available to answer questions at (215) 685-RECYCLE (7329), or contact the City's non-emergency call center at 311. You can also visit [PhillyRecyclingPAYS.com](http://PhillyRecyclingPAYS.com) and view Frequently Asked Questions. Upcoming informational workshop dates will be posted shortly so check the web site for registration information.

Thank you for sharing in our common environmental concerns.

Sincerely,  
HONORABLE MICHAEL A. NUTTER  
Mayor

CLARENA I. W. TOLSON  
Streets Commissioner



Philadelphia Streets Department  
Recycling Unit – Commercial Recycling  
780 Municipal Services Building  
Philadelphia, Pa 19102

PHILADELPHIA  
RECYCLING

IT'S GOOD BUSINESS  
TO HELP MAKE  
PHILADELPHIA  
AMERICA'S  
GREENEST CITY



## GREEN MEANS GROWTH

Philadelphia Recycling has entered a new era, with meaningful and long-lasting benefits for everyone. Recycling is good for the environment, helps create jobs, funds city programs and fuels the economy. And most importantly, it's good for you and your business.

Regular and proper commercial recycling may lower your waste disposal costs. Revenue from some recycled materials may offset costly hauling charges. Practicing green policies in a more eco-conscious world enhances your image with your customers and sets the right example for your employees or tenants.

Start by putting a workable recycling plan in place, and do your part to help Philadelphia become America's Greenest City.

## RECYCLING IS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT

Store owners, manufacturers, contractors, office workers, tenants, landlords – everyone connected to a commercial facility – should develop good recycling habits. It's not just the right thing to do; it's the law. This law applies to all Philadelphia businesses, is enforced by SWEEP Officers (Streets and Walkways Education & Enforcement Program), and carries penalties for non-compliance up to \$300 per day per violation. But fortunately, those penalties are so easy to avoid!

## GETTING STARTED

Philadelphia recycling laws require all city commercial properties to:

- Create a Recycling Plan for each building and submit it to the Philadelphia Recycling office via an electronic form available at [PhillyRecyclingPAYS.com](http://PhillyRecyclingPAYS.com) or visit us at [www.phila.gov/streets/CRPlan](http://www.phila.gov/streets/CRPlan) to file the form online.
- Publicly post your Recycling Plan and give a copy to all employees/tenants.
- Offer suitable containers for the collection and storage of recyclables.
- Keep facility occupants informed of recycling expectations, changes, results, etc.
- Arrange for collection by a properly licensed hauler or recycling company.
- Put out recyclables at the proper time and location; maintain sanitary conditions.

*"Businesses can go a long way toward helping themselves, the city and the environment by implementing a well-designed recycling plan."*

~ Clarena I. W. Tolson

## WHAT TO RECYCLE

COMMERCIAL or COMMERCIAL RESIDENTIAL Properties with more than six units are required to file a commercial solid waste and recycling plan indicating which materials from those listed below are generated within the normal daily operation of the business, and must therefore be recycled.

- Office paper, newsprint and mixed paper
- Corrugated cardboard, glass food and beverage containers
- Plastic containers (#1 and #2)
- Aluminum (including cans), steel and bimetal cans, ferrous metals and nonferrous metals
- Grindable and non-grindable garbage/food waste
- Concrete, sand, gravel, lumber/other wood
- Plaster, drywall, gypsum roofing materials
- Yard waste and motor oils

## SUCCESS THROUGH COOPERATION

Let's all work together to make commercial recycling a great Philadelphia tradition. It's the right thing to do. And, remember, it's a law that will be enforced!

For specific information or to arrange a recycling presentation for your Business Association, contact Robin Geller at [robin.geller@phila.gov](mailto:robin.geller@phila.gov) or at 215-686-5586. For general information and frequently asked questions, go to [PhillyRecyclingPAYS.com](http://PhillyRecyclingPAYS.com) and follow the "Commercial" link.



**BE PART OF THE  
MOVEMENT TO MAKE  
PHILADELPHIA  
AMERICA'S  
GREENEST CITY!**

