

Press Release

Curbside Recycling Expands in Meridian Township

Corrugated cardboard and boxboard can now be placed in curbside recycling tubs. Other changes are also underway that will make it easier for residents to recycle more.

A new “single-stream” recycling system, being developed by Granger and other firms, moves the sorting of materials from the street-side to the recycling center. The use of a compaction truck allows greater capacity, less fuel use, and less wear and tear on roads.

Curbside recyclers can also add tin cans, aluminum, #1 & #2 plastic bottles, magazines, newspaper, junk mail, and other paper. To make the sorting safe and economical, glass has been eliminated. Broken glass poses a threat to the sorting teams and greatly reduces the value of the recycled materials. Glass can still be taken to several drop off stations in the region. See www.capitalareagreenmap.org.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), more than 30 percent of the typical household waste stream is made up of paper products. Almost half of this amount consists of cardboard and boxboard.

If your recycling tub is no longer large enough to hold all your recyclables, Tonia Olson from Granger offers these tips:

1. Break down corrugated cardboard and stack it beside your recycling tub.
2. Set out extra recycling in a recyclable container such as a cardboard box – which will be recycled too.
3. Use containers to transport more recyclables to the curb. Just be sure they are clearly labeled so they don't get recycled or thrown away accidentally. If you are using a non-commercial grade container, be aware that it will not be as durable.

It is expected that the expanded curbside options will boost recycling rates in the township. Currently recycling is offered at no extra charge to eligible households. For more information, contact Granger at 372-2800.

Apartment Recycling Also Gets A Boost

A grant from the Walmart Foundation will fund several mini-grants to start or expand recycling for apartment dwellers in Meridian Township.

Residents are encouraged to work together with management to develop and maintain recycling initiatives.

To apply for a grant, just submit a brief description of your plans/needs by March 1, 2010 and needs to recycle@meridian.mi.us or mail to:

Recycling Coordinator
Meridian Township
5151 Marsh Rd
Okemos, MI 48854

While, not required, applicants are encouraged to keep their requests to \$250 or less and to partner with local recycling/waste haulers such as Granger, Waste Management or others.

For more information please call 853-4466 or visit www.meridian.mi.us.

