

2009 Refuse & Recycling Information

Thank You

for Making Recycling a Lower Merion Success Story

The recycling program in Lower Merion Township is a great success, and your faithful participation has resulted in both **substantial benefits to the environment and savings for the Township.**

This brochure includes important information including guidelines for household and yard waste recycling. **You'll also find, for your convenience, a handy magnet** that includes your recycling schedule for 2009. This magnet will also **remind you of impor-**

tant events, such as the Township's Hazardous Waste Collection date and upcoming Spring and Fall Cleanup Weekends.

Charitable organizations will continue to be included in the cleanup weekends held at the Koegel Public Works Complex in Penn Valley. In the past, residents have donated more than twelve tons of used computers, small kitchen appliances, bicycles and clothing which were recycled to benefit those less privileged.

There is also an abundance of refuse and recycling information available on the Township's website. We invite you to visit www.lowermerion.org.

If you have questions about any of the information in this flyer, please call (610) 667-1952, (610) 667-1953 or (610) 667-1590, ext. 707. Most of all, **thank you for your continued support** of the Lower Merion Township recycling program.

Propane Cylinders: NOT Municipal Solid Waste

Propane cylinders for gas grills and travel-trailers are *not* municipal solid waste and will not be picked up with curbside trash. These cylinders will also not be accepted at any of the Household Hazardous Waste Collection programs in Montgomery County.

Residents may discard a propane cylinder at any authorized Propane Dealer, for

which there may be a fee. Home improvement centers, Wal-Mart stores and U-Haul centers may have return programs. The following list includes several local dealers who accept propane cylinders:

- Ameri-Gas, Kulpsville (215) 855-9063
- Ameri-Gas, Malvern (610) 644-9100

- Suburban Propane, Montgomeryville (215) 855-6891
- Trexler-Haines, East Greenville (215) 679-7909
- Shaner Propane, Pottstown (610) 326-1970

For other locations and more information, contact the **Montgomery County Recycling Hotline at (610) 278-3618.**

Household Recycling Collection

Thank you for being a friend to the environment. **Your commitment to recycling has enabled the Township to recycle over 40% of its municipal solid waste.** Pickup and disposal of recyclables will continue to be made at no additional charge.

Commingled (In Yellow Bin)

- Commingled items are green, brown and clear glass; #1 or #2 plastics; metal and bi-metallic food and beverage cans. These

items are collected bi-weekly; check your collection schedule posted on the back of this brochure. Please rinse items thoroughly and crush plastic and metal cans to save space in your bin – and in the truck! **You may leave lids on commingled items.**

Mixed Paper (Tied or placed in brown supermarket or clear plastic bags, either next to the recycling bin or bundled and placed in another recycling can.) Mixed paper includes: newspapers, magazines, catalogs, “junk

mail,” telephone books, notebooks and school papers (including spiral bound books), soft and hardback books and textbooks, shopping and pet food bags (without plastic liners), chipboard packaging (including non-perishable food boxes), beer and soda cartons and six-pack packaging, cracker, cake and cereal boxes (without plastic pouches or inserts).

NO CORRUGATED BOXES.

Yard Waste Recycling

Set at the curb on your regular refuse day. **Leaves and yard waste are collected at the curb only.** You also can home compost this material. (Refer to the section entitled “There’s More You Can Do.”)

Leaves

- Place no more than **50 pounds** of leaves only (**no soil, no rocks or apples**) in biodegradable **paper bags!** (Plastic bags are unacceptable, regardless of any information that describes them as recyclable.)

Bags may be purchased at the Township’s Public Works Complex and area hardware stores. The cost is typically 39 cents (plus tax) for 40 gallon bags.

- Burning of leaves is strictly prohibited in Lower Merion Township. Also, **DO NOT RAKE LEAVES INTO THE STREET.** Residents or contractors who rake leaves into the street face fines. Leaves raked into the street can block storm sewers contributing to flooding,

can lead to automobile accidents on wet roadways and interfere with the proper cleaning of streets. Leaves should be placed at the curb on your trash collection day.

