

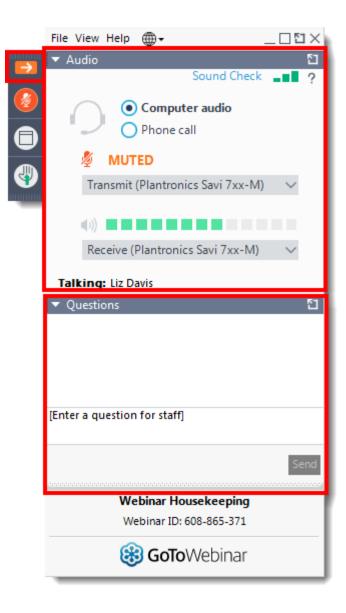
## **SERDC 2020 Annual Meeting**

October 13-15, 2020



## Some Housekeeping Items

- You will be on mute for this meeting.
- This meeting is being recorded. The recording and the presenter's slides will be sent to you in an email within a week.
- Appropriate questions typed in the box will be asked by the moderator after everyone has presented.
- If you experience problems with your sound, you can choose AUDIO in your control panel and dial in using the phone number that appears.
- The same log in will be used for all three days of meetings.



## Don't Forget Messaging to Build a Recycling Program

Presented by Jen Dabbs

October 14, 2020











There's a national movement right now to create a standardized message around recycling (particularly single stream programs) and contamination in bins















# What we're seeing: Messaging and resources like never before

- Social Media
- Videos
- Billboards
- Printed Material
- Apps
- Handouts



# But don't forget the basic, most **in-your-face** messaging

- Clear messaging on community web sites that's easy to find in the navigation
- Printable guides (pdf) for residents to download or save to computer
- And, the obvious- recycling cart messaging



## More and more people use the internet to find answers

- A 2016 survey conducted by RRS showed that 54 percent of respondents rely on their city, county or recycling company's website as the first or second choice source of recycling information.
- January 2017 online Harris Poll study revealed that 52 percent of respondents rely on Internet searches for recycling information. That same study also revealed that 36 percent of Americans say that they either seek out or are provided with detailed information about recycling from their local government.

Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation (TDEC) tasked SERDC to examine the messaging around current programs and MRF sheds and identify a common suite of materials. SERDC approached this through an online messaging evaluation.

- 1. Identify what current online messaging is being presented to the public
- 2. Compare community messaging with MRF processor materials list
- 3. Using a rating scale, evaluate the effectiveness of the online resources
- 4. Present common-suite of material messaging, terminology and rules that can be used throughout the state

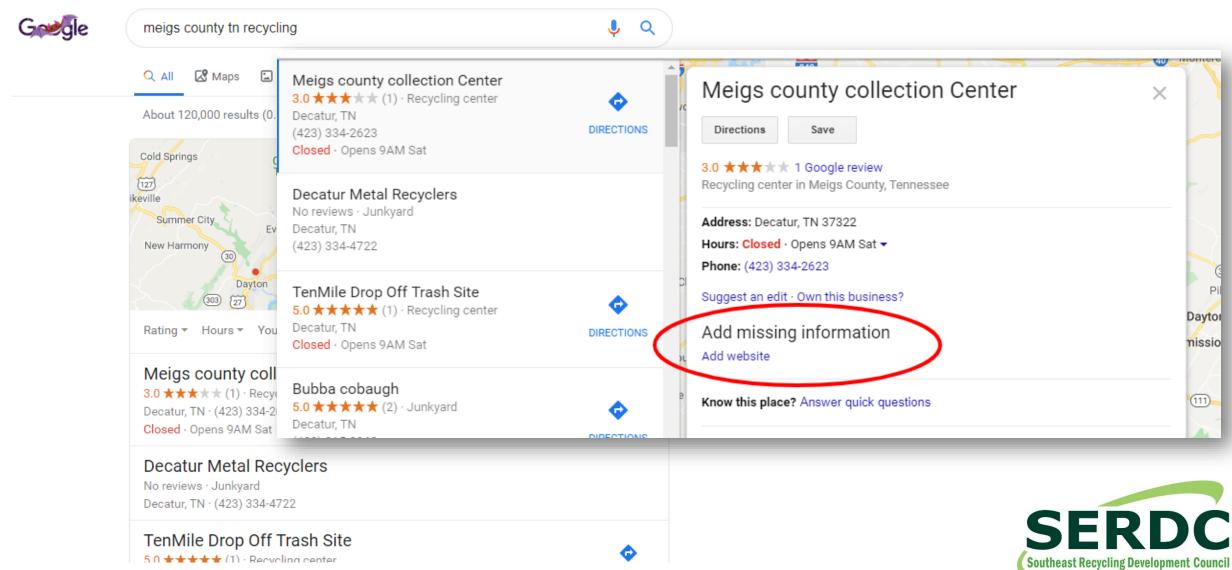


## 1. Identify the current online messaging and navigation being presented to the public.

- A browser-based search should locate and display the recycling program's web page within the top 6 results.
  - Example search terms- MyCity, State Recycling
- The community/organization's website should also have a search tool and/or navigation path that is easy to locate recycling information.
- You should quickly see who, what, where, when and why on the page.
- ✓ Most importantly though is the HOW.



## Example 1: "Meigs County TN Recycling" Search





### meigs county tn recycling





### Meigs County Convenience Center | Decatur, TN - Wastebits

https://wastebits.com > locator > location > meigs-county-convenience-center ▼
Information about Meigs County Convenience Center. Including materials accepted, contact information, and more.

