

Free Recycling Pickups Available to all Ann Arbor Businesses

Ann Arbor's commercial sector generates approximately 60 percent of the city's overall waste. Most commercial waste is 50-75 percent recyclable cardboard and office paper. Currently less than 40 percent of Ann Arbor businesses have recycling programs in place. This situation can be easily addressed since all business locations are eligible for recycling collection containers and pickup services at no additional cost. Last spring City Council approved a commercial recycling plan submitted by a committee of local business representatives. As part of the plan, Ann Arbor's city code was updated to require all business locations to receive the city's free recycling collection services by mid-2011. At the same time the city initiated a recycling-friendly waste collection contract with Waste Management to provide group rates for waste hauling and remove impediments for downsizing the dumpster size or collection frequency. In other words, local businesses now have even greater incentives to recycle and save money from avoidable trash costs. Look for new, bright blue recycling dumpsters throughout town as part of this expansion.



The city will be actively promoting exemplary recycling and zero waste efforts via partnerships with the local cable television service (CTN), the Ann Arbor Area Chamber of Commerce, Washtenaw County's Waste Knot Partners, Michigan Green Schools, and Recycle Ann Arbor's Business Recycler of the Month recognition program.



As part of setting up a business recycling program, the city provides at no extra cost storage containers for each site, such as 6-yard cardboard and paper dumpsters, 96-gallon curb carts, 30-gallon collectors, 12-gallon stacking bins, and desk trays. Free educational posters and labels are also available. Weekly or more frequent pickups are provided by municipal collectors or the city's nonprofit recycling partner Recycle Ann Arbor.



To start recycling where you work, simply contact either service partner for more information and a quick site visit:



City of Ann Arbor www.a2gov.org/recycle
(734) 994-2807 recycle@a2gov.org



Recycle Ann Arbor www.recycleannarbor.org
(734) 662-6288 info@recycleannarbor.org