









June News from Howard County Recycling

Covid19 Updates – Trash and Recycling

Alpha Ridge Landfill: Modified Operations

	Avoid unnecessary trips to Alpha Ridge Landfill. County-provided collection services continue to operate as usual and collection guidelines still apply. Please delay disposal of spring clean out materials as the high volume has overwhelmed collection crews.
	Suspension of all residential organic material sales and giveaways (compost, mulch, topsoil, and shredded wood) until further notice.
	Please wear a mask and continue to practice social distancing (6 ft) while at the Residents' Convenience Center.
	Vehicles with a trailer or box trucks must cross the scales; they cannot use the Residents Convenience Center due to safety concerns.
	Permitted commercial accounts must cross the scales and will be billed based on material type and tonnage. On-site cash, check and credit card sales have been discontinued.
	Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Drop-offs will be held Saturdays and Tuesdays 8am-4pm. Tuesday is an added service day, however we ask those that can wait to dispose of these items to please do so.

Services will continue to be evaluated as needed. Call 410-313-6444 to get the most up-to-date information from our recorded message or visit our website at HowardCountyRecycles.org.

The Tuesday Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) events will continue through June 30th. Saturday HHW events continue through November as usual.

For additional Covid19-related updates, visit HowardCountyRecycles.org. The website is monitored and updated daily.



The Nuts & Bolts of Scrap Metal Recycling

In 2019 over 2,300 tons of scrap metal was collected for recycling at the Alpha Ridge Landfill's Residents' Convenience Center and through the curbside scrap metal collection program.

In addition to collecting metal items such as old fitness equipment, grills, bed frames, etc, we also collect household appliances such as washing machines, dryers, and air conditioners. An object must be 20% metal by weight to be considered 'scrap metal.' If less than 20% of an item is metal, it should go in the trash, unless it has a digital component, in which case it can go to the electronic scrap recycling area. Before any scrap metal leaves the landfill, a certified contractor removes all of the refrigerant chemicals from all refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, etc.

After all of the the refrigerants have been removed, all of the collected scrap metal is commingled together and sent to a location in Baltimore County to be processed, shredded, and sold to manufacturers to be made into new metal objects.

To participate in the curbside scrap metal program:

- Consult our website for a [list of items](#) that we pickup and those excepted items that we do

not pickup.

- Call our office at 410-313-6444 to schedule a pick-up.

Additional helpful hints:

- Do not place scrap metal items except for food/drink containers, in your blue recycling bin.
- If you plan to bring a heavy scrap metal item to the landfill, bring helpers as landfill staff cannot assist with offloading.
- Please hold onto used bikes until the Governor's 'Safer at Home' advisory is lifted and we can collect them for use by Bikes for the World.

Maryland's Styrofoam Ban

The State of Maryland has banned the use of certain types of Styrofoam containers by food service providers as of July 1. This ban won't affect items bought at grocery stores, with the exception of items bought at a 'hot food bar' in a grocery store. Styrofoam items most affected by the ban will be takeout and delivery containers from restaurants, bars, and takouts. To read more about the ban, click [here](#).

Certain types of clean Styrofoam items can be recycled at the Residents' Convenience Area at the Alpha Ridge Landfill. Learn what's acceptable on our [website](#). Remember: Styrofoam should never be placed out with regular curbside recycling.

Howard County Recycling

9801 Broken Land Parkway
Columbia, MD 21046
Open Mon.- Fri., 8 am to 5 pm

Alpha Ridge Landfill

2350 Marriottsville Road
Marriottsville, MD 21104
Open Mon.- Sat., 8 am to 4 pm

(410) 313-6444 help@HowardCountyRecycles.org

HowardCountyRecycles.org

