THE STATE OF RECYCLING - 2017 UPDATE

A public service of the Churchill Area Environmental Council (CAEC) 2300 William Penn Highway, Pittsburgh PA 15235



The state of recycling is in constant flux due to changing economics. This is an update of previous CAEC advisories, with added material on new, <u>LOCAL</u> opportunities to recycle items from inside your house as well as from your lawn and garden. NOTE: Before making special trips to recycling centers listed below, <u>phone or visit the listed web site</u> to get the most timely, accurate information.

CURBSIDE RECYCLING: Pennsylvania Act 101, the "Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling, and Waste Reduction Act" mandates curbside recycling of at least three commodities in municipalities with more than 5,000 residents. In our area Forest Hills and Wilkins fall within that requirement and Churchill has begun voluntary participation. Curbside recycling, where it is offered, may include paper, flattened cardboard, steel and aluminum cans, glass containers, and plastic types 1 through 5 (see the bottom of the object). For specific information on curbside recycling in your municipality, including periodic leaf collection in the fall and garden waste during summer, consult your local newsletter or go to:

Chalfant

www.tcvcog.com/ChalfantBorough.html 412-823-6500

Churchill

www.churchillborough.com (click on "Garbage Collection...") 412-241-7113

Forest Hills

www.foresthillspa.org (click on "Environmental Issues") 412-351-7330

Wilkins

www.wilkinstownship.com (click on "Services and Utilities") 412-824-6650

RECYCLING BEYOND CURBSIDE: What follows is a list of items, perhaps not picked up at curbside, but easily recycled at convenient locations in our area. IMPORTANT: Some regional organizations and agencies hold periodic events to collect recycling items for which there may be no everyday drop-off facility nearby, or for items particularly dangerous or illegal to dispose of via the ordinary trash stream. The "Resources" section at the end of this flier lists such organizations/agencies and their web sites. NOTE: Rarely, a group may sponsor a "free" hazardous waste "fund raiser." Be wary! Items collected at such drives may be shipped to third world countries and end up as contaminants. Proper handling of such waste is expensive. Responsible non-profit sponsors will charge a modest fee to cover the cost of safe, legal disposal.

State Senator Jay Costa sponsors several shredding events each year. Call his office at 412-241-6690 for details and to add your contact information for direct mail notices.

Construction Junction (CJ) 214 N. Lexington St. Homewood 412-243-5025

<<u>constructionjunction.org</u>> CJ accepts donations of used and surplus building materials. They must be clean and in working order.

Cabinets

Doors

Plumbing fixtures (incl. Commodes)

Concrete mix & block

Glass block

Tiles

Hardware

Counter tops

Insulation

Shingles/Siding

Carpet

Light fixtures

For a complete list of items that can (or cannot) be donated and condition requirements, go to: http://www.constructionjunction.org/pages/donate

Because CJ receives hundreds of items weekly, you <u>must call</u> and discuss your donation with staff before taking it in or arranging a pick up. They inspect all donations and reserve the right to reject items that cannot be resold or are currently overstocked.

Free pickup is available at no charge for large donations approved in advance. An itemized receipt of your donations is provided for tax purposes. You assign the value.

Recycle most "throwaways" on the CJ parking lot any day. There are separate bins for paper, flattened corrugated cardboard, paperboard (e.g. cereal boxes), telephone directories, books (including hard cover books and magazines), glass containers, metal cans, and plastics types 1-5.

A-1 PC (formerly Hi-Tech Recyclers) 400 N. Lexington St. Homewood 15208 412-731-5805 8 AM - 7 PM Monday - Friday; special drop offs with prior phone arrangements.

*computers (desk, lap top, and Apple/Mac all-in-one types); no charge for the all-in-ones.

*computer peripherals, e.g. cords

*old stereo equipment (VCRs and DVD players).

Will NOT take CRT monitors, TVs, computer discs, CDs, DVDs. Call before going to be sure someone is there and to verify that your items are acceptable. Fees may apply.

Goodwill Industries 412-481-9005

Monroeville Centers (3801 Wm Penn Highway and Monroeville Blvd.) 412-856-9840 accept clothing, small appliances, house wares, and furniture in condition for re-sale. South Side location (2700 East Carson St. 412-431-1539) also accepts most computers. No pickup available for most donations.

