



October 12, 2018

RE: State of Recycling

During the past few years we have all been aware of the changes in the recycling markets worldwide and in particular the recyclables that are shipped to China. The quality requirement to market the recyclables has become more difficult every day, particularly with fiber. The current China standard requires contamination of under ½%. This is difficult, particularly when the single stream delivered to recycling centers is typically contains between 10% and 20%, or higher. Other markets are also starting to adapt the same quality standards as well.

Moisture is another issue with curbside recyclables. Typically, the newspaper that you read is 12% moisture. You can well imagine how quickly the moisture in the newspaper would increase sitting at the curb during a rainstorm. When moisture content exceeds 12% buyers have the right to adjust pricing or reject the load.

Due to the market constraints placed on recycling processors throughout the United States, we have been forced to expand our inbound inspection of recyclables. All deliveries of recyclables are being inspected for excess moisture and contamination. Should there be an excess amount; the delivery of recyclables will be subject to downgrades, rejection, or disposal charge back to the customer.

We trust our Municipal and Commercial suppliers will be diligent in getting the word out to their residents conveying the importance of not putting recyclables in plastic bags; keeping the paper recyclables dry; and only placing acceptable recyclables at the curb.

This is a difficult time for processors, Municipal haulers and the residents, but these changes to produce better quality recyclables must be made for recycling to survive. Unfortunately, there are not enough domestic consumers of the paper recyclables, so for the foreseeable future, the paper recyclables must continue to go to foreign markets. We hope you understand the issues and will continue working towards cleaner and drier recyclables.

If there are any questions, do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely yours,
Atlantic Coast Recycling, LLC

101 7th Street
Passaic, NJ 07055
Tel: 973-614-9600
Fax: 973-614-1663

611 New Hampshire Avenue
Lakewood, NJ 08701
Tel: 732-475-0100
Fax: 732-367-7076

6000 Asbury Avenue
Tinton Falls, NJ 07753
Tel: 732-918-1200
Fax: 732-918-1373

101 Memorial Drive
Neptune, NJ 07753
Tel: 732-897-7711
Fax: 732-918-1373

AtlanticCoastRecycling.net