



Want Recycling? **DEMAND IT!**

RecycleNOW Philadelphia: The Vision is Zero Waste

On November 15th the Recycling Alliance of Philadelphia will be celebrating America Recycles Day with a symposium at the Academy of Natural Sciences. The program includes:

- Highlights of *Stop Trashing the Climate* report – Recycling, Reuse, and Composting as effective strategies in addressing Climate Change --- Brenda Platt, Institute for Local Self-Reliance Co-Director
- Panel on Zero Waste in Philadelphia: How do we get there from here? City of Philadelphia Streets Commissioner Clarena Tolson (invited) John Casella, CEO, Casella Waste Systems, Inc., parent company of Blue Mountain Recycling (invited)
- Recognition of “Hometown Heroes” by Christine Knapp, Director of Outreach, PennFuture
- Presentation by Mayor Michael Nutter

This event will present a forum for exploring future opportunities for recycling in Philadelphia. Blue Mountain Recycling, processor of Philadelphia’s curbside side materials, is providing funding support for this program.

Recycling is truly a collective effort of many unsung heroes. The Recycling Alliance plans to honor these “Hometown Heroes” who have fought for decades to demand better recycling services, educated their fellow community members, and engaged their communities. Tell us who has inspired, organized, and improved recycling in your neighborhood, block, apartment complex, or workplace and we will recognize them in a ceremony at our November 15th America Recycles Day Celebration. Please email all nominations (deadline November 1) and requests for event information to symposium@recyclenowphilly.org.

How to Recycle (just about) Anything

“Hard to recycle” materials facilities are popping up all over the country and are critical for the implementation of zero waste policies. For years the recycling community in Philadelphia has been singing the praises of and sending people to [Recycling Services Inc. \(RSI\)](#). This facility, located in Pottstown, PA, will accept just about any and every material and recycle it. Many Philadelphians concerned

with waste will be glad to know that RSI will take plastics #1-7! Since Pottstown is 40 miles away the Recycling Alliance recommends that you organize a combined trip to the facility with your friends and neighbors. Start a friendly competition to see who can collect the most recyclable material! For more information and directions to RSI, please visit www.recyclingservices.org.

RecycleNOW Chapter Meetings, Updates, and Contacts

- ✘ **West Philadelphia** – October 9, 7pm, Dock Street Brewery, 50th and Baltimore. RecycleNOW West Philly will be meeting up at Dock Street for some food and drinks but definitely still talking some recycling – and rooting for the Phillies. Contact Ben Ditzler at benditzler@gmail.com if you are interested in attending.
- ✘ **Northwest** – Northwest Recycle NOW is collaborating with Weaver's Way to distribute bins & recycling information at their Ogontz store on Oct. 18th, from 10 am till 1 pm. Help GET THE BIN OUT! If you are interested in helping contact Carolyn Scott at cwelchscott@gmail.com.
- ✘ **Recycle NOW Philadelphia: The Vision is Zero Waste: A Forum Celebrating the Future for Recycling in Philadelphia.** Saturday, November 15, 2008, 9am, Academy of Natural Sciences

If you are interested in the work RecycleNOW does or starting a RecycleNOW chapter in your neighborhood, contact Ben Ditzler at benditzler@gmail.com. All RecycleNOW chapters and contacts are available at www.RecycleNOWPhila.org.

Busting the Myths of Philadelphia Recycling

MYTH: There is no penalty for not recycling in Philadelphia.

FACT: Recycling in Philadelphia is the law and fines will be issued to those who do not recycle.

Philadelphia was the first city in country to enact mandatory curbside recycling. Streets and Walkways Education and Enforcement Program (SWEEP) officers are charged with enforcing trash and recycling laws and are authorized to write \$25 tickets to residents caught not recycling.

Recently the Nutter Administration has ramped up recycling enforcement and more SWEEP officers have been hired. They will be focusing their efforts especially on apartment complexes and commercial establishments that are not providing recycling for their tenants. To get your commercial apartment building, office building or business up to speed with recycling laws, read the City of Philadelphia's [Guide to Turning Philadelphia's Recycling Regulations Into an Opportunity](#) or visit the [Greater Philadelphia Commercial Recycling Council](#) website.

At home, make sure you set out your recycling curbside at the appropriate time to avoid getting a ticket. Most neighborhoods have daytime collection and should set out recyclables between 7 p.m. the night before collection day and 7 a.m. the day of collection. If you have evening collection, set out recyclables between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. on your collection day. If you have received a fine or have a question please contact the Philadelphia Streets Department at 215-686-5560.

If you have any recycling myths to debunk please send them to kedwards@cleanair.org.

If you have any more questions, concerns, or would like to get in contact with RecycleNOW Philadelphia, please email us at info@recyclenowphilly.org. We welcome your input and involvement.