

CONVENIENCE

Recycling should be just as convenient as taking out the garbage.

- Keep the recycling carts in a secure, well-lit location that is convenient for tenants and free of debris to keep passers-by from putting garbage into the recycling.
- Recycling carts should be located in the same area as the garbage containers so it is easy for tenants to recycle when they take out their trash. If recycling containers are by themselves, they will be contaminated with garbage.
- Make sure that your garbage and recycling carts and bins are clearly labeled. Your hauler can provide bin stickers.
- Place your own small recycling containers in common areas such as the mail room and laundry room and empty them into the recycling carts. Be sure to always place a trash can next to the recycling containers or residents will place trash in the recycling.



CONTAMINATION

When garbage is put in the same containers as recycling, the recycling becomes contaminated and must be collected and charged as garbage.

- Monitor your recycling containers. Spend some time each week to make sure your recycling containers are not contaminated.
- Recruit residents to volunteer to monitor contamination and help their neighbors learn about what they can and cannot recycle. Thurston County Solid Waste offers free volunteer training annually. Learn more at www.ThurstonSolidWaste.org.
- Provide tenants with recycling information during move-in and move-out to help prevent illegal dumping near dumpsters.

Apartment-Wide Yard Sales: An Excellent Way to Reuse

Talk with tenants to see if they would like to have a community yard sale. Yard sales are a great way to keep unwanted reusable items out of the trash and give them a second life. Yard sales also offer a great way for folks to find fantastic deals and for neighbors to meet each other.



www.WhereDoITakeMy.org



THIS HELPFUL PACKET INCLUDES:

- TIPS TO RUN A SUCCESSFUL RECYCLING PROGRAM
- RESIDENT MOVE-OUT RECYCLING RESOURCES
- BROCHURES TO DISTRIBUTE TO RESIDENTS (ENGLISH AND SPANISH)

RECYCLING TOOLKIT FOR PROPERTY MANAGERS

TENANTS APPRECIATE HAVING AN EASY-TO-USE RECYCLING PROGRAM AVAILABLE ON-SITE. THIS TOOLKIT PROVIDES TIPS TO HELP PROPERTY MANAGERS OFFER A SUCCESSFUL RECYCLING PROGRAM AND REDUCE COSTS.

BY INCREASING RECYCLING AT YOUR PROPERTY:

- You may save money by reducing your trash service. You pay for recycling whether you use it or not. By recycling more and throwing away less, you can save money on your garbage disposal costs.
- You can stay competitive. Tenants want to live in a complex that makes recycling services available to them. Marketing your complex as a “green” community is a huge selling point.
- You can be part of the solution. Reducing your environmental impact and contributing to the growing “green” economy is something you can do to help locally and globally.

THURSTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE
(360) 867-2491 or TDD (360) 754-2933
www.ThurstonSolidWaste.org



HOW TO HAVE A SUCCESSFUL RECYCLING PROGRAM

RESOURCES AND ASSISTANCE

Thurston County Solid Waste is here to help you!

- Tips and ideas for a successful program
- Brochures to distribute to residents
- Instructional signage
- Articles for your newsletter upon request
- Group presentations upon request
- Website where you and your residents can obtain further information about assistance and more recycling options (www.ThurstonSolidWaste.org)



EDUCATION

Because multi-family units have higher turnover rates than single-family homes, education efforts must be continual and more intensive.

- Use Thurston County Solid Waste as a resource! We have information on our website and can provide signs and presentations.
- Providing recycling information to your tenants on an ongoing basis helps to ensure a successful program.
- Use multiple means of getting the message out: signs, tenant meetings, newsletters and mailings. Place posters and signage near the recycling bins and in common areas.
- Encourage volunteers to provide assistance by communicating with other residents about program details, any difficulties, and all successes.
- Keep a list of reuse and recycling opportunities available throughout the county handy so you have the answer when residents contact you with questions.



CAPACITY

Garbage carts and bins must have enough capacity to hold materials that accumulate between collections.

If your recycling often fills up before collection, contact your hauler to arrange for more recycling containers or more frequent pick up service. Remember, your recycling services cost the same, regardless of the size or quantity of bins.

If your complex generates a lot of cardboard, contact your hauler to find out about getting a separate bin for cardboard. This keeps the other recycling containers from filling up too fast.

Be sure that you have the right size container for your trash. You'll see a savings if you can reduce your garbage container size.

