

# Overview of Markets in the Midwest and of the IL Recycling Contamination Task Force

Presented At: NRC/IRA Workshop, Nov. 7, 2018

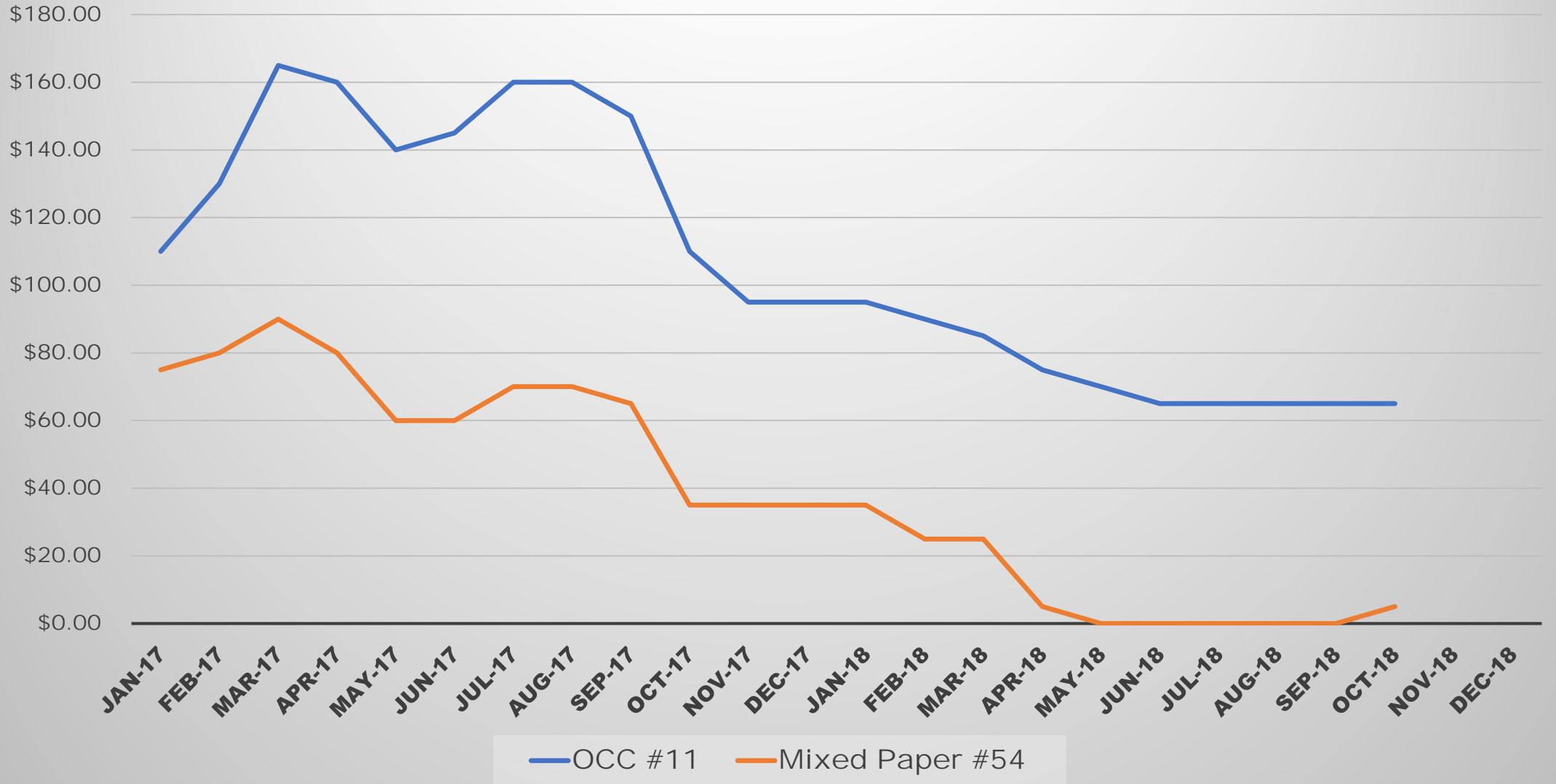
Presented By: Walter S. Willis, SWALCO

# Overview of Markets in the Midwest

- Why does SWALCO track market pricing for recyclables?
  - Agreement with WMI allows for payments to SWALCO and its members when average market price of recyclables is \$60 per ton or greater
  - Compute monthly and rely on published indices, and WMI's actual costs for managing the residue, mixed plastic film and glass

