

Glass Recycling & Markets Update



National Recycling Coalition
Recycling Markets Development in the 21st Century
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Glass Recycling Benefits

- ❖ 100% and endlessly recyclable
- ❖ Significant reductions in energy use and GHG emissions at the plants
- ❖ Preservation of raw materials and limited landfill disposal



Consumers Want to Recycle Glass Containers



Americans want to recycle glass

90%

say that it is important to recycle materials rather than sending them to the landfill.

95%

of those who live in a community which recycles glass say glass should continue to be collected by recyclers.

91%

say finding ways to avoid wasting our natural resources is important.

Glass is made from natural resources



sand



soda ash



limestone



*Source: 2016 SurveyUSA poll

Challenges for Glass Recycling

- ❖ Renewed emphasis on contamination – China import specifications
- ❖ End Market Proximity
- ❖ Lower commodity values for recyclables across the board



MYTHS / REALITIES FROM THESE & OTHER STUDIES FOR RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING

Myth- Glass Cannot Be Captured Effectively or Costs Too Much to Capture at a MRF

Reality- Small or large investments yield big improvements

- Many MRFs capture well over 90% of the glass generated in the curbside program (Rumpke, Resource Management)
- Small investments with good ROIs

possible- GRC website has best practices



CP Glass Cleaning System

MYTHS / REALITIES FROM THESE & OTHER STUDIES FOR RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING

Myth- Glass greatly contaminates paper

Reality- Glass is only a small part of the contamination of paper and can be cleaned effectively

- Only 5-6% of all paper contamination comes from glass when measured - this is a consistent number
- Food and garbage are by far the bigger issue
- No export issues with glass reported by major shippers (downgrades or rejections)



MYTHS / REALITIES FROM THESE & OTHER STUDIES FOR RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING



Myth- Glass “loses money” in a residential recycling program

Reality- Residential Recycling is a Service

- All Materials Collected and Processed cost money on a net basis- avg. 1/3 total garbage bill, currently ~\$6.20 per HH
- Glass cost is approx. \$1.20 of that service
- Glass already priced into service contracts- longest standing curbside collection material (1959 Toledo)

Strengthening Glass Recycling Programs



glass
packaging
institute

Recycled Glass Specification

Voluntary Recycled Glass Standard – Improving quality and setting clear expectations for haulers, recyclers and communities



**Higher Quality Glass,
Less Contamination &
Undersize Materials**



**Institute of
Scrap Recycling
Industries, Inc.**



Glass Recycling Coalition Membership

Consumer brands

Glass manufacturing

Waste hauling

Recycling processors

Trade organizations



DIAGEO



★ Heineken



WM WASTE MANAGEMENT

KNAUF INSULATION



Ardagh Group



GALLO GLASS CALIFORNIA PURE



ALLAGASH BREWING COMPANY

FETZER PIONEERS IN SUSTAINABILITY

NAIMA NORTH AMERICAN INSULATION MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION



Pernod Ricard

RUMPKE

BALCONES RESOURCES



RMC | Resource Management Companies



MACHINEX

Constellation Brands



Glass Recycling Coalition Focus

All glass containers are continuously recycled to the highest and best use, maximizing economic, environmental and social benefits.



Best practices



Collaborating for success for glass recycling



Developing intervention resources for communities



Partnering with Glass Champions



Providing solutions-oriented resources-public-sector

Thank You!



Learn more about GPI:

www.GPI.org

www.UpgradeToGlass.com

GlassRecycles.org