You've visited this page 2 times. Last visit: 5/19/19

Listing Service no content

### [PDF] Meigs County - TN.gov

https://www.tn.gov > tn > solid-waste > documents > counties > sw\_meigsna ▼
recycling programs (they weren't required by law to have one in any case) and shifted ..... Meigs
County has three convenience centers strategically located to ...

You've visited this page 2 times. Last visit: 5/19/19

2015 PDF

### Solid Waste and Recycling - Meigs County Health Department ...

www.meigs-health.com → environmental-health → solid-waste-and-recycling ▼

Recycling. Recycling Activities in Meigs County are operated by the Meigs County Soil and Water Conservation District, Meigs County Commissioners, and the multi-county solid waste district of Gallia, Meigs, Vinton, and Jackson.

You've visited this page 2 times. Last visit: 5/19/19

Not Tennessee

### dump site in Meigs County, TN | Reviews - Yellowbook

www.yellowbook.com > dump-site > meigs-county-tn ▼

Find dump site in **Meigs County, TN** on Yellowbook. Get reviews ... Athens, **TN** 37303-6804Map. (423) 745- ... Monroe County **Convenience** Center. 570 Little ...

Yellowbook listing

### Services | Meigs County

https://www.meigstn.com > services ▼

Meigs County Bids/Solicitations. menu-icon Economic Development. menu-icon Industria Park; menu-icon Tennessee Valley ...

Maybe?

### Find A Location - Recycling - Keep Tennessee Beautiful

www.keeptnbeautiful.org > recycling > find-a-location ▼

Keep **Tennessee** Beautiful is not just our name, it is our mandate. Litter Prevention · **Recycling** · Greening · About Us · Get Involved ... Find a **Recycling** Location ...

People also search for

glass recycling in tennessee used tire disposal tennessee

tennessee plastic recycling lincoln county to waste management

tennessee recycling laws fayetteville tn recycling center

**Looks promising** 

X

### Meigs County Landfill in Georgetown, TN with Reviews - YP.com

https://www.yellowpages.com > Georgetown, TN ▼

Find 10 listings related to **Meigs County** Landfill in Georgetown on YP.com. ... photos, directions, phone numbers and more for **Meigs County** Landfill locations in Georgetown, **TN**. ... 24. Hamilton County Government **Recycling** Coordinator.

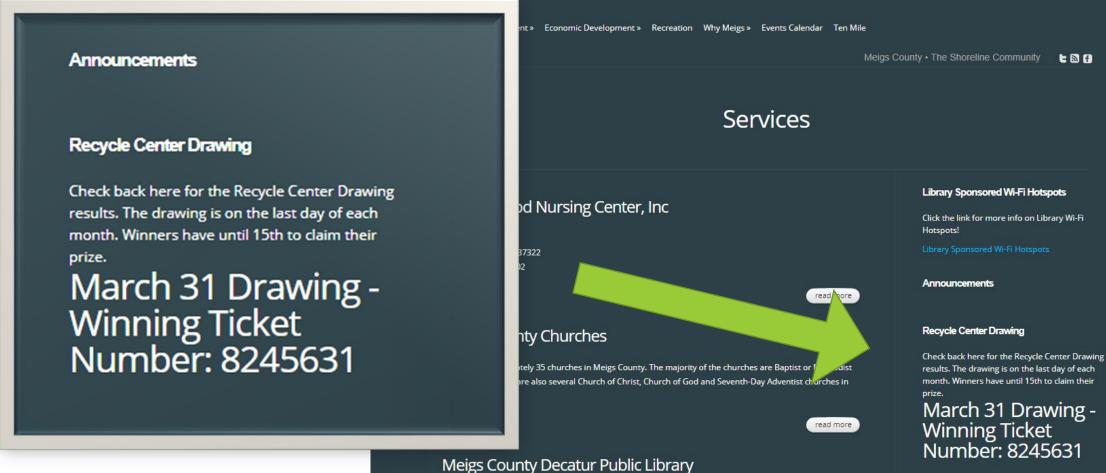
### Meigs Co. recycling service stays open | News ...

www.dailypostathenian.com > news

Dec 3, 2015 - DECATUR - A popular **Meigs County** service will continue. ... **Meigs Co. recycling** service stays open ..... IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MCMINN COUNTY, **TENNESSEE** PROBATE DIVISION NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN ...

## This is the **only** recycling content found on site





120 E. Memorial Drive Decatur, Tennessee 37322

Phone: (423) 334-3332

Search



Keep Tennessee Beautiful is not just our name, it is our mandate.

LITTER PREVENTION

RECYCLING

GREENING | ABOUT US | GET INVOLVED | AFFILIATES | NEWS | CALENDAR | EDUCATION |

search by zip or city, state

### **RECYCLING**

### > Find a Location Aluminum Plastics Glass Scrap Tires Wireless Phones Computers and Electronics How You Can Help Earth 911



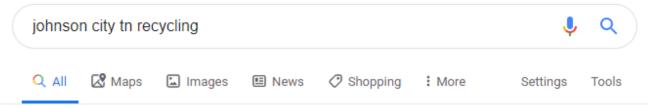


### FIND A RECYCLING LOCATION





## Here's a better result...



About 3,060,000 results (0.53 seconds)

### Recycling - Welcome to Johnson City, TN

https://www.johnsoncitytn.org > services > recycling ▼

**Johnson City** began its voluntary, curbside **recycling** program in 1989. Since that time, the City has **recycled** more than 131200 tons of materials.