Pennsylvania Resources Council (PRC) 64 S. 14th & Sarah Sts. (South Side) 412-488-7490 ≤prc.org> For information about "hard to recycle events" go to prc.org/community collections.html PRC also hosts household hazardous waste (HHW) collections for modest fees. HHW is any product that has words like CAUTION, WARNING, POISON, OR FLAMMABLE on the label and must be disposed of properly (not put in the trash). PRC has a handbook on HHW as well as brochures with information specific to safeguarding seniors, children, home, and pets.

Pittsburgh Center for Creative Reuse 214 N. Lexington St. Homewood 15208 412-473-0100 <pccr.org> Read donation guide on the website plus other information about what and how to donate. Specializes in unique, affordable materials for creative projects at home, school, or office. Open everyday 11AM - 6PM.

Southwestern Pa Household Hazardous Waste Task Force 412-488-7452 <a hre

RECYCLING SPECIAL ITEMS: Local places below take "hard to recycle" items. **Appliances:**

The Appliance Warehouse <u>appliancewarehouse.com</u> 412-381-8800, 523 Bingham St., Pgh PA 15203. Call ahead. Free of charge for drop-offs; fees for curbside or inside-house pickup. (also see Metal Scrap listing below).

Duquesne Lt. Watt Choices <wattchoices.com> 1-800-257-2510 will pick up working refrigerator/freezers FREE and may even pay \$35 each (limited program; call ahead).
 Josh Steel Co. (46 Sixth St., Braddock PA 15104, 412-351-3500) accepts (and may pay for) most metal scrap and all NON-FREON appliances

Batteries:

Forest Hills Borough Office (2071 Ardmore Blvd.) - all types of household batteries! Home Depot (Wm. Penn H'wy) 412-824-9406 - Rechargeable batteries only.

Tyke's Service Station (2531 Greensburg Pike)-vehicle batteries (no fee). 412-241-9547 Batteries + Bulbs (Wm. Penn H'wy opposite Penn Center) 412-380-1388 accepts most household batteries, CFLs and flourescent tube lamps, fees may apply. Bicycles:

Free Ride Pittsburgh (214 N. Lexington St., next to Construc. Junct.) 412-473-0100

Books:

Half Price Books (3757 Wm Penn Highway, Monroeville) 412-856-1949. Also accepts games, music, movies. Call ahead.

C. C. Mellor Library (1 Pennwood Av. Edgewood) 412-731-0909. Call ahead; they generally accept donations as well as books for recycling; no magazines.

Cars, Trucks, Trailers, RVs, Boats, Motorcycles, Lawn Tractors

Goodwill Industries (1-888-3040CAR) or <goodwillpitt.org>; Kidney Foundation (1-800-488-CARS) or <kidneycars.org>;

National Public Radio (855-905-9372) or <wesa.careasy.org>. Free pickups, receipts.

Cell Phones:

Donated cell phones are used for charitable purposes.

Monroeville Mall, lower level food court has a kiosk for cell phones; will pay for some.

E-Waste (electronic devices):

Best Buy (200 Monroeville Mall Circle Dr.) 412-856-7344, <bestbuy.com/recycling> Comprehensive e-waste recycling for most appliances and electronics, incl. tube and flat panel TVs, computers, tablets, cameras, cell phones, radios, ink, toner, rechargeable batteries, etc. Fees may apply for large devices and home pick-up.

Eyeglasses:

Lannigan Funeral Home (700 Linden Av., E. Pgh) 412-824-8800
Churchill Vision Center (Beulah Road Shopping Center) 412-824-1510
Jodi B's Restaurant (2600 Ardmore Blvd., Forest Hills Plaza) 412-823-3340
Lenscrafters (370 Monroeville Mall rear annex) 412-373-2200
Eyetique (Penn Center, Squirrel Hill, and Shadyside stores) 412-422-5300
Optical Options (2400 Ardmore Blvd. Cost Bldg, Suite 201) 412-351-2017
Flags - United States:

Churchill and Forest Hills Boroughs have bins for respectful disposal of old flags Garden waste:

Plant waste (fall leaves, garden trimmings) can be composted easily in your own back yard, producing (in about a year) a fibrous mulch and soil additive. Pick up a free copy of the CAEC flier "How To Compost" from your municipal office. or go to the CAEC website at <ChurchillBorough.com>. Fall leaves may be collected in special, biodegradable paper bags (or vacuumed into trucks at the curb), composted on a large scale, and the resultant "black gold" made available to residents. Call your municipal office for details.