Shrubbery and Tree Trimmings

- Place small shrubs and tree trimmings **inside of (not protruding from)** biodegradable paper bags/trash cans.
- Bundle other trimmings **no larger than four feet in length and six inches in diameter, and bundled no more than eighteen inches in diameter.**
- Christmas trees should be placed curbside beginning the 2nd week of the new year (**please, no bags or ornaments.**)

Grass Clippings

- Grass clippings are **not** recycled by the Township. Do not mix

grass with other yard waste which is recycled. The **recommended disposal is to leave grass clippings on your lawn.** They act as a natural fertilizer and can help improve the soil. You can use a mulching mower or cut grass in a circular fashion, allowing the clippings to discharge into the unmowed center area. The lawn mower mulches the cut grass clippings as it cuts more grass.

NOTE:

No rubbish fires or the open burning of leaves, tree branches or yard trimmings are permitted on a street or on private property.

Call (610) 645- 6190 for more information.

Recycling Drop-Off Center

The following items can be taken to the Township's recycling drop-off center located in front of the main office at the Robert J. Koegel Public Works Complex, 1300 Woodbine Avenue, Penn Valley:

- **Textiles** in plastic bags (clothing and fabric, no wet or mildewed items)
- **Commingled items** (glass, #1 &

#2 plastic; metal cans and bottles)

- **Mixed paper** (junk mail, envelopes, magazines and glossy newspaper inserts, newspapers, notebooks and school papers including spiral bound books, telephone books, soft and hardcover books and textbooks, shopping and pet food bags without plastic liners, chipboard packaging including nonperishable food boxes, beer and

soda cartons, cracker, cake and cereal boxes without plastic pouches or inserts.)

- **Computers and computer parts**

CORRUGATED BOXES can be recycled. All items must be separated, flattened and placed in marked areas.

NO PROPANE TANKS and NO FIRE EXTINGUISHERS.

There's More You Can Do. . .

Home Composting: You can convert much of your refuse into a valuable garden soil supplement by composting. Yard waste can also be composted in home-made or commercially available compost bins. **KITCHEN WASTE should be placed in a closed compost bin.** It can include fruit and vegetable trimmings, egg shells and coffee grounds. **IMPORTANT NOTE: Do not compost animal products** (meat, fish, bones, fat, products or pet feces). **YARD WASTE may be placed in an open or closed compost bin.**

You may compost leaves, grass and weeds. Contact Riverbend Environmental Education Center at (610) 527-5234 for more details on home composting.

Motor Oil: (Information Hotline: 1-800-346-4242)

While the Township does not accept motor oil for recycling, the following service stations do: *Citgo/Laird's Auto Body, 800 Montgomery Avenue, Narberth: (610) 664-9262 (3-gallon limit); Focht's Auto Repair, 129 Old Belmont Avenues, Bala Cynwyd: (610) 664-5006; Fritsch Exxon, Montgom-*

*ery/Woodside, Ardmore: (610) 642-9934; Heilman's Sunoco, Lancaster/Woodside, Ardmore: (610) 649-1991; Merion Exxon, Haverford/Montgomery, Merion: (610) 664-9064 (\$5 charge—also accepts car batteries, anti-freeze, propane tanks and used grill propane tanks); Plisinski Citgo, 1227 Lancaster Avenue, Rosemont: (610) 525-9694; Al and Harry's Texaco, 380 Montgomery Avenue, Merion: (610) 664-5832; Wynnewood Amoco, Wynnewood/Lancaster, Wynnewood: (610) 642-9455; Main Line Exxon, 1435 City Avenue, Wynnewood: (610) 642-5959. **GAS STATIONS DO NOT ACCEPT USED GASOLINE.***

General Refuse Information

Refuse is all non-recyclable household trash which you put in your garbage cans. **Please, no construction material, carpeting or padding.** Refuse is collected once a week between 7 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. **It must be placed out before 7 a.m.** or you could miss your collection. Refuse being collected curbside should be put out **after 7 p.m.** the night before collection. Containers must be retrieved no later than the end of the day of collec-

tion. **For Rear Yard Collection,** driveways must be cleared of all vehicles on collection day. Please, do not allow pets to run loose.