### [PDF] RECYCLING GUIDE - CITY OF JOHNSON CITY

https://www.johnsoncitytn.org > public\_works > solid\_waste > recycling\_g... ▼
CITY OF JOHNSON CITY - RECYCLING GUIDE. Solid Waste Services- 91 New St, Johnson City.
423-975-2792. Monday—Friday Office Hours 7:00 A.M. - 5:00 ...

Johnson City adjusts recycling program in ... - Johnson City Press https://www.johnsoncitypress.com > Environment > 2019/03/23 > Johnson... ▼
Mar 23, 2019 - In recent months, two Northeast Tennessee recycling vendors have closed, triggering a domino effect that forced six local governments to ...

### Recycling Drop-Off Locations - City of Johnson City

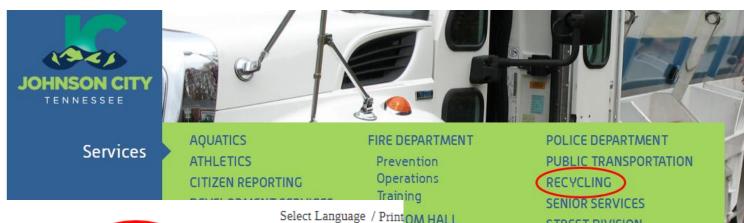
www.johnsoncitytn.com > uploads > files > solidwaste ▼

The City of **Johnson City's recycling** five drop-off locations enhance the City's award-winning **recycling** program. Four sites are unmanned, available for a variety ...

### curbside recycling guide - City of Johnson City

www.johnsoncitytn.com > uploads > files > solidwaste > curbside recycling... ▼
Solid Waste Services 91 New St., Johnson City, TN 37605 (423) 975-2792 Monday through
Friday, 6 a.m.-5 p.m. Johnson City offers curbside recycling to Solid Waste customers within the
City limits. Additional bins are available at the Solid Waste Services office, located at 91 New St.

## Users should easily find information on recycling within the county/community website navigation



& DATA

**E PAYMENTS** 

& RECREATION

TS & LICENSES

ness License

iew Portal

License Application

ractor Requirements



Business Visitors Government Services Residents

Search For Anything

Parks, Recreation & Greenways

Police Department

Property Taxes

Public Safety

Accessibility Animal Care & Control City Council CTV Videos, Live Streaming Garbage, Recycling & Yard

Home Improvement Neighborhoods Newcomer Information

Public Service Department Streets, Traffic & Transit Waste Utilities Volunteer Opportunities



Knoxville prides itself in providing the best citizen services in the area including a 311 Call Center to track requests

STREET DIVISION

Brush, Leaf & Grass Collection

Report a Pothole

TRAFFIC DIVISION

WATER & SEWER SERVICES

After Hours Emergency Pay Utility Bill: Water &

Garbage

Sign up for Autodraft Payments

ince luctua

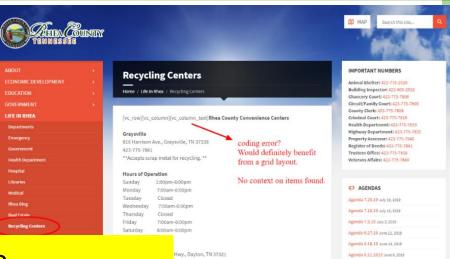
## Screams "I Want To..." RECYCLE! Why just under Public Works?

								V V E S S E S		
	Home	About Us	Your Government	I Want To	Cale	ndars	Contact Us	Service Request		
	You are here:	Home ▶ Your Govern	ment ▶ Public Works ▶ Curbs	Apply for						
				Pay						
	> Public W	<u>orks</u>	Single Stream Contact Information	Read		ησ				
		ation Holiday lule sions Inspection		Request Public Records		ng				
				Subscribe to						
	Sche		NO PLASTIC BA	View		CERTER BY BROCECCOR				
		ide Recycling		Renew a Library	Book	CEPTED BY PROCESSOR				
	> Traffic Signal Specification Nov 2018		There are many garbag			ans that many of the recyclable materials are not				
			going into the BLUE re	Register for Spor	ts					
			Please review the infor	Login as Employee		ximize your recycling efforts!				
	Remember, if you do something 17 times – it becomes a habit. So, please make a conscious effort to pour recyclable materials in the BLUE container so our program can meet its goals!  If you have any questions regarding what can be recycled, please call me. Joe Moss, at 672, 3654 and I									

## More about messaging

- People don't read (and if they do)
  - They prefer white space
  - They prefer images with text over just plain text
  - They prefer consistency
  - They prefer structure





- This is a LONG page
- A coding error is present on page
- While it lists each convenience center, hours and items, there's no additional context or guides
- It's all text



vensville, TN 37332

7:00am-6:00pm

7:00am-6:00pm

7:00am-6:00nm

Closed

8025 Cottonport Rd., Dayton, TN 37321
\*\*Accepts scrap metal for recycling. \*\*

Monday

Thursday

Old Washington

Friday

Proud to a Present to a County Ea George To



See All Agendas

DOWNLOAD FORMS

Public Records Request

Finance Letter for 2016

WIC Income Guidelines



#### Wolf Creek

178 Watts Bar Hwy., Spring City, TN 37381

423-365-6021

\*\*Accepts glass, plastic, paper, and aluminum for recycling, \*\*

#### Hours of Operation

 Sunday
 1:00pm-6:00pm

 Monday
 6:00am-6:00pm

 Tuesday
 6:00am-6:00pm

 Wednesday
 Closed

 Thursday
 6:00am-6:00pm

 Friday
 6:00am-6:00pm

 Saturday
 8:00am-6:00pm

### St. Clair

636 Rocky Springs Rd., Spring City, TN 37381 423-365-7086

\*\*Accepts scrap metal for recycling. \*\*

#### **Hours of Operation**

Sunday 1:00pm-6:00pm Monday 6:00am-6:00pm Tuesday Closed Wednesday 6:00am-6:00pm Thursday Closed Friday 6:00am-6:00pm

