

REFUSE AND RECYCLING

Goal

The City strives to reduce waste generated by Kirkland residents and businesses by recycling, reducing, and reusing materials. Recycling reduces the amount of garbage that the community produces so that the life span of the local landfill can be extended. Recycling helps protect the environment and reduce the costs of garbage disposal.

Recycling Program	MEASURE	2004	2005	2006	2007
Residents Participate	Participation Rate SFR ¹	66.3%	64.3%	84%	90.7%
	Participation Rate MFR ²	94%	95%	95%	95%
So that.....					
Minimize Garbage Output	Total Tons of Recycled Material Collected SFR/MFR/Commercial	9,154 tons	8,714 tons	8,906 tons	9,271 tons
	Diversion Rate SFR (Goal = 52lbs) ³	60.1%	59.8%	62.5%	68.6%
	Diversion Rate MFR	12.1%	16.4%	16.9%	14.9%
	Total Tons of SFR Food & Yard Waste Collected	7,346 tons	6,664 tons	7,099 tons	7,482 tons
So that.....					
Divert Waste from Landfill	Total Tons of Garbage Collected SFR/MFR/Commercial	31,213 tons	33,000 tons	33,690 tons	32,698 tons
	Average Pounds of Garbage Collected Per Week Per SFR Account (Goal = under 33lbs)	32 lbs	27.30 lbs	25.5 lbs	20.1 lbs
	Actions the City Has Taken to Promote Product Stewardship and Reduce the Generation of Waste	Major expansion of recycling program, including food waste and electronics	Pilot commercial food waste recycling program	Commercial organics and residential food waste, MFR outreach	Promotion of commercial organics, development of MF food waste pilot, MFR outreach
So that.....					
Extend Landfill Life	Expected Life Span of Cedar Hills Landfill	2015	2015	2016	2016

¹ SFR – Single Family Residence

² MFR – Multi-Family Residence

³ Diversion Rate – the percent of waste materials diverted from the landfill to be recycled, composted or reused. SFR – includes yard waste, MFR – does not include yard waste.

Analysis

The City of Kirkland has realized significant success in resident participation in waste reduction activities. In the past year alone the average pounds of garbage collected per SFR account per week decreased by 5.4 lbs and the SF recycling diversion rate increased to 69% - one of the highest in King County. The number of participants in the commercial organics program increased from 12 in the fall of 2007 to over 50 by the end of the year accounting for the diversion of over 57 tons of organic material from the landfill.

REFUSE AND RECYCLING BUSINESS OUTREACH

The City of Kirkland has robust business outreach and assistance and commercial organics recycling programs that are offered to all Kirkland businesses. By participating in these programs, businesses are able to save money, promote environmental stewardship, and save space in the landfill.

In 2007, the Holy Family Parish School had a recycling assessment done by the City of Kirkland to ensure appropriate recycling capacity, identify other opportunities to recycle, and to speak with the students and school officials about recycling in a presentation. With the new tools and information in hand, the already motivated staff and students of Holy Family, lead by Steve Carbonetti, made significant changes in the way the school reduces, reuses and recycles.



Below are just a few examples of the efforts and their effects:

- All lunch milk cartons are now being recycled: after lunch there is a bucket for the youth to dump any remaining milk into and a recycling container. With 271 students this could potentially add up to more than 10,840 milk cartons per school year.
- Students at Holy Family Parish School started a Green Team: this is a group of 7th graders that are working to raise recycling awareness with other youth in the school and with parents. They recently ran a contest where parents that were seen using a reusable mug rather than a paper cup in the morning got entered in a drawing for prizes.
- Through increasing recycling and participating in the commercial organics program the school has been able to reduce their garbage service from two six-yard dumpsters to one eight-yard dumpsters for a savings of about \$184/mo. or about \$2,200/yr.



The school is continuing to find ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle. This success story is an example of what can be accomplished when the City's recycling and outreach programs are combined with a highly-motivated group determined to make a difference in their bottom line and their environment.