# Domestic Recovered Paper

Source: Pulp & Paper Week - Yellow Sheet  
Midwest Region



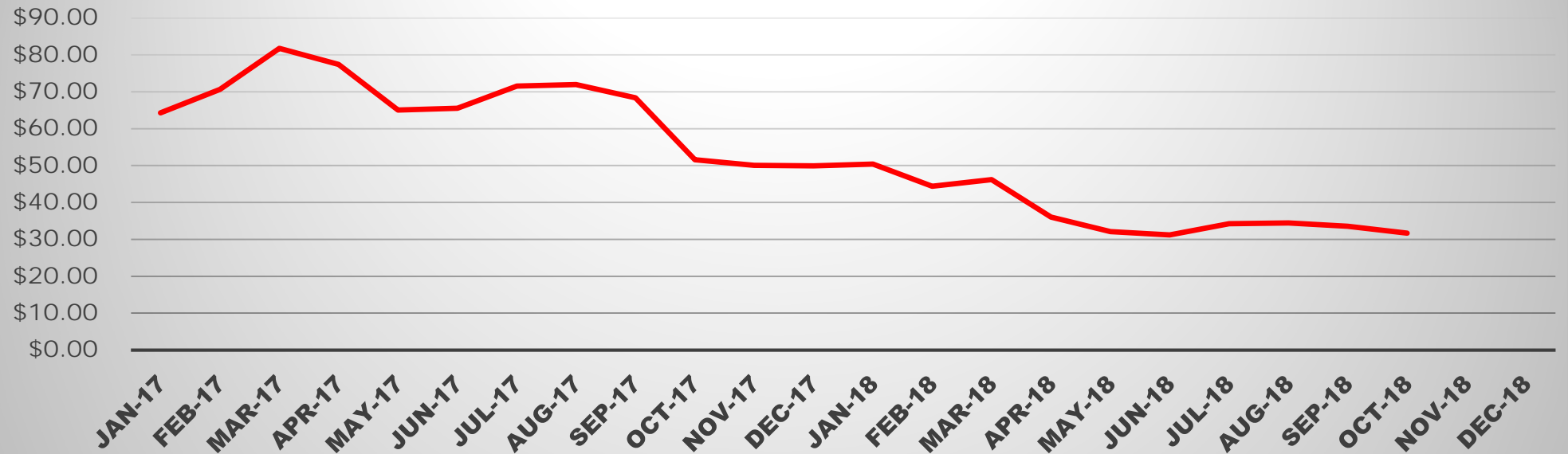


**Commodity/Material**

**Source**

OCC #11	Midwest High Side RISI Pulp & Paper Week	10.96%
Mixed Paper #54	Midwest High Side RISI Pulp & Paper Week	47.09%
Three-Mix Glass	Actual cost provided by WMRA	18.84%
Tin	Midwest High Side SecondaryMaterialsPricing.com	2.09%
Aluminum	Midwest Regional Avg. SecondaryMaterialsPricing.com	1.03%
PET	Midwest High Side SecondaryMaterialsPricing.com	2.73%
HDPE Natural	Midwest High Side SecondaryMaterialsPricing.com	0.98%
HDPE Colored	Midwest High Side SecondaryMaterialsPricing.com	0.90%
Tubs & Lids - Mixed Bulky Rigid Plastics	Midwest High Side SecondaryMaterialsPricing.com	0.09%
Large Rigid Plastic - Mixed Bulky Rigid Plastics	Midwest High Side SecondaryMaterialsPricing.com	0.57%
Mixed Plastic Film	Actual cost provided by WMRA	0.17%
Residue	Actual cost provided by WMRA	14.54%
		100.00%

**Blended Index Value**



# Overview of Markets in the Midwest

- SWANCC and SWALCO MRF Capacity and End Markets Study
  - Approved by both boards this fall, study to be completed this winter, goals are:
    - To better prepare for contract negotiations with haulers
    - To better understand markets, where our material goes now, what are the problem materials, and what can our agencies do to spur new markets
    - To determine if additional studies should be pursued by the agencies and whether there is any need/interest in developing additional MRF capacity to serve the agencies

# Overview of Markets in the Midwest

- SWANCC and SWALCO MRF Capacity and End Markets Study
  - Scope of work includes:
    - A MRF “Needs Assessment” on processing capacity in the Chicago region and status of the technology being used at MRFs in our area
    - Evaluation of how MRF processing costs impact monthly rates for households
    - Evaluate contamination’s impact on processing costs
    - Status of end markets for recyclables from our programs
    - Case studies of three public/private MRF partnerships

# Overview of Markets in the Midwest

- SWALCO's 2019 Plan Update will include a circular economy/sustainable materials management section
  - How much "circular economy" activity is already occurring in Lake County
  - How can Lake County increase its circular economy and help stimulate markets for materials diverted from the landfill
  - Should we start considering mandated recycled content standards (at State level, not county) for packaging and other common waste stream items to grow markets