#### Grandview

5514 Wassom Memorial Hwy., Spring City, TN 37381 423-365-9638

\*\*Accepts scrap metal for recycling, \*\*

#### Hours of Operation

 Sunday
 1:00pm-6:00pm

 Monday
 7:00am-7:00pm

 Tuesday
 7:00am-7:00pm

 Wednesday
 7:00am-7:00pm

 Thursday
 7:00am-7:00pm

 Friday
 7:00am-7:00pm

 Saturday
 7:00am-7:00pm

### Rhea County Landfill

Smyrna Rd., Evensville, TN 3733 423-570-8920

#### Hours of Operation

 Sunday
 Closed

 Monday
 7:00am-4:30pm

 Tuesday
 7:00am-4:30pm

 Wednesday
 7:00am-4:30pm

 Thursday
 7:00am-4:30pm

 Friday
 7:00am-4:30pm

 Saturday
 7:00am-1:200pm

[/vc\_column\_text][/vc\_column][/vc\_row]







There are no events at this time.

NTY COURTHOUSE

Hours of Operation
Sunday 1:00pm=6:00pm
Monday 7:00am-6:00pm
Tuesday 7:00am-6:00pm
Wednesday 7:00am-6:00pm
Thursday 7:00am-6:00pm

**000** 

### What materials will the new recycling program accept?

- ™ Newspaper: ONP old news print, Browser, Word On White House!
- □ Cardboard: OCC old corrugated containers
- Paperboard: cereal, frozen foods, refrigerated packaging, medicines, toys, etc.
- Junk Mail: SOP sorted office paper coated & uncoated
- Magazines: Coated and uncoated
- Plastic: Baggies, bread bags, milk, juice & laundry bottles, plastic parts, etc.
- Aseptic Containers: juice boxes, milk cartons, etc.
- Aluminum: foil, pie pans, frozen food pans, soda cans, drink pouches, etc.
- □ Steel Cans

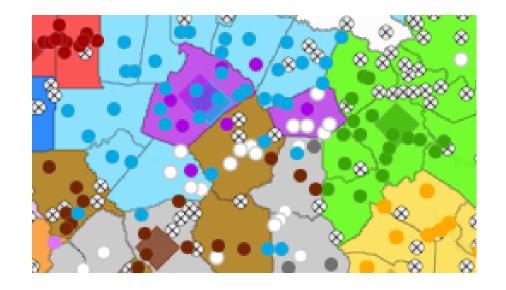
## 2. Compare community messaging with MRF processor materials list

The community that offers the recycling program should be messaging to their participants all of the materials capable of being recycled at their MRF. That is not always the case as found.



### MRF shed

A MRF-shed is a way of framing regional systems of Material Recycling (or recovery) Facilities, allowing for consistency of language throughout a region's programs, and allowing for consistency of how materials are promoted.



MRF-sheds can consume different materials depending on the region, which, in turn, has influence on accepted materials in municipal curbside collection programs.



## 3. Using a rating scale, evaluate the effectiveness of the online resources relating to:

- Google search results ranking
- Description of Recyclable Materials
- List of unacceptable Items, particularly
- Adequate use of visuals either icons or photos
- Organization and clarity of content/ease of finding materials collected within
- Downloadable/printable flyers as an option

Rating system applied was based on a 1-5 scale with .5 increments.

Memphis City of Alcoa Nashville Metro Chattanooga Jefferson City Williamson County Oak Ridge City of Maryville City of Goodlettsville East Ridge City of Knoxville City of Selmer City of Franklin City of Lebanon Blount County **Cumberland County** City of Collegedale Knox County Loudon County Marshall County City of Etowah City of Athens Town of Collie ville

Johnson City Anderson County Bradley County City of Cleveland City of Henderson Chester County Hamilton County Jefferson County Lawrence County City of Adamsville McNairy County City of Ringgold Roane County Hamblen County Rhea County Shelby County City of Collegedale City of White House City of Lexington Henderson County City of Farragut Sullivan County

公 公 The analysis was conducted April-June 2019 on 47 of the 163 identified counties and cities (~28%), and included Nashville, Memphis, Knoxville and Chattanooga.

