

# COMMERCIAL RECYCLING ORDINANCE SEC. 5-2-14(i)



## WHAT IS REQUIRED?

THERE ARE FOUR BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR BUSINESSES AND NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS LICENSED IN ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY UNDER THE COMMERCIAL RECYCLING ORDINANCE.

1. Provide collection for all recyclable material generated on the property.
2. Provide recycling education for staff and customers/tenants.
3. Submit a **Commercial Customer Recycling Plan** to Solid Waste.
4. Site visit by the Commercial Recycling Specialist to verify compliance.

**EXEMPTIONS:** Businesses run strictly from a primary residence are exempt from this ordinance. Also, multi-family dwellings of four or less units per structure are exempt.

Find more resources can be found at: [accgov.com/4920/Commercial-Recycling](http://accgov.com/4920/Commercial-Recycling)

- Complete your **Commercial Customer Recycling Plan Form** online.
- Download and print the **Recyclable Items Poster** and **CHaRM Flyer**.
- Use the **Waste Sort Chart** to identify your waste.
- **Industry Specific Guides** to find out more ways to reduce your waste.

## WHAT TO RECYCLE?

### Plastic Containers



Plastic Food Trays & Cups  
(NO Styrofoam)



Plastic Bottles, Jugs & Containers #1-7



Empty & Rinse



Rigid Plastics

### Metal Cans



Aluminum Cans, Foil & Trays



Metal Food Cans



Empty & Rinse



Empty Aerosol Cans (lids removed)

### Cardboard



Clean & Flatten



Cereal & Food Boxes



Cardboard & Pizza Boxes

### Paper



Clean, Empty & Rinse



Milk & Juice Cartons & Juice Boxes



Magazines, Paperback Books, & Catalogs



Junk Mail, Mixed Paper, Paper Bags & Newspaper

### Glass



Remove Lid



Empty & Rinse



Glass Bottles & Jars

## WHERE TO RECYCLE?

These are recommended locations to be compliant with the Commercial Recycling Ordinance. Basically, everywhere you have a trash can you should have a recycling bin. Or you may even eliminate the trash if the materials are all recyclable. Be sure to properly identify each bin including the trash. Depending on the size and type of your business, some locations may be eliminated. Your Commercial Recycling Specialist will verify adequate collection.



Entrance, Lobby or Common Areas for customers



Register, Reception, Bar and/or Work Stations for employee and customer recycling



Break Room, Stockroom, and/or Kitchen for employee and business recycling

Athens-Clarke County Recycling Division offers used bins, signage and stickers and professional advice from our staff at no cost to help you start or improve your recycling program.

# WANT TO REDUCE EVEN MORE OF YOUR WASTE?

## REVIEW YOUR OPTIONS

ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY OFFERS SEVERAL OPPORTUNITIES TO DIVERT YOUR WASTE FROM THE LANDFILL, CLOSE THE LOOP AND PROVIDE FEEDSTOCK FOR INDUSTRY.



### Mixed Recycling

Mixed recycling includes: cans, cardboard, plastic bottles, paper, and glass bottles.



### Center for Hard to Recycle Materials

CHaRM is a one stop drop for "hard to recycle" items such as Styrofoam, plastic bags, batteries, and electronics.



### Teacher Reuse Store

The Teacher Reuse Store offers donations of unwanted items to local educators for FREE!



### Composting

Meat, bones, dairy, food scraps, vegetables, fruit, napkins, coffee, and BPI certified flatware can all be composted.



### Thrift Stores

Thrift stores accept donations of gently used clothing, furniture, appliances, housewares, building materials and more.

Learn more about these options by visiting: [www.accgov.com/Recycle](http://www.accgov.com/Recycle)

## IDENTIFY YOUR WASTE

YES, THIS MEANS LOOKING IN YOUR TRASH. YOU HAVE TO KNOW WHAT YOU ARE THROWING AWAY IN ORDER TO CHANGE IT. YOUR BUSINESS IS LIKELY THROWING AWAY SOMETHING THAT COULD BE REUSED, RECYCLED, OR EVEN ELIMINATED FROM THE START.

1. Now that you know what goes where, you can assess what waste materials your business is producing and make an educated decision as to where it should end up.
2. Use the **Waste Sort Chart** as your guide for this step, available online at [accgov.com/4920/Commercial-Recycling](http://accgov.com/4920/Commercial-Recycling).

## REDUCE YOUR WASTE

NOW THAT YOU HAVE EVERYTHING IN PLACE AND YOU KNOW WHAT WASTE YOU ARE PRODUCING, YOUR PROGRAM SHOULD BE SET UP FOR SUCCESS.

1. Set goals regarding reducing your waste and plan a date to reevaluate your program.
2. Evaluate whether you can reduce your trash service and reduce your costs.
3. Keep a check on your contamination, items in the wrong bin. If there seems to be a consistent problem it may be time to reeducate.
4. Share your story with us, good or bad. We can share the good and help you with the bad.
5. Ready to do more? Check out your **Industry-Specific Recycling Guide** for ideas on how you can reduce even more waste.



*Our mission is to educate the public about the importance of waste reduction to the Athens-Clarke County community and implement a comprehensive, waste reduction plan that will reduce landfill disposal of solid waste by 60% by 2018 and 75% by 2020.*



Athens-Clarke County Recycling Division  
Commercial Recycling Specialist  
706-613-3512  
[recycle@accgov.com](mailto:recycle@accgov.com)