Containers must be water tight, **no larger than 32 gallons, and weigh no more than 50 pounds when full.** They must be placed near the same location each week. Collectors may not enter houses, buildings or carports to collect refuse. Garbage disposals can reduce the amount of refuse you

generate, but installation requires a permit from the Township's Plumbing Inspector. Contact the **Building and Planning Department at (610) 645-6176.**

Reduce hazards to collection crews by placing needles, syringes or other sharp objects in glass or other containers before placing in your trash. **NEVER** flush these items down the toilet. Doing so may endanger Sanitary Sewer Division employees.

2009 Recycling Schedules and Township Holidays

RECYCLING Week "A"		2009 Holidays	RECYCLING Week "B"	
MONTH	WEEK BEGINNING	NO REFUSE OR RECYCLING COLLECTION WILL TAKE PLACE ON:	MONTH	WEEK BEGINNING
January	12th, 26th	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day— Monday, January 19, 2009	January	5th, 19th
February	9th, 23rd	Memorial Day— Monday, May 25, 2009	February	2nd, 16th
March	9th, 23rd	Independence Day (observed) - Friday, July 3, 2009	March	2nd, 16th, 30th
April	6th, 20th	Labor Day— Monday, September 7, 2009	April	13th, 27th
May	4th, 18th	Thanksgiving Day— Thursday, November 26, 2009	May	11th, 25th
June	1st, 15th, 29th	Christmas Day— Friday, December 25, 2009	June	8th, 22nd
July	13th, 27th	New Year's Day Friday, January 1, 2010	July	6th, 20th
August	10th, 24th		August	3rd, 17th, 31st
September	8th, 21st		September	14th, 28th
October	5th, 19th		October	12th, 26th
November	2nd, 16th, 30th		November	9th, 23rd
December	14th, 28th		December	7th, 21st

2009 Cleanup Weekends (at the Koegel Public Works Complex)

- Saturday, April 18th and Sunday, April 19th, 8 a.m.—5 p.m.
- Saturday, May 2nd and Sunday, May 3rd, 8 a.m.—5 p.m.
- Saturday, October 10th and Sunday, October 11th, 8 a.m.—5 p.m.

Do not bring Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) to the Cleanup Weekends. The Township's HHW drop-off at the Transfer station will be held on Saturday, October 24, 2009, 9 a.m.—3 p.m.

Solid Waste Fees

The Board of Commissioners sets fees for the collection of refuse based on the level of service chosen by residents. **The 2009 rate will be determined following the adoption of the 2009 Budget on December 17, 2008.** Residents are notified by mail in late December/early January with the opportunity to change their level of service for the following year. The billing is entered on the County/Township Real Estate Tax bill mailed in early February.

Residents taking refuse to the Public Works Complex are charged a fee of four cents per

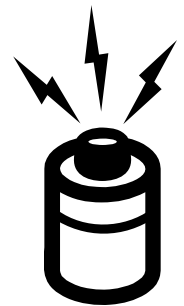
pound; minimum charge, 67 cents. Hazardous waste, stones, dirt and concrete are NOT accepted. Other disposal fees: rimless tires, \$1.50; tires with rims, \$2.50; major appliances, \$10.

Special Refuse Collections

Bulky items and appliances may not be placed out for regular refuse collection. You may obtain a special "pick-up" application at the Public Works Department in the Township Administration Building, at the Refuse Office in the Public Works Complex, or on the Township's website (www.lowermerion.org).

Batteries...

Batteries may be disposed of in your regular household waste. This includes AAA, AA, C, D, 9-Volt and Square 6-Volt, Lantern/Flashlight and Button Batteries.



All Alkaline and Zinc-Carbon Batteries purchased since 1993 are non-hazardous and do not contain mercury. **Rechargeable Nickel-Cadmium batteries can be recycled at area locations.**

For more information, call 1-800-8-BATTERY.