### **RESULTS:**

- 6 Communities ranked 4 or better
- 18 Communities ranked 3-4
- 15 Communities ranked 2-3
- 6 Communities ranked 1-2
- 3 Communities had no website

Average Messaging score:

2.82

# 4. Present a common-suite of material messaging, terminology and rules

- NO BAGS, WRAPPERS OR FILM
- Do not bag recyclables\*
- Keep Lids and Caps on
- Paper, Food and Bottles, Containers and Cans
- CHECK LOCAL: For certain items that vary by region,
   markets, etc. (cartons, paper to-go food packaging, plastics 3-7, and plastics that are not containers)

<sup>\*</sup>Unless your program is a bag program

- Make it simple- people don't read
  - Clean, Empty, Dry
- Use images and text (minimal)
- Prioritize order and keep it organized
- Answer common questions
- NO is just as or may be more important than the yes
- Identifying contamination and key MRF processing issues
  - No bags
  - No foam
  - No sharp objects



## **Findings**

- The study revealed that it was fairly consistent between what the MRF could process and what the participating communities were promoting
- The study also revealed that there was a significant opportunity to strengthen the clarity of online messaging that is found on community websites
- The study found that while there are many resources available in "toolkits" for communities, they are largely print and social media focused
- A toolkit for providing a clear, concise messaging directly on a web site was found to be missing from all these resources identified



## **Website Woes**

Community recycling coordinators are generally not:

- Web Developers
- Graphic Designers
- And, may have to go through a spider web of authorizations to make changes



## Recycle Right Tennessee









Recycling In Tennessee What about? How It Works Resources



### **Recycling Guidelines and Community** Resources for Residents in Tennessee



### RECYCLE RIGHT

Communities across Tennessee are simplifying how to recycle

Learn More>



### **EASY TO USE**

Participation in Recycle Right Tennessee is free for TN Communities

Join Today>



### STAY UPDATED

Changing your recycling collection day, program hours, locations or materials collected?

Update Your Listing>



### RESOURCES

## **Recycle Right Tennessee**

Standardized images and messaging for State, Community and County websites

- Balance of text and images
- Option for grid and maps for convenience centers
- Printed versions provided as a pdf for downloading/printing



Clean

Empty

Dry

Place recyclables loose in bin, never in bags



Cannot be recycled at this time

If you are not sure, please throw it away



Not all places take these, check your community recycling website

## Variations per MRF-Shed





### Paper and Cardboard



Paper, Cartons and Cardboard



Paper, Food Service Containers and Cardboard



Paper, Food Service Containers, Cartons and Cardboard



## Clear No for Contaminates



No Bags or Package Wrap (dispose or drop-off where available)



No Hoses, Cords or Strings (these tangle machinery)



No Foam (dispose or drop-off where available)



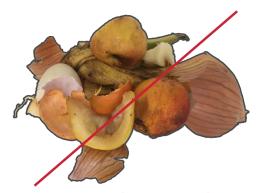
No Batteries (dispose or drop-off where available)



No Shredded Paper (compost or drop-off instead)



No Non-Container Plastic (straws, hangers, pouches, lids, etc.)



No Food or Liquid (drain, rinse and compost instead)



No Clothes or Shoes (donate or drop-off where available)











Not all places take these, check your community recycling website

### Paper



To-Go Containers Cartons Cups

### Metal



Foil Aluminum Trays Aerosol Cans Metal Items

### Plastic



Containers Tubs **Buckets Produce Baskets** 

Rigid or Bulky

To-go Trays To-go Cups

To-go Drink Lids

### Glass



Jars Bottles

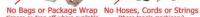
Containers

### NO

### Cannot be recycled at this time

If you are not sure, please throw it away







No Food or Liquid



No Foam dispose or drop-off where available straws, hangers, pouches, lids, etc.

No Shredded Paper





No Non-Container Plastic



Tissues Toys

Sharp Objects













### **Recycle Right Guide for Modern City**

Use the guide here for proper recycling. Information on how to get a bin can be obtained by calling 123-456-7890.



Place recyclables loose in bin, never in bags



### Paper

Cardboard Newspaper Magazines Office Paper Mail Paperboard



### Plastic

Bottles with Lids Containers with Caps Jars with Lids Tubs Buckets **Produce Containers** 

To-Go Cups To-Go Lids



### Metal

Aluminum Cans Steel Containers



### Glass

Jars Bottles Containers



### Cannot be recycled at this time

If you are not sure, please throw it away



Paper

To-Go Containers Cartons Cups



Metal

Foil Aluminum Trays Aerosol Cans Metal Items



Plastic

Straws Hangers Lids Pouches



Plastic

Shopping Bags Bottle Case Wrap Toilet Paper Wrap Film



No Hoses, Cords or Strings



No Foam (dispose or drop-off where available)





Diapers

No Batteries (dispose or drop-off where available) Glass Cups/Dishes Light Bulbs Medical Supplies Needles Paper Towels Sharp Objects Shrink Wrap Tissues Toys

















### **Recycle Right Guide for Modern County Convenience Center**

Use the guide here for proper recycling. A detailed map of the convenience center sites is

More Information can be obtained by calling 123-456-7890.

Convenience Center	Open	Hours	Paper	Plastic	Metal	Glass
The Academy, L.A	Fri., June 20	Book It				
Bamboo, Santa Barbara	Thu., June 19	Book It				
Cheers, Santa Cruz	Sat., June 28	Book It				
The Roxy, San Francisco	Wed., July 6	Book It				









Place recyclables loose in bin, never in bags



### Paper

Cardboard Newspaper Magazines Office Paper Mail Paperboard Cartons



### Plastic (lids on)

Bottles with Lids Containers with Caps Jars with Lids Tubs Buckets **Produce Containers** To-Go Cups To-Go Lids



### Metal

Aluminum Cans Steel Containers Pots and Pans Foil Tin



### Cannot be recycled at this time

If you are not sure, please throw it away



Paper

To-Go Containers Cups



Metal

Foil Aluminum Trays Aerosol Cans Metal Items



Glass

Jars Bottles Containers







Also Please No:

Diapers Glass Cups/Dishes Light Bulbs Medical Supplies Needles Paper Towels Sharp Objects Shrink Wrap Straws Tissues Toys







Asheville America, North Carolina, Buncor

2 Hendersonville

United States of

America, North

Carolina, Henders



Open in Yandex.Maps

No Shredded Paper (compost or drop-off instead)













Recycle Right Guide for

Modern County

Recycle Right Tennessee IN District SERDC OF WHITE

### **Process**

Creating the path of least resistance

- 1. Fill out a form on recyclerighttn.org about program and provide any graphics, etc. desired.
- 2. SERDC will create and host a customized webpage/url
- 3. SERDC will include downloadable pdf's from that page that will print 8.5 x 11 format.
- 4. Community should put the url/link on their website identifying it as a recycling guide. Ideally, a good time to update anything else on their own pages based on best practices.
- 5. Request SERDC to update webpage as needed.



# Thank you!

### Jen Dabbs

Director of Outreach and Membership jen.dabbs@serdc.org (828) 545-4025



## Southern Material Recycling Facility Survey

October 14, 2020







## MRFs in the Southeast



## **Key Findings**

61 of 90 responded. (68%)

85% process single stream

Capacity ranged from 800 TPY to 450,000 TPY

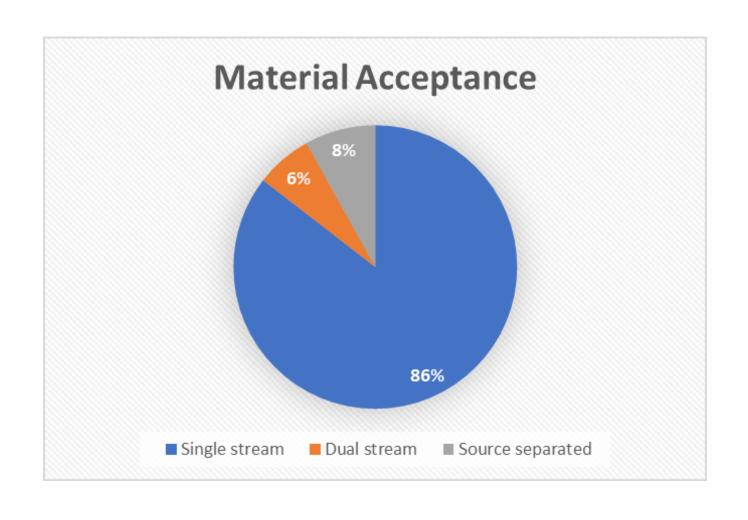
Not all operations are automated

Contamination is weighing the industry down

There is excess process capacity in the region

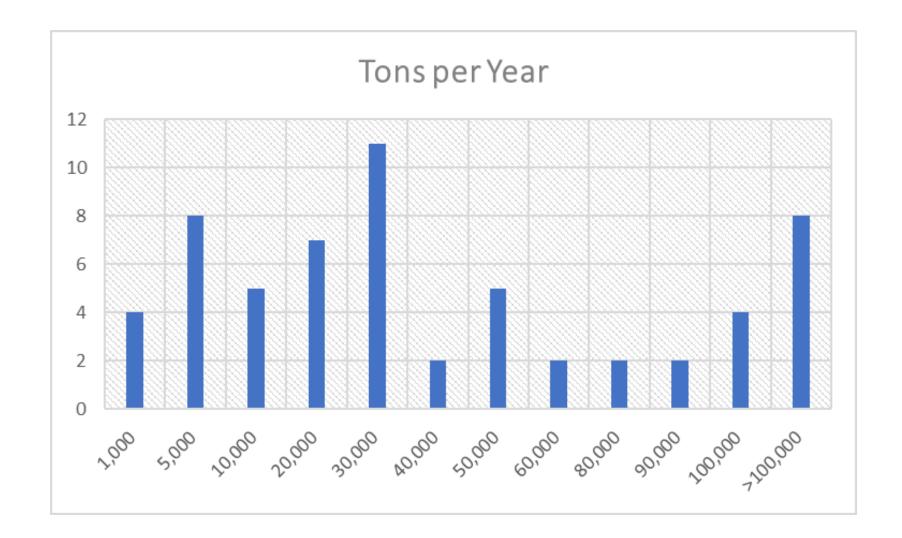
The robots are coming!

