

# Is Paper Dead?

<http://vimeo.com/61275290>

# Recycling: What Is It?

Fran McPoland  
Paper Recycling Coalition  
Georgia Recycling Coalition  
April 22, 2015

# Paper Recycling Coalition

For over 25 years the coalition has worked together to protect the fiber supply and many of these companies have been in the business of paper recycling for more than a century. The companies are:

- Graphic Packaging International, Inc.
- KapStone Paper & Packaging Corporation
- Newman & Company
- Norampac, a division of Cascades Canada Inc.
- OX Paperboard
- PaperWorks Industries, Inc.
- Pratt Industries, Inc.
- RockTenn
- White Pigeon Paper Company

# What is Recycling?

“I know it when I see it.” There are several widely used definitions of what recycling is and what it is not.

# What is Recycling?



eco, bio, green and recycle icons



# What is Recycling?

“Recycling is a series of activities by which material that has reached the end of its current use is processed into material utilized in the production of new products.”

# What is Recycling?

“It is critically important that we adopt and promote a single, simple definition of recycling if we are to continue to improve recycling in this country.”

# What is Recycling?

“Recycling results from a number of activities that, taken together, transforms a potentially recyclable materials into a new product containing recycled materials

# What is Recycling?

“The NRC believes that mixing recyclable materials with garbage during collection reduced the flow of high quality materials needed to transform recyclable materials into recycled materials.

# What is Recycling?

“The system must produce marketable materials which meet the demand side of the industry’s standards for use in a manufacturing process.”

# Paper Recycling Coalition

The goal of the PRC is to ensure that government policies and programs do not inadvertently interfere with the domestic recovered fiber supply.

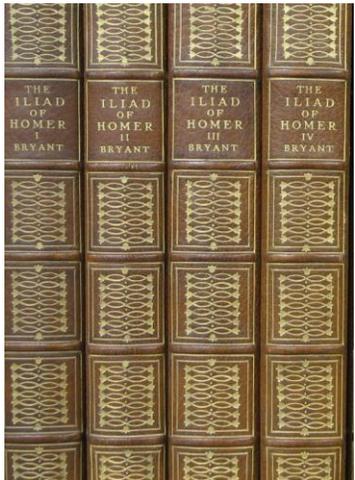
# What do we make?



Steven Griffin



# What do we make?



# What do we make?



# How to Keep it Clean?

- ▶ Dual Sort
  - ▶ or
- ▶ Single Stream
  - ▶ or
- ▶ Dirty MRF

# Residential Dirty MRFs

# What is a Residential Dirty MRF?

- ▶ A material recovery facility that collect all municipal solid waste AND recyclables in one container for subsequent processing.

Why is This a Problem?



Baby and adult diapers



Kitty litter



Organic material like kitchen waste and grease



Animal waste



# Remember What We Make!

Can we make those food packages and consumer items when they have been contaminated with some of the items commonly put into the garbage can?

# Material Recovery Facility (MRF) Residue

- ▶ According to Jerry Powell, of Resource Recycling Magazine, studies have found that the residues:
  - ▶ for source-separated material are 4.3%
  - ▶ for dual sort systems are 6.6%
  - ▶ while single-stream recycling averages around 16.6%

# Threats to the Fiber Supply

“The following materials are NOT allowed at ANY XYZ mill in ANY percentage.

## Source Contaminant Papers:

- ▶ Waste paper and board from hospitals contaminated with bio-hazardous material;
- ▶ Recovered paper and board which has been mixed with garbage destined for landfills and subsequently sorted out, rather than sourced from single and dual recycling streams;
- ▶ Secondary fiber from households containing used hygienic paper, such as used kitchen towels, handkerchiefs, facial tissue, toilet paper and diapers”.

# Actual RFP Language from a Mixed Waste Processing Facility

**XXXXXX** commodities are secondary post-consumer materials, recovered manually from municipal solid waste, and will not be technically perfect or completely free of contamination. It is the sole responsibility of the Purchaser to determine the suitability of **XXXXXX** materials for his purposes. **XXXXXX** will accept no responsibility for materials sold by **XXXXXX** as a certain grade and then resold by Purchaser as a higher grade, or for materials marketed by Purchaser to third parties or end users that have zero tolerance for items commonly found in municipal solid waste. In all such cases, Purchaser assumes sole responsibility for all costs associated with rejections, downgrades, sorting, disposal, and/or claims of any kind.

# Why is This Happening?



# What Can Be Done



