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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City Expands Materials Accepted in Curbside Recycling

The City of Fredericksburg will now accept additional items for recycling including any plastic containers labeled with the numbers 1-7. The City previously accepted only plastics labeled with the numbers 1 and 2. Additionally, the City will now accept clean food and beverage cartons (soup and juice boxes, milk and juice cartons).

“This is a welcome opportunity to divert additional materials for recycling that would otherwise be deposited in the Eskimo Hill landfill” said City of Fredericksburg Councilor Kerry Devine.

Residents are also reminded that the landfill does not accept plastic bags, as they clog machinery at the recycling center. Residents are encouraged to instead consider using reusable bags, or if they use plastic bags, they should recycle them at their grocery store.

The R-Board is required by the VA Department of Environmental Quality to recycle at least 25% of the waste generated in its jurisdictions. For the last several years, the R-Board has surpassed this target with a recycling rate of about 50% and holds one of the highest recycling rates in the state!

This new policy is the result of the Rappahannock Regional Solid Waste Management Board (R-Board) decision to expand the list of accepted materials. The R-Board’s Eskimo Hill facility accepts recycling and waste generated in Stafford County and the City of Fredericksburg.

For information on what is accepted under the new expanded recycling program, visit:
<http://fredericksburgva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/7001>

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RECYCLING GUIDELINES

| Acceptable for recycling | | Not acceptable for recycling | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <p><u>Cardboard</u></p> <p>Corrugated cardboard boxes – please flatten</p> |  | <p><u>NO PLASTIC BAGS</u></p> <p>Plastic wrap and plastic bags cause equipment damage at the processing facility when they get wrapped around moving parts.</p> | |
| <p><u>Mixed Paper</u></p> <p>Newspaper, magazines, catalogs, computer paper, junk mail, cereal/other paperboard boxes (flatten) and <u>paper</u> bags</p> |  | <p><u>DO NOT BAG RECYCLABLES</u></p> <p>Return plastic bags and film to retail stores. Information on recycling plastic bags at grocery stores.</p> |  |
| <p><u>*Clean* Steel and Aluminum Cans/foil/pie tins</u></p> <p>Empty and rinse. Aluminum beverage cans, Metal cans, including food and beverage cans. Place the lid back in the can.</p> |  | <p><u>NO Foam Products or Carryout Packaging</u></p> <p>Including cups, takeout boxes, and packaging materials (like peanuts).</p> |  |
| <p><u>*Clean* Kitchen, Laundry, Bath Bottles and Containers</u></p> <p>Milk and juice jugs, soda & water bottles, shampoo bottles; detergent bottles. Containers with #1- #7 on the bottom will be accepted. Butter tubs, yogurt sour cream, clear clamshells, berry baskets, prescription bottles, etc. Empty, rinse, crush, and replace cap before placing in your recycling container.</p> | <p><i>No loose caps or containers of loose caps are accepted. The cap needs to be placed back on the bottle or carton to be recycled.</i></p>  | <p><u>NO Food-contaminated items</u></p> <p>No greasy pizza boxes No dirty cans/bottles No dirty aluminum foil. Food residue contaminates the materials and makes items unrecyclable.</p> |  |
| <p><u>*Clean* Bottles and Jars</u></p> <p>Clear, blue, brown & green food & beverage glass containers. Remove and discard metal caps/lids, then empty and rinse before recycling.</p> | <p><i>Metal caps/lids are not accepted.</i></p>  | <p><u>NO Hazardous Waste Containers</u></p> <p>No flammables, motor oil, paint, pesticides, or batteries are accepted.</p> |  |
| <p><u>*Clean* Food and Beverage Cartons</u></p> <p>Plastic-coated cardboard Milk, juice, soup, creamers. Empty, rinse, crush and replace plastic caps before recycling.</p> |  | <p><u>NO Tangles</u></p> <p>No hoses, wires, chains or shredded paper.</p> <p>No electronics are accepted.</p> |  |



Recycling Plastic Bags

Reduce the number of bags you use by putting more items in each bag

Reuse older bags or take a reusable bag to the store with you

Recycle return extra bags to the store for recycling

Generally Acceptable for Recycling

Note: All material must be empty, clean and dry

- Plastic grocery bags
- Plastic retail bags (remove string ties & rigid plastic handles)
- Plastic dry-cleaning bags
- Plastic bread bags and plastic produce bags
- Plastic newspaper sleeves
- Plastic packaging (around cases of paper towels, bath tissue, etc.)
- Plastic stretch/shrink wrap
- Plastic ziplock bags (remove rigid closing mechanism)
- Plastic bags that are clean and dry with a #2 or #4 recycling symbol
- Plastic bubble wrap

Not Accepted for Recycling

Do not include the following:

- Plastic bags with food residue
- Plastic bottles
- Plastic food containers
- Plastic prepackaged food bags (from frozen or microwavable foods)
- Plastic soil or mulch bags
- Biodegradable or compostable bags
- Receipts, tape, labels
- Saran Wrap
- Six pack rings

Retailers That Accept Plastic Bags for Recycling

Farm Fresh Food Lion Kroger Lowe's
 Martin's Target Walmart Whole Foods

Plastic bags can be recycled into many different products!

Kroger stores participate in HilexPoly's Bag-2-Bag program and plastic bags returned to the store are recycled into new plastic bags. For more information, visit www.HilexPoly.com.

Farm Fresh, Martin's and Target participate in plastic bag recycling with Trex Company in Winchester, VA. At Trex, plastic bags are recycled into composite lumber. A Trex 2x6 board that is 16 feet long uses approximately 2,250 plastic bags. Trex Company obtains about 50% of the available recycled plastic grocery bags in the nation. For more information, visit www.trex.com/plan/why-trex/environmentally-friendly/recycling-programs/index.htm

MARTIN'S Food Markets also donates park benches to community organizations as part of its "Bags to Benches" program. Inquire at MARTIN'S Food Markets, Attn: Community Relations, PO Box 249, Carlisle, PA 17013.

Other stores may accept plastic bags for recycling as well. Check with your local retailers or visit www.abagslife.com. Visit www.plasticfilmrecycling.org/#3 for more information on plastic film recycling.

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