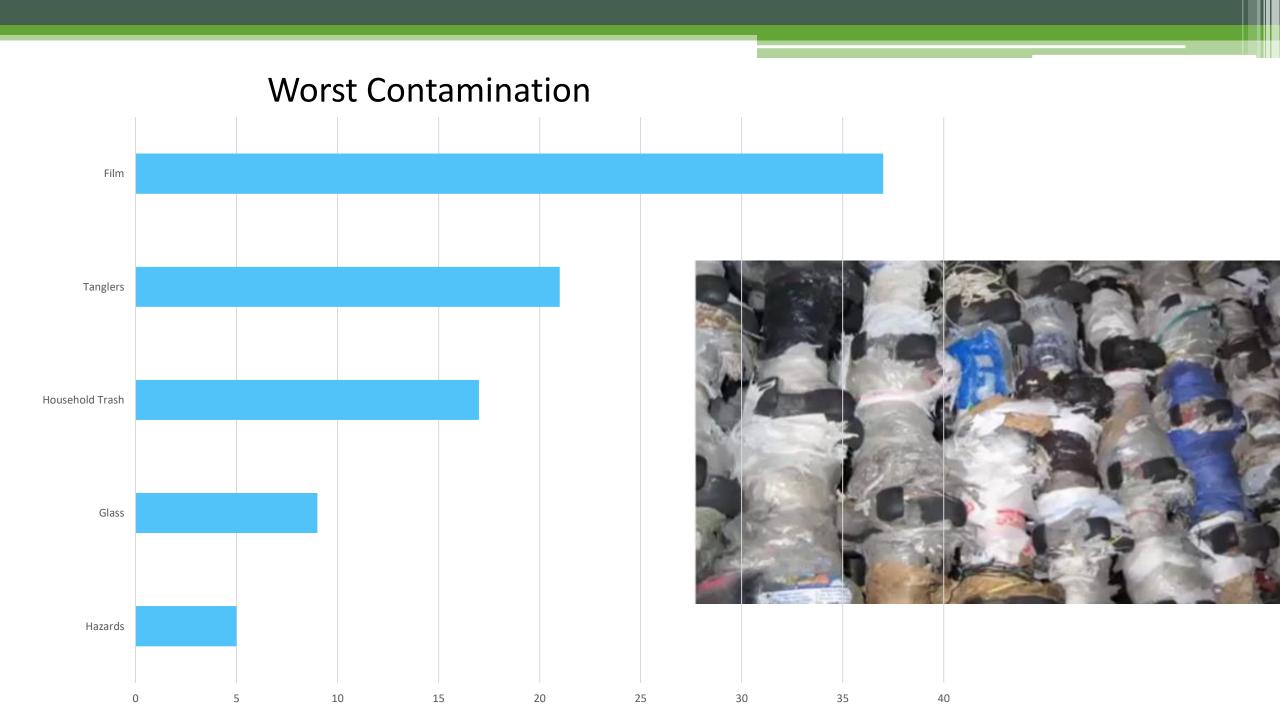
## Single Stream is not Universal



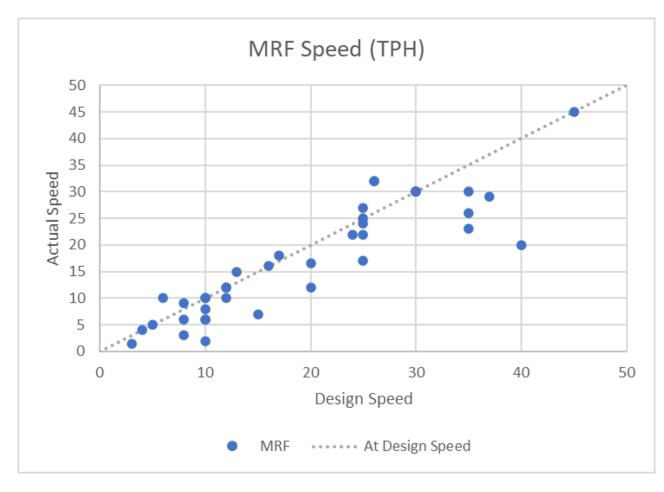
## Capacity

- Smallest 120 TPY
- Largest 450,000 TPY
- Median 20,400 TPY
- Mean 43,023 TPY



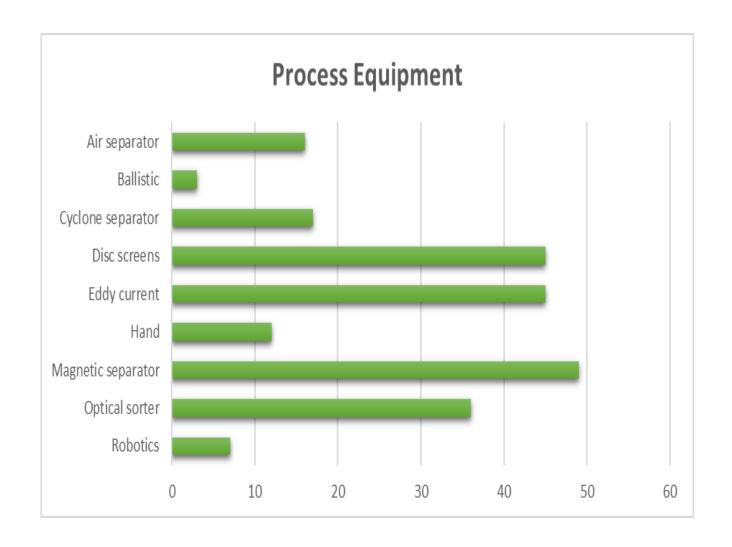


# **Processing Speed**



## Installed Equipment

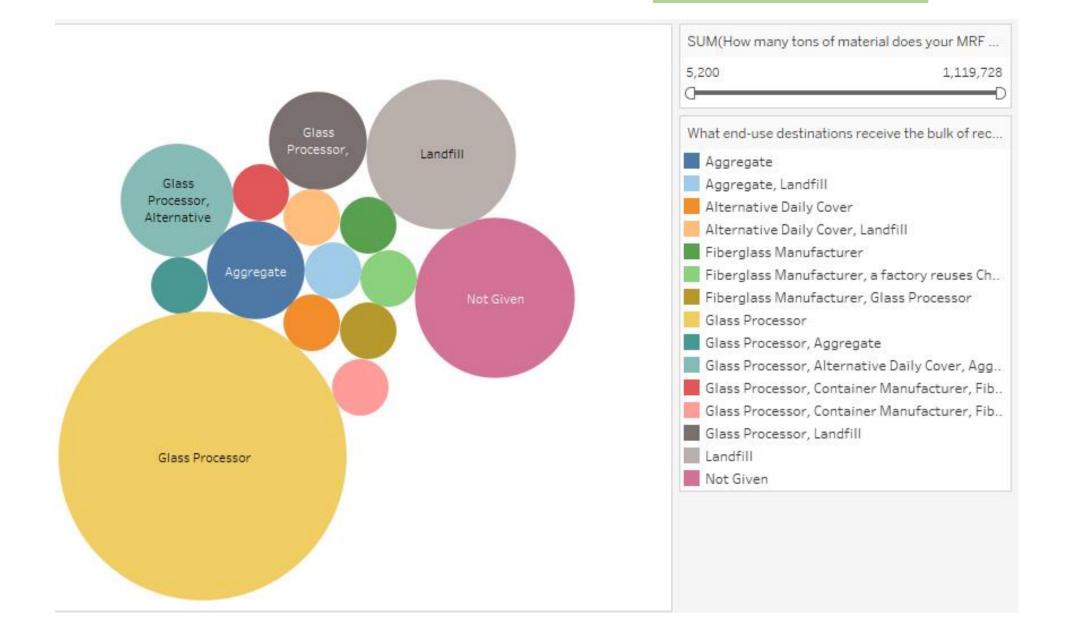
- Mechanical separation is wide spread.
  - Disc screens
  - Magnetic and eddy current separators
- Larger
- There are still some small operations hand sorting.
- Robotics are beginning to be deployed.
- Over half of the respondents indicated plans for facility improvement in 3 to 5 years.





## **Glass Destination**

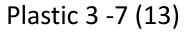
	Small	Medium	Large
Manufacturer	3	2	0
ADC	0	1	7
Aggregate	5	2	4
Landfill	7	1	4
<b>Glass Processor</b>	9	16	13



### **Market Concerns**









Mixed Paper (11)



General Market Value (7)



Glass (5)

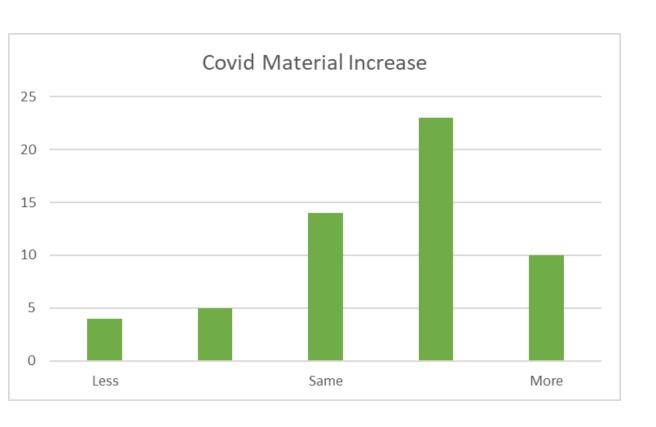


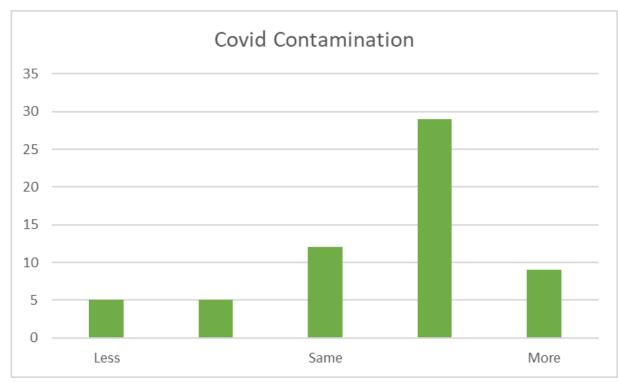
OCC (3)



Film (2)

# **Covid Impacts**





## Will Sagar

Executive Director will.sagar@serdc.org (828) 507-0123



