ACC Commercial Recycling Policy and Ordinance

Suki Janssen
Waste Reduction Administrator
ACC Recycling Division
The Earth is your grandmother and mother, and she is sacred. Every step is sacred. Every step that is taken upon her should be as a prayer.

- Black Elk
Most Scenic Recycling Bin of the Summer
ACC Recycling Division
Mission and Goals

Our mission is to educate the public about the importance of waste reduction to the Athens-Clarke County community and implement a comprehensive, waste reduction plan that will reduce landfill disposal of solid waste as follows:

40% by 2015
60% by 2018
75% by 2020
The following items have already been implemented to reach 40% goal by 2015:

- Strengthen PAYT Program (added 21 gallon trash roll-cart and rate differentials between roll-cart sizes)
- Converted RMPF to single stream and distributed 96-gallon recycling roll-carts
- Implemented Waste Minimization Fee $0.60/month/residential waste customer and $1.60/month/commercial waste customer (paid by the hauler)
The following items have already been implemented to reach 60% goal by 2018:

• Commercial Recycling Ordinance and Policy (Passed November 2012)
• CHaRM facility (SPLOST Funding January 2014)
• Expanded film plastic collection and legislation work session (October 2013)

The following items have already been implemented to reach 75% goal by 2020:

Expanded organics collection and compost operation
Commercial Recycling Ordinance and Policy

There are three core requirements for businesses licensed in ACC:

1. All commercial customers within ACC shall provide recycling containers to collect all items listed on the Targeted Materials List that are generated by the commercial customer.

2. All commercial customers within ACC shall provide recycling information and guidelines to their employees and/or tenants. Owners of multi-family properties shall distribute to new tenants at the beginning of the lease and to all existing tenants at least annually.
3. Each commercial customer within ACC shall complete and have on file with ACC Solid Waste Recycling Division a Commercial Customer Recycling Plan.

– Plan form contains:
  • Basic Property Information
  • Recycling Service Provider and Infrastructure Information
  • Education Plan
  • Signature of Property Owner/Manager
Ordinance and Policy Compliance

• One year implementation period ends December 31, 2013

• Fine schedule for those non-compliant business owners (1\text{st} - $25, 2\text{nd} -$50, 3\text{rd} $100, subsequent determined by judge)

• Staff able to grant an exemption.
Implementation

- Hired Dedicated Staff Member
- Creation of Database of Applicable Business Owners
- Communication (mail, e-mail, website, presentations, business license renewals, liquor license renewals, phone calls and site visits)
- Assistance with waste audits, education, infrastructure needs and service quotes
“Mustache” you for Questions?
Athens-Clarke County Recycling Division
Check us out on the web at
www.athensclarkecounty.com/recycling
or call 706-613-3512!