

# NEW RECYCLING PROGRAM COMES TO NETHER PROVIDENCE



**COLLECTION BEGINS  
JANUARY 5, 2009!**



## 2009 RECYCLING CHANGES

The New Year brings an exciting change to Nether Providence Township's recycling program. Starting the week of January 5, 2009, our community will move to a weekly, co-mingled, curbside collection of a wide range of recyclable materials. This letter contains the details that will make the move to the new recycling program run as smoothly as possible.

You will no longer have to separate the items you are recycling: they can all be mixed together in any container that is smaller than 65 gallons (a typical trash can is 34-48 gallons). You can use any container for your recycling including the Township-supplied red and green recycling containers.

There are several reasons to change our recycling program. The current system is outdated, inadequate, inconvenient, and discourages recycling. Throughout Delaware County, municipalities have instituted blended curb-side recycling (also called "co-mingled recycling") which greatly increases recycling rates. Recycling diverts materials from incineration, providing an environmental benefit as well as increased annual grant and incentive funding from the Commonwealth.

### **The items that CAN be placed in a container at your curb for recycling are:**

- Paper of all kinds: newspaper, magazines, office paper, catalogues, mail, telephone books, glossy paper, school paper, paperback books; and
- Cardboard of all kinds: including corrugated, pressboard, cereal boxes, and consumer product packaging
- Metal food & beverage cans (aluminum, bi-metal, or steel);
- Clear, green & brown glass bottles & jars;
- Plastic containers marked with triangle #1 or #2

***Please rinse all cans, bottles, jars, and containers to be recycled and remove caps.***

The Township Board of Commissioners voted in September 2008 to award a 2-year contract to Suburban Waste Services for recycling collection. Your non-recyclable trash will continue to be collected by your private hauler.

### **The following items SHOULD NOT be placed in your recycling container:**

- Ø Aerosol, paint, or oil containing cans;
- Ø Drinking glasses, crystal, mirrors, light bulbs, or plate glass
- Ø Plastic marked with a triangle #3, plastic tub containers, and plastic bags (#2 are okay)
- Ø Ceramic or clay pots; and
- Ø Food Waste
- Ø Batteries

Please put your recyclables out at your curb by 7AM on your recycling day:

- Wards 1 & 2: Monday
- Wards 3 & 4: Tuesday
- Wards 5 & 6: Wednesday
- Ward 7: Thursday

*If a recycling collection day falls on a major holiday, collection in that ward will be on Friday instead*

**Q: Will the new recycling program be part of my regular Township tax bill?**

**A:** The Township will send a separate bill in January 2009 for the cost of the recycling program. State law and County procedures prevent the charge from being included in the annual tax bill. **The bill for each residential household will be \$68.00.** This amount includes \$63.35 for the weekly curbside collection by Suburban Waste Services and \$4.65 for the administrative costs required by the change to the new recycling program. These administrative costs include the printing and postage for the initial postcard you received in October, this letter, the billing itself, new signage at the Recycling Center, delinquencies, and other informational materials related to this exciting change in Nether Providence's recycling program.

Please note that the cost of the Township's old program of monthly curbside collection of glass and cans was part of your Township tax bill because the collection was done by Township employees. In addition to dramatically improving the amount and types of materials collected, the new weekly recycling schedule will also allow our Public Works Department employees to focus on their other responsibilities, including the maintenance of our parks, roads, sanitary and storm water sewer systems, and snow and leaf removal.

The Township Board of Commissioners has created a recycling fee rebate program to offset the cost of the recycling program for our elderly lower income residents. The criteria used to qualify for the recycling fee rebate are the same as used in our existing sewer rent rebate option: residents 65 years of age or older with an annual income of less than \$18,000. Please call or visit the Township office or visit the Township website to obtain a rebate request form.

**Q: Why are we changing the recycling program?**

**A:** The new recycling program will greatly enhance the amount of material recycled by Nether Providence Township residents. Increasing our rate of recycling has important economic and environmental benefits. First, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania awards annual performance grants based on the amount of recyclable material each municipality collects. Over the last several years, the Township has received approximately \$13,500 as a performance grant each year, but we expect to receive significantly more each year after implementing this new program.

Second, recycling has substantial environmental benefits. Recycling reduces the volume of materials disposed of in landfills and burned in the County incinerator. However, this is important from more than just an environmental perspective. In April of 2009, Delaware County will begin to charge a fee for trash sent to the incinerator based on the actual volume sent from each municipality. Because Nether Providence Township uses private trash haulers, these haulers will be responsible for collecting the surcharge directly from their customers. In summary, the more materials we recycle, the less we incinerate, resulting in a smaller surcharge for Township residents.

**Q: Do I still need to separate recyclable materials?**

**A:** No, as mentioned above, the recyclable materials can be placed together in any container that is less than 65 gallons. The materials will be collected by Suburban Waste Services. The materials will then be separated at the Blue Mountain Recycling facility, in Philadelphia.

