

# Manalapan Township Recycling Program

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is Single Stream Recycling?**

“Single stream” is a system that takes the two recycling “streams” - newspaper and commingled containers – and puts them together in one bin. In other words, all the items that are acceptable for recycling can now be put together in one bin that you place at the curb on your assigned pickup day.

These commingled materials will then be hauled to a processing plant specifically designed to mechanically separate the mixed materials so they may be sold (the town gets part of the profit) and re-processed.

### **What else is new about Manalapan’s recycling program?**

Recycling will be picked up once every 2 weeks. Please refer to the recycling schedule for your assigned pick up day. There are also many new items that can be placed in your recycling bin including cardboard and junk mail! It is no longer necessary to tie up your newspaper as long as they are in a container, which will prevent them from getting blown around your street.

**Why Single Stream Recycling?** Manalapan chose to implement a single stream recycling program to make it easier for you to recycle. Using just one collection bin for all your recyclable items increases the ease and convenience of recycling so that more people participate and more resources are saved. Single stream recycling offers more efficient collection for the haulers who normally have to run two recycling routes to collect the two streams. This reduction in the number of trucks on the road leads to a lower cost of recycling and reduces pollution caused by collection vehicles.

Manalapan has to pay by the ton for trash disposal at the landfill. Increased recycling by residents will decrease the amount of trash we send to the landfill and thereby reduce the cost of garbage disposal for the town. The town also gets paid for recyclables, but the amount it is worth depends on how much contamination is in the recycling, which is why we ask residents to only throw acceptable items into their recycling bins. Please see the town recycling guidelines for information about what can be recycled in Manalapan’s curbside collection program.

### **How are the materials separated?**

Automated sorting equipment separates the comingled materials at the recycling facility. Quality control personnel are on duty as well to monitor the process.

### **Doesn’t single stream lower the value of the materials, and won’t there be a lot of contamination?**

One of the concerns associated with single-stream recycling is that one bin tends to encourage people to suddenly put EVERYTHING that seems recyclable in it. That’s why we need YOU to help demonstrate that a community full of educated, conscientious

recyclers can make single stream recycling a success. We need you to follow the town's recycling guidelines which explain what can be placed in your curbside collection bin.

### **Why should I recycle?**

Recycling reduces the emissions of many greenhouse gases and water pollutants, saves energy, supplies valuable raw materials to industry, creates jobs, stimulates the development of greener technologies, generates less solid waste, conserves resources for future generations, and reduces the need for new landfills and combustors. Manalapan is proud of the active role it takes in helping the environment. Now it is easier than ever to recycle at your curb and you can use our centrally-located Recycling Drop-Off Center (207 Route 522) to recycle many items that you cannot place at the curb.

By law, citizens are required to recycle and we absolutely encourage every family to recognize the importance of this civic responsibility. Not only does recycling benefit our environment, but it provides additional funds for Manalapan thereby helping to reduce your taxes.

### **What items can I recycle?**

- For curbside collection, please refer to the recycling guidelines
- Manalapan also has a recycling drop off center located at 207 Route 522 which accepts additional items including car batteries, electronics, computers, scrap metal, large appliances, and clothing
- Plastic bags can be recycled at local supermarkets
- Used oil should be brought to local gas stations or the Monmouth County Household Hazardous Waste Facility (call 732-922-2234)
- Button batteries and rechargeable batteries should be recycled at the Monmouth County Household Hazardous Waste Facility (call 732-922-2234). Alkaline non-rechargeable batteries (e.g. AA, AAA, C, & D) can be thrown in the trash.
- Compact florescent light bulbs (CFL) can be recycled at Home Depot
- To find out where to recycle additional items visit [www.earth911.com](http://www.earth911.com) or call 1-800-CLEANUP.

### **Can I recycle batteries?**

Button batteries and rechargeable batteries should be recycled at the Monmouth County Household Hazardous Waste Facility (call 732-922-2234). Alkaline batteries (e.g. AA, AAA, C, D) can be thrown in the trash.

Non-rechargeable batteries: Due to stricter federal manufacturing regulations, alkaline non-rechargeable batteries now contain very small amounts of toxins and are no longer considered a hazardous waste by federal and state standards. In addition, Monmouth County no longer accepts these alkaline non-rechargeable batteries for recycling, so Manalapan no longer has a facility to bring them to for recycling.

Rechargeable batteries: Rechargeable batteries, including those found in cordless power tools, wireless phones, laptop computers and digital cameras, should still be recycled. Rechargeable batteries can be recycled at participating retail locations

including: Radio Shack, Best Buy, Staples, Target, Office Max, Lowes, Home Depot, Sears, Wal-Mart and Verizon Wireless. To find a retail collection site, use the collection site locator at [www.call2recycle.org](http://www.call2recycle.org) or call the consumer helpline 877-2-RECYCLE.

**Button batteries:** Button cell batteries still contain enough mercury that they need to be kept out of household trash and should be recycled. These batteries are frequently found in hearing aids, digital thermometers, insulin pumps, watches, toys and calculators. Monmouth County will be supplying the Manalapan Recycling Drop-Off Center with a container to collect button batteries sometime in the near future, but we do not have it yet.

### **Can I recycle shredded paper?**

Yes, shredded paper can be placed in your curbside recycling bin. However, to help ensure that it does not get blown around, you must place it inside a clear plastic bag. This is the only exception for plastic bags in the recycling bin. At the recycling facility, quality control personnel open the plastic bags and discard them. They must be able to see what is inside the bags, which is why the bags must be clear.

### **Where is the Recycling Drop-Off Center and when is it open?**

The center is centrally located at 207 Route 522 (just east of the intersection of Tennent Road and Route 522) behind the Senior Center. The hours of operation are: Monday - Friday 8:00 am – 3:00 pm and Saturdays 8:00 am – 2:00 pm.

### **Other Questions**

Call the Manalapan Recycling Coordinator at 732-446-8404

Call the Monmouth County Reclamation Center at 732-922-8686

Call the Monmouth County Hazardous Waste Facility at 732-922-2234

Visit the website for our hauler, Waste Management, at [www.wm.com](http://www.wm.com)