

## Recycling Coordinator Reports on the 2017 Recycling Tonnage

Peter Wayne who is the General Supervisor of the Department of Public Works and the Borough's Certified Recycling Coordinator has recently submitted the annual tonnage report for 2017 to the NJDEP. Each year, a report listing all of the items recycled in Park Ridge by both the residential and commercial properties during the preceding year needs to be reported to the NJDEP by the end of April. The recycled materials include all of the items the Borough picks up from the residents during the curbside collections (commingled and paper), items recycled at the recycling center, and items recycled at the commercial establishments and the schools.

The total recycling tonnage reported for 2017 is 6,191 tons. This is approximately a 25% decrease from what the Borough reported in 2016. A large majority of the decrease can be attributed to the lower tonnage for concrete/asphalt, leaves, newspapers, and other material not listed. The NJDEP also removed some items from the list of recycled materials which also attributed to the reduction in the total tonnage. The following table summarizes the tonnage for the last seven years:

<b>Annual Recycling Tonnage Comparison</b>							
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Aluminum Containers	53.37	59.33	47.89	37.52	27.07	39.99	28.21
Anti-freeze	-	-	-	7.35	0.33	0.18	-
Batteries (Automobile)	0.23	1.82	1.14	1.78	2.74	1.89	0.60
Batteries (Dry Cell)	-	-	0.06	-	-	0.02	-
Brush/Tree Parts	295.10	303.62	362.88	921.90	392.13	1,353.38	1,979.78
Concrete / Asphalt / Brick / Block	912.47	2,193.48	1,665.48	1,378.47	3,172.47	2,376.13	257.00
Consumer Electronics	82.16	40.62	24.14	53.04	39.90	40.11	84.04
Corrugated	709.53	782.98	525.40	564.73	825.26	710.00	557.05
Fluorescent Lights	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.47
Food Waste	-	-	-	46.67	9.89	13.28	11.21
Glass Containers	356.95	431.51	358.11	311.22	490.64	397.61	371.85
Grass Clippings	366.64	277.77	266.66	284.44	333.32	359.26	365.13
Heavy Iron	-	-	-	-	0.32	-	-
Leaves	2,200.00	2,657.37	2,694.15	3,085.40	2,598.08	2,779.20	2,315.00
Mixed Office Paper	578.25	647.34	476.95	69.12	131.57	77.03	74.00
Newspaper	88.17	118.66	303.65	262.41	433.66	217.98	225.28
NonFerrous/Aluminum Scrap	1.40	1.43	0.71	0.86	1.09	0.99	0.55
Oil Contaminated Soil	59.47	54.89	-	1,185.50	140.55	214.78	37.65
Other Material Not Listed	-	315.74	343.13	150.10	45.75	76.25	45.53
Other Paper/Mag/JunkMail	185.53	165.54	194.65	149.49	261.41	177.47	171.14
Other Plastic	-	-	-	1.47	2.08	1.98	1.51
Plastic Containers	91.02	93.42	73.32	50.68	79.17	149.67	104.42
Steel Containers	53.37	59.33	47.89	37.52	56.41	50.24	31.60
Stumps	-	4.79	4.50	-	7.50	0.50	-
Textiles	-	-	-	1.30	-	-	2.10
Tires	11.27	4.59	7.43	3.16	3.38	3.56	5.40
Used Motor Oil	11.17	10.15	9.80	19.98	9.48	13.87	13.35
White Goods & Light Iron	134.44	127.30	101.17	89.96	96.96	122.35	104.94
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6,191</b>	<b>8,352</b>	<b>7,509</b>	<b>8,714</b>	<b>9,161</b>	<b>9,178</b>	<b>6,788</b>

Although the total tonnage has decreased, Peter is pleased with the continued recycling performed by the residents, schools and at the Borough facilities. There has also been very good cooperation with recycling and reporting by the commercial properties.

Along with being very good for the environment, there is a financial benefit of the increased recycling due to the reduction in the cost for the disposal of the materials as solid waste. The Borough also receives an annual recycling grant from the State which is based on the annual tonnage.

Additional information about the Borough's recycling program can be found on the Park Ridge web site at the following link: [www.parkridgeboro.com/recycle](http://www.parkridgeboro.com/recycle) or at the Park Ridge Borough Hall at 201-573-1800.