



CITY OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING COLLECTION STARTS MONDAY, JULY 5: RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES USE CURRENT RECYCLING BINS FOR EXPANDED RECYCLABLES UNTIL NEW CARTS ARE DELIVERED

ANN ARBOR, Mich., July 1, 2010 — Monday, July 5th marks the beginning of the city's single-stream recycling program, which allows all recyclables to be placed into one recycling cart without separating papers and containers. The expanded recycling program accepts **many new materials, including all clean plastic bottles and tubs numbered 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and 7** (such as yogurt tubs, plastic produce containers, plastic cups, and microwavable frozen food trays). Biodegradable plastics marked compostable or PLA, and #3/PVC plastics may not be recycled. The recycling program will also accept clean frozen food boxes and bulky plastic items, such as laundry baskets and buckets. Mixed papers—newspapers, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, office paper, flattened cardboard and cereal boxes—as well as milk cartons, juice boxes, metal cans and lids, glass bottles and jars, and scrap metal (up to 1 cubic foot, 20 pounds per piece) continue to be accepted for recycling.

Biodegradable/PLA plastics, #3 (PVC) plastics, Pyrex, and ceramics are not accepted because they contaminate the regional plastic and glass markets. **Plastic bags** and polystyrene **foam** (Styrofoam™) are prohibited because these items clog the sorting machinery. Clean plastic bags and Styrofoam™ are taken for recycling at the Drop-Off Station, 2950 E. Ellsworth Road, 734.971.7400.

Ann Arbor residents and businesses may use their current recycling collection containers (stacking bins, carts, or dumpsters) to hold the mixed expanded materials immediately. New recycle carts will be distributed to residents starting Friday, July 9th and will continue delivery for 6-8 weeks. The new carts have a recycling guide imprinted on the lid and an informational packet enclosed, which provides details on the new recycling program and suggestions on how to handle the old recycling bins. Information is also posted online at www.a2gov.org/recycle.

Recycling collection is contracted by the city to the local nonprofit Recycle Ann Arbor, www.recycleannarbor.org, 734.662.6288. For 24-hour information on the city's solid waste services, please phone 99-GREEN or consult the city's Web site at www.a2gov.org/recycle.

Ann Arbor has 114,000 residents, spans 27.7 square miles, and was named the No. 1 Healthiest Hometown in the U.S. by AARP The Magazine in 2008. Other notable recognitions include: No. 27 of the top 100 U.S. cities to live in by CNN/Money Magazine in 2008, as well as the fourth smartest city in the U.S. by Forbes Magazine. The city's mission statement reads: The city of Ann Arbor is committed to providing excellent municipal services that enhance the quality of life for all through the intelligent use of resources while valuing an open environment that fosters, fair, sensitive and respectful treatment of all employees and the community we serve. #####