Glass and Metal Containers:

Municipal curbside collection. Check with your municipal office. Construction Junction (see "Recycling Beyond Curbside" above)

Ink and Toner Cartridges:

Office Max, Staples, Best Buy. Ask about store credit toward new cartridges. Junk Mail and Telephone Solicitations:

To stop or at least reduce unwanted mail and phone calls write to:
Mail Preference Service P.O. Box 643 Carmel NY 10512
Telephone Preference Service P.O. Box 1559, Carmel NY 10512

Recycle junk mail in an Abitibi bin (see "Paper" below), at Construction Junction, or curbside if your municipality offers recycling service. See "Paper" below.

Light Bulbs (Compact Fluorescents [CFLs], Fluorescent Tubes, LEDs etc.):
Fluorescent lights, incl. CFLs and LEDs contain small amounts of mercury. EPA recommends that consumers recycle these bulbs. Old incandescent bulbs are non-

recyclable - wrap for safety and dispose as trash. Most home improvement retailers, including Lowe's, Home Depot. and Ace Hardware offer free recycling for unbroken CFLs. Call ahead as policies may change.

Pa Resources Council (64 S. 14th & Sarah Sts. South Side) 412-488-7490; corg> Batteries + Bulbs (Wm. Penn H'wy opposite Penn Center) 412-380-1388 (modest fees)

Mercury Thermometers:

Local municipalities and groups like PRC sponsor Household Hazardous Waste events that may accept mercury-containing devices. Watch for these in local newspapers and newsletters. Check prc.org for special collection events.

Metal scrap and large appliances: See Josh Steel Co. (Under Appliances above). Metals accepted incl. iron, lead, zinc (die cast), aluminum, copper, brass, stainless steel, non-freon appliances.

Packing Peanuts & Bubble Wrap:

The UPS Store (322 Mall Blvd., Monroeville) 412-856-9818 will re-use these items. Paper:

Abitibi paper retriever bins are in place at several sites, e.g. Tyke's Service Station, Chalfant VFD, Beulah Presbyterian Church. Proceeds support local non-profits like fire departments, libraries, churches, and schools. All kinds of paper (even junk mail) may be placed in the green/yellow bins. NO cardboard, books, or phone directories. Do NOT put any other items (e.g. plastic, metal, glass or paper with food residue) in Abitibi bins. Contamination of loads will result in removal of bins.

Curbside in municipalities that offer recycling service.

Construction Junction (214 N. Lexington Ave.), Homewood 412-243-5025, all types. Christ Lutheran Church (Barclay Ave. at Carl St. off Greensburg Pike, Forest Hills); paper and corrugated cardboard collection bins at end of alley behind church. Avoid school hour congestion as an Early Learning Center is located at the church.

Plastic film and sheet:

Special bins outside most Giant Eagle and Shop and Save supermarkets. Plastic film cannot be placed at the curb for recycling. It jams the processor's sorting machinery.

Propane Tanks (new type only):

Home Depot, Lowe's, Wal-Mart, and any service station that sells filled tanks.

Tires, Oil and other Auto Fluids, Oil Filters, and Car Batteries Tyke's Service Station (2531 Greensburg Pike, Churchill) 412-241-959 Modest fee for tires. Accepts vehicle batteries and oil free of charge. Has outdoor receptacles for clothes, shoes, small household items, and an Abitibi paper bin.

RESOURCES AND LINKS:

Allegheny County Health Department, < achd.net/recycling > 412-578-8318. Pennsylvania Resources Council (PRC) < prc.org> 412-488-7490. Southwest PA Household Hazardous Waste/Allegheny County Health Task

Force <swpahhw.org> 412-488-7452.

< Earth911.com > This site acts as a "Yellow Pages" for local, hard-to-recycle items. eLoop LLC http://eloopllc.com/services/accepted-items/ This organization, based in Export PA, accepts appointments for electronics drop-offs. It provides a chain of custody service in the destruction of computers/laptops.

Global Links https://www.globallinks.org/donate/medical-supplies Accepts select medical supplies.