# Goals of the Recycling Contamination Task Force

- Develop and disseminate consistent messaging to residential recycling participants
  - To reduce contamination and processing costs
  - To improve marketability of residential recyclables
- Increase participation in residential recycling programs (both curbside and drop-off)

# Objectives of the Task Force

- Create a baseline of current contamination rates at MRFs to measure programmatic impacts
- Agree on a general list of acceptable and non-acceptable items and the most effective way to communicate the information to residents
- Develop a statewide education campaign and a way to fund it
- Increase efforts to monitor contamination at the point of collection (cart tagging programs)

# Task Force Members

- Approximately 32 people representing 22 organizations
  - Waste Industry – SWANA-IL, NWRA-IL, WM, Waste Connections/Groot, Lakeshore Recycling Systems, Republic, Homewood Disposal, Peoria Disposal Co.
  - MRF operators/recyclers – Resource Management, Republic, Waste Connections/Groot, WM, Midwest Fiber, Homewood Disposal, Eagle Enterprises, Lakeshore Recycling Systems, Peoria Disposal Co., IRA
  - Government – IEPA, ILCSWMA, IL PSC, USEPA, SWANCC, SWALCO, Metro Mayors, West Cook SWA, City of Chicago, Cook County

# Overview of Task Force Meetings

- Meeting #1, June 6, 2018, Grayslake MRF
  - Co-Chairs, Lisa Disbrow (NWRA-IL) and Walter Willis (SWANA-IL) reviewed the goals of the Task Force
  - Discussed Task Force Objectives document to gain consensus on goals, objectives and potential action items for the Task Force
- Action Items:
  - Agreed to meet a second time and focus on developing consensus on new, more simplified guidelines, and discussing best practices for recycling cart tagging programs

# Overview of Task Force Meetings

- Meeting #2, July 16, 2018, IEPA's Springfield Office
  - Each MRF indicated which items it does and doesn't accept, and listed top 5 contaminants
  - Reviewed numerous existing recycling guidelines and how to best disseminate new guidelines
  - Discussed best practices for curbside cart tagging programs
- Action Items:
  - Prepare draft recycling guidelines and cart tag guidelines (Walter Willis)
  - Develop a draft press release (Lisa Disbrow)
  - Develop a draft video script (Marta Keane)
  - Prepare a draft short term marketing/communications strategy (Jennifer Jarland)

# Overview of Task Force Meetings

- Meeting #3, August 29, 2018, Prairie View RDF in Will County
  - Reviewed the “Action Item” documents including recycling guidelines, cart tag guidelines, marketing/communications strategy, press release and video scripts
  - Information provided on Round Lake Beach’s cart tagging program
  - Presentation on IEPA’s website development/proposal
- Action Items:
  - Make minor revisions to recycling guidelines and update press release
  - Prepare a cover letter, with a checklist of “to do” tasks for America Recycles Day launch
  - Have IEPA and IL Dept. of Innovation and Technology continue development of website, and use DuPage County as a case study for presenting more detailed information

# CAN I RECYCLE THESE IN LAKE COUNTY?

# YES!



METAL

PAPER

- ✓ CLEAN & EMPTY
- ✓ NOT IN BAGS



PLASTIC



GLASS



# NO!



No Plastic  
Bags or  
Product Wrap



No Clothing,  
Textiles or  
Shoes



No Food,  
Liquid, Diapers,  
or Needles



No Tangles  
(Hangers, Hoses,  
Cords, or Chains)



No Big Items  
(Electronics, Wood, Furniture,  
Plastic, Propane Tanks or Metal)



## THANK YOU FOR RECYCLING

RECYCLE MORE OF THESE:

### PAPER

Newspaper, Magazines, Mail, and Cardboard Boxes



Flatten

### PLASTICS

Kitchen, Laundry, Bath: Bottles and Containers



Empty and Replace Caps

### METAL

Aluminum  
and Steel

### GLASS

Bottles  
and Jars



Empty, and Replace Caps

### DO NOT RECYCLE:



SWALCO.org

## NO PLASTIC BAGS! DO NOT BAG Recyclables



Collecting recyclables in a bag?  
Empty the contents into the cart.  
Return plastic bags to retailers.

SWALCO.org



# Roll Out on America Recycles Day

- The goal is to have the following information ready for a roll out on November 15<sup>th</sup>, America Recycles Day:
  - A cover letter will be sent to all the individuals on the Task Force and the associations they represent with a list of “to do” items for getting the new guidelines distributed via websites, social media, email blasts, etc.
  - The new guidelines with footer space to add you own logo(s)
  - A press release that announces the education effort and the IEPA’s new website, please engage with local media ASAP after receiving the press release to increase coverage by print, radio and TV media on America Recycles Day
  - The IEPA’s new website will be live on November 15<sup>th</sup> and next steps will be learning how we can optimize it for the detailed instructions many residents will want

# Contact Information

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