**Q: What happens if my recyclables are not picked up?**

**A:** If you remembered to put out your recycling bin by 7:00 am, but your house was missed on your recycling day, please call Suburban Waste at 610-497-5763 or use the Township's E-Government Action Line (<http://www.netherprovidence.org>) to report the error. All efforts will be made to have your recyclables collected that day or the following day.

**Q: What will happen to the Recycling Center?**

**A:** The Township's recycling center on Brookhaven Road will remain open for the drop off of recyclables, but you must continue to separate your recyclables at this facility and plastics cannot be dropped off at this location. The hours for the recycling center will remain the same:

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday: 7:00am to 3:00pm;
- Wednesday 7:00am to 6:00pm;
- Saturday: 7 am to Noon;
- Closed Sunday and when vendors collect materials from the Center.



**Other Township Recycling Programs:**

**LEAF COLLECTION**

Rake leaves to the edge of your property for collection between mid-October and the end of December. Please keep the leaves out of the street (the police department has reported numerous hazardous conditions in regards to leaves blocking the roadway) to prevent leaves from clogging storm water sewers and from obstructing parking or traffic flow. It takes about two weeks to complete each circuit of collection along the Township's streets at the height of leaf season.

*As always, leaf mulch will be available in the Spring!*



**YARD WASTE & BAGGED LEAVES**

Yard waste (except grass clippings), leaves in biodegradable bags (no plastic) and bundled sticks will still be collected by the Township's Public Works Department each Friday. You can request pickup of these items any of the year by contacting the Township office at (610) 566-4516 or using the Township's E-Government system (on the website at [www.netherprovidence.org](http://www.netherprovidence.org)) Click on Action Line, Repairs and Request for Service. You may purchase biodegradable bags at the Township Building for \$1.00 during office hours.

**Please note that open burning of yard Providence Township in accordance with state law.**

**MULCH**

Leaf mulch is available in the Spring.

|                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| For Township residents:      | For non-Township residents:  |
| \$60.00 for 1/2 truck load   | \$70.00 for 1/2 truck load   |
| \$100.00 for full truck load | \$110.00 for full truck load |

**"The cost for the new recycling program for 2009 is \$68.00. You will receive a bill from the Township in the mail in January."**

**DELCO HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) EVENTS**

Saturday, March 28th - Marple Transfer Station (**HHW ONLY**), Marpit Dr. & Sussex Blvd., Broomall 19008

\*\* Saturday, April 25th - Emergency Services Training Center, 1600 Calcon Hook Rd., Sharon Hill 19079

**\*Computers, monitors, scanners, printers, fax machines, and portable TV's will also be accepted at this event (maximum 3 systems per vehicle).**

Saturday Sept. 19th - Covanta Delaware Valley (**HHW ONLY**), 2nd & Harwick Sts., City of Chester 19013

\*\* Thursday, October 8th - Rose Tree Park, N. Providence Rd. (Rte. #252) Media, 19063, Upper Providence Twp.

**\*Computers, monitors, scanners, printers, fax machines, and portable TV's will also be accepted at this event (maximum 3 systems per vehicle).**

**DO NOT BRING:** Computer equipment (except on the dates specified above), latex paint, appliances, asbestos, biological waste, explosives, gas cylinders, alkaline batteries, PCBs, pressurized CFCs, radioactive waste, or tires

*For more information about recycling special hazardous waste items (including paint and used oil) please visit: [www.co.delaware.pa.us/recycle/hhw.html](http://www.co.delaware.pa.us/recycle/hhw.html) or call 610-892-9627.*

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**Important Note:** Residents living in apartments or condominiums are not part of the Township's new recycling program, and so will not be billed. These associations have existing contracts for recycling. Condominium and other associations interested in becoming part of the Township wide collection program can contact the Township for potential cost savings.

### **TIP FOR WHAT DO TO IF YOUR TRASH COLLECTION AND RECYCLING FALL ON THE SAME DAY**

- You may continue to use your current red and green recycling containers
- If using other container, mark your container with the word "RECYCLABLES" in indelible black marker
- Place your trash and recycling on opposite sides of your driveway

Thank you to the Girl Scouts and WES & NPE Environmental Clubs for providing information on the new recycling program at the polls on Election Day!

The Township appreciates the Wallingford Swarthmore School District for beginning a comprehensive recycling program in all of its facilities. With four of the district schools located in Nether Providence Township, the benefits of the program will aid Nether Providence in our efforts to GO GREEN!



#### **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Ward 1: Michael Dougherty

Ward 2: Sallie Anderson

Ward 3: Frank Noyes

Ward 4: Lin Axamethy Floyd

Ward 5: John Kennedy

Ward 6: Robert O'Connor

Ward 7: Matthew Sullivan