#### **Platinum Sponsors**









### Wednesday Session:

Plastics: From brand commitments, to new legislation being proposed (and passed), advanced recycling technologies to rethinking how we package our products.

RECYCLING IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

Остовек 13-15, 2020

**Gold Sponsor** 



Moderator: Michael McPherson-Georgia Municipal Association Intergovernmental Coordinator

### **Silver Sponsors**









### **Bronze Sponsors**































Our first speaker is:

Laura Rowell- Sonoco, Director of Global Sustainability







Our second speaker is:

Billy Johnson- ISRI, Chief Lobbyist







Our third speaker is:

Ross Sloane- Braven Environmental

### **Platinum Sponsors**



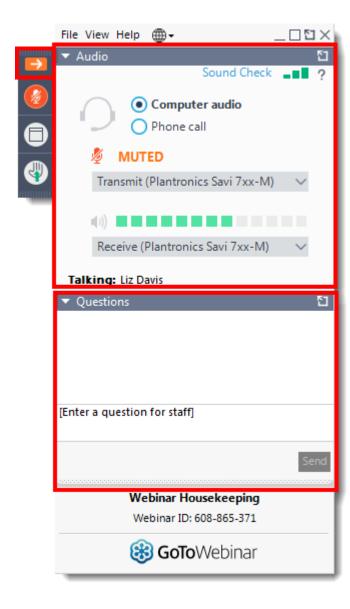




**Gold Sponsor** 



### **Ask Questions**



### **Silver Sponsors**









### **Bronze Sponsors**



























## Thank you for attending!

- Tomorrow's meeting starts at 10:00 am ET
- Use the same log in as today
- Agenda: www.serdc.org/2020-fall-meeting

