

RECYCLE

JANUARY 2018



IMPORTANT

Please note that what should NOT be included in the recycling stream is as important as what should be included. Items that should NOT be included are regarded as “contaminants” and can result in increased costs to the borough or could cause entire loads to be rejected.

COMINGLED ITEMS



■ Most plastic items with triangle symbol numbers 1 thru 7. Caps and lids may be included but should be removed and placed into the recycling separately. **DO NOT INCLUDE** plastic foam items (aka: Styrofoam) or rigid plastics such as children’s toys (playhouses, slides, etc.), plastic planters, 5-gallon pails, etc. Those items should be disposed of in the regular trash or in the compactor at the recycling center. Plastic foam “packing peanuts” may also be dropped off for reuse at local private shipping locations including Staples and The UPS Store (in Westwood).

■ All aluminum, steel and tin cans and food containers (including steel aerosol cans and aluminum foil and trays)

■ All glass jars and bottles (all colors) and milk and juice cartons. Place caps and lids into the recycling separately.

Note: Comingled items should be rinsed and free of food or oil. **Plastic bags** should NOT be placed in the comingled bin even if they have a triangle symbol. They should be reused or recycled at most local supermarkets.

PAPER ITEMS

■ Includes newspapers, magazines, junk mail, telephone books, paperback books, school and office paper, paper shopping bags and all cardboard including corrugated. **Pizza boxes** with grease stains or food debris belong in the regular trash.

Notes: Paper and cardboard can be mixed at the curb, but in order to maximize efficiency they are handled separately at the recycling center. They should NOT be bundled in plastic bags.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

■ **Instead of bagging grass clippings** for curbside pickup or taking them to the recycling center, you can “Cut it and Leave It.” By leaving clippings on the lawn you return vital nutrients to the soil and, along with composting plant/vegetable waste, reduces hauling costs to our town. Learn more at the Green Team website.

■ **The Recycling Center** accepts branches, metal, concrete, motor oil, tires, car batteries, minor construction debris, electronics and used clothing. Grass can also be brought to the center, but please note the previous item. More details are in the “**Recycling Center Regulations**” document at parkridgeboro.com.

■ **Rechargeable batteries** are recycled at the center, but ordinary household/flashlight batteries should be disposed in your regular trash. Flat “button” or “coin” batteries may be recycled at BCUA events (see below).

■ **Household hazardous waste** is handled through Bergen County Utilities Authority events which will be posted on the Green Team website or can be found at bcua.org.

CONTACT US

Visit our web page at parkridgeboro.com. If you have questions, suggestions, would like to volunteer or are seeking information about the

Park Ridge Green Team

send an email to parkridgegreenteam@gmail.com



Solutions to Stormwater Pollution

Easy Things You Can Do Every Day To Protect Our Water

A Guide to Healthy Habits for Cleaner Water

Pollution on streets, parking lots and lawns is washed by rain into storm drains, then directly to our drinking water supplies and the ocean and lakes our children play in. Fertilizer, oil, pesticides, detergents, pet waste, grass clippings: You name it and it ends up in our water.

Stormwater pollution is one of New Jersey's greatest threats to clean and plentiful water, and that's why we're all doing something about it.

By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of stormwater. It all adds up to cleaner water, and it saves the high cost of cleaning up once it's dirty.

As part of New Jersey's initiative to keep our water clean and plentiful and to meet federal requirements, many municipalities and other public agencies including colleges and military bases must adopt ordinances or other rules prohibiting various activities that contribute to stormwater pollution. Breaking these rules can result in fines or other penalties.



As a resident, business, or other member of the New Jersey community, it is important to know these easy things you can do every day to protect our water.

Limit your use of fertilizers and pesticides

- Do a soil test to see if you need a fertilizer.
- Do not apply fertilizers if heavy rain is predicted.
- Look into alternatives for pest control.
- Maintain a small lawn and keep the rest of your property or yard in a natural state with trees and other native vegetation that requires little or no fertilizer.
- If you use fertilizers and pest control, follow the instructions on the label on how to correctly apply it.

Properly use and dispose of hazardous products

- Hazardous products include some household or commercial cleaning products, lawn and garden care products, motor oil, antifreeze, and paints.
- Do not pour any hazardous products down a storm drain because storm drains are usually connected to local water bodies and the water is not treated.

Make sure you properly store or discard any unused portions.

■ If you have hazardous products in your home or workplace, make sure you store or dispose of them properly. Read the label for guidance.

- Use natural or less toxic alternatives when possible.
- Recycle used motor oil.
- Contact your municipality, county or facility management office for the locations of hazardous-waste disposal facilities.



Keep pollution out of storm drains

- Municipalities and many other public agencies are required to mark certain storm drain inlets with messages reminding people that storm drains are connected to local waterbodies.
- Do not let sewage or other wastes flow into a stormwater system.

Clean up after your pet

- Many municipalities and public agencies must enact and enforce local pet-waste rules.
- An example is requiring pet owners or their keepers to pick up and properly dispose of pet waste dropped on public or other people's property.
- Make sure you know your town's or agency's requirements and comply with them. It's the law. And remember to:

- Use newspaper, bags or pooper-scoopers to pick up wastes.
- Dispose of the wrapped pet waste in the trash or unwrapped in a toilet.
- Never discard pet waste in a storm drain.



Don't litter

- Place litter in trash receptacles.
- Recycle. Recycle. Recycle.
- Participate in community cleanups.



Dispose of yard waste properly

- Keep leaves and grass out of storm drains.
- If your municipality or agency has yard waste collection rules, follow them.
- Use leaves and grass clippings as a resource for compost.
- Use a mulching mower that recycles grass clippings into the lawn.

Contact information

For more information on stormwater related topics, visit www.njstormwater.org or www.njpointsource.org

Additional information is also available at U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Web sites www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater or www.epa.gov/nps

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Water Quality
Bureau of Nonpoint Pollution Control
Municipal Stormwater Regulation Program
(609) 633-7021



www.cleanwaternj.org
It's Up to the New Jersey

The Bergen County Utilities Authority (BCUA) holds Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events throughout the year. As the dates for these events become available, they will be posted on the Park Ridge Borough website at www.parkridgeboro.com.

Information can also be found on the BCUA website at www.bcu.org.