



Cardboard will no longer be picked up with your trash starting this July!

Summer 2007

Frequently Asked Questions...

Why is Dracut implementing this program? The State has banned cardboard and other recyclables along with many items, like televisions, computer monitors and yard waste, from being thrown out as trash since the early 1990's. Each box that gets thrown out as trash costs the town extra money. This program is just the *enforcement* of the current laws. The Town has now opted to step-up enforcement of these laws in part to save money on trash disposal.



Boxes are recyclable. The trash collectors will not take them and they need to be prepared for recycling.

How will the Visible Recycling Ban work? Beginning July 9, 2007, if the trash collectors see cardboard in the trash, they will leave a sticker on the item explaining why they did not collect it. The trash collectors will not open trash bags, but will tag obvious recyclable cardboard boxes or loose cardboard that is put out with trash. **Using cardboard boxes as trash or recycling containers is not allowed and neither the material, nor the box, will be collected.**

How can I dispose of my cardboard boxes? The

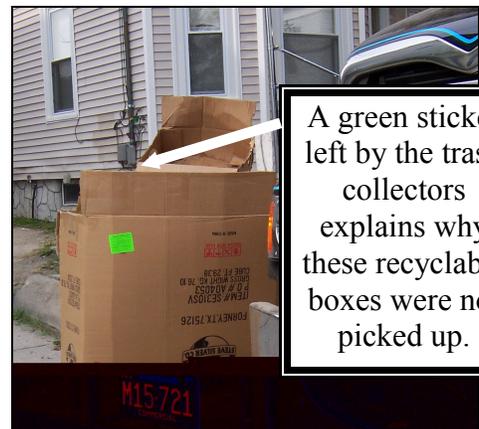
Town provides a convenient weekly recycling program and cardboard boxes can be recycled curbside. Boxes must be cut and flattened and larger boxes must be cut and flattened to a size no greater than 36"x 36" in order to fit into the recycling truck. Place separate from trash and with other recyclables. Multiple pieces of flattened cardboard boxes may also be placed in or under your recycling bins, or standing up between your recycling bins. Cardboard can also be mixed together with other paper items (e.g. newspapers, magazines, mail) for recycling. **Using cardboard boxes as containers for trash, flattened boxes or other recyclables, is not allowed.** Do not stuff anything in boxes as they need to be flattened to be collected. Pizza boxes are considered as contaminated since they are usually soiled, cannot be recycled, and can be thrown in the trash.

Where can I get more recycling bins? Recycling bins are

available at the Town Clerk's Office located in Town Hall at 62

Arlington St. (978-453-0951). You can also make your own recycling bin by reusing a container (e.g. barrel, laundry basket) that you already have. Clearly mark it in water-proof ink as a recycling container, or pick up

colorful recycling stickers at the Town Clerk's office.



A green sticker left by the trash collectors explains why these recyclable boxes were not picked up.

Reducing your trash by a few pounds a week is easy and saves \$:

- Recycle ALL clean paper (e.g. mail, catalogues) and cardboard—if it RIPS, you can Recycle it! Recycling all paper and cardboard saves \$.
- Turn spoils into soils -- compost organic food scraps.
- Include ALL #1 - #7 plastic, metal and glass food and beverage containers in your bin.
- Give unwanted stuff away: go to www.freecycle.org
- Reduce Trash! Buy products with less packaging.

For additional questions, contact the Selectmen's Office at (978) 452-1908, the Board of Health at (978) 452-8162 or visit <http://www.dracut-ma.us>