



# Materials Acceptance Criteria

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In order to ensure efficient operations and the proper receipt of materials, the following applies to **all** accepted materials, **unless otherwise noted** under that material's specific acceptance criteria.

1. **Fees:** See current Fee Schedule at [www.rirrc.org/about/accepted-materials-pricing](http://www.rirrc.org/about/accepted-materials-pricing) for pricing.
2. **Material Segregation:** Materials must arrive segregated, or upon arrival be segregated by the customer, according to the acceptance criteria for each individual material type listed in this document. Materials of different types delivered in mixed waste loads and not segregated by the customer upon arrival may be subject to rejection or accepted and charged in accordance with the current Fee Schedule (e.g. if your load contains recyclables and solid waste, the entire load will be charged at the higher rate).
3. **Small Vehicle Loads:** Residents and small contractors can deliver non-hazardous materials to Resource Recovery without an appointment (unless otherwise noted under that material's acceptance criteria) during normal operating hours ([www.rirrc.org/about/location-hours](http://www.rirrc.org/about/location-hours)).
4. **Municipal and Commercial Customer Loads:** Municipal and commercial customers can deliver non-hazardous materials directly to Resource Recovery without an appointment (unless otherwise noted under that material's acceptance criteria) during normal operating hours ([www.rirrc.org/about/location-hours](http://www.rirrc.org/about/location-hours)).
5. **Difficult to Manage Loads:** Loads that require extra or special handling by Resource Recovery personnel for proper disposal in the landfill are subject to a Load Handling Surcharge. This may include excavating a hole for special placement, watering to contain dust, etc. This does not apply to loads already subject to a special rate (e.g. fish loads, sludge loads, etc.) but to loads of materials such as dust, string, yarn, stumps, poles/beams greater than 4' in length, foam for landfilling, etc. Call the Scalehouse at 401-228-3102 for help determining if your load may be difficult to manage.
6. **Acceptable Items:** Loads must only contain acceptable items as defined under a specific material's acceptance criteria.
7. **Contaminants:** Loads containing more than 10% (unless otherwise specified under a specific material) by weight or volume of contaminants as defined under a specific material's acceptance criteria will be subject to a disposal fee and any equipment and/or rejection charges.
8. **Prohibitive items:** Loads containing any percentage of prohibitive items as listed under a specific material's acceptance criteria are subject to any of the following: immediate rejection, a disposal fee, equipment and/or rejection charges. Out-of-state waste, regulated hazardous waste, and regulated medical waste are banned from any type of acceptance at Resource Recovery. Televisions, computers (including monitors, computer towers, laptops and tablets), and mercury-added products are banned from landfill disposal.
9. **Local pick-up/drop-off options or disposal options outside of Resource Recovery:** Visit <http://atoz.rirrc.org>.

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## Alternate Cover

Customers wishing to have materials accepted as Alternative Cover must contact Resource Recovery directly for detailed testing criteria: [www.rirrc.org/contact-us](http://www.rirrc.org/contact-us) or 942-1430.

### Appliances (“White Goods”)

**Delivery** – Must be delivered to the Small Vehicle Area and arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer. Appliances delivered in mixed waste loads and not segregated by the customer will be charged as solid waste.

**Acceptable** – Large appliances. Examples of items that fit the criteria, and are accepted, include:

Without CFC coolant (“Freon”):

- clothes dryers
- dishwashers
- stoves
- washing machines

With CFC coolant (“Freon”):

- air conditioners
- dehumidifiers
- freezers
- refrigerators
- water coolers

### Batteries

**Delivery** – Must be delivered to the Small Vehicle Area and arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer. Batteries delivered in mixed waste loads and not segregated by the customer will be charged as solid waste.

**Acceptable** – Extra-large batteries (e.g. car, motorcycle, boat, truck, lawn mower)

### Boats/Vessels and Campers

**Delivery** – Customers wishing to deliver boats/vessels and campers must contact the Scalehouse at 401-228-3102 twenty four (24) hours in advance to schedule a delivery time window. Loads not scheduled will be held until tipping area is available.

**Acceptable** – Boats/vessels and campers free of all hazardous fluids and materials including gas, diesel, hydraulic oil, motor oils, batteries, and/or propane. All tanks should be removed or aerated to remove any fumes that would cause a fire or explosion upon processing. Customer will be required to sign a release form indicating

that the boat/camper/vessel is free of hazardous fluids or un-aerated tanks. Paddle boats, kayaks, and canoes are charged as commercial solid waste (see current fee schedule).

**Prohibited** – Boats/campers/vessels that contain any hazardous materials or un-aerated tanks; Out-of-state boats/campers/vessels; drivable motor homes; significantly oversized items (call Scalehouse at 401-228-3102 if you think your item might be significantly oversized).

## Books and Media

**Delivery** – Small amounts from individual customers only; must be delivered to the Small Vehicle Area and arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer. Books and media delivered in mixed waste loads and not segregated by the customer will be charged as solid waste.

**Acceptable** – (1) Dry, mold-free, mildew-free books and (2) CDs, DVDs, and VHS tapes that are professionally recorded (i.e. store-bought films versus recordings off of television)

**Prohibitive items** - Municipal and commercial customers with large amounts

## Bulky Rigid Plastics

**Delivery** – Must arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer. Bulky Rigid Plastics delivered in mixed waste loads and not segregated by the customer will be charged as solid waste. Bulky Rigid Plastics are not accepted in Mixed Recycling at the Materials Recycling Facility (MRF).

1. **Municipal and Commercial Loads:** Municipal and commercial customers wishing to deliver dedicated loads must contact the Resource Recovery MRF (401) 228-3187 twenty four (24) hours in advance to schedule a delivery time window. Loads not scheduled will be held until tipping area is available or will be subject to rejection and/or a disposal fee.
2. **Small Vehicle Loads:** Individual customers must deliver Bulky Rigid Plastics to the Small Vehicle Area or Tipping Facility, as directed by Weighmaster at Scalehouse.

**Acceptable Items** - Rigid plastic items must (1) be 100% rigid plastic with non-plastic parts removed, (2) be empty and free of all materials and liquids, (3) have never held hazardous materials or waste, (4) be no larger than a 95-gallon recycling/trash cart in size, but no smaller than a hard hat (approximately one cubic foot) and (5) not be drums or barrels\* (of any size). Examples of items that fit the criteria, and are accepted, include:

\* If you are unsure if a container classifies as a drum or barrel call the Scalehouse at 401-942-1430

- Buckets/pails – *metal handles okay*
- Hard hats – *interior lining removed*
- Laundry baskets
- Lawn furniture
- Milk/soda/beverage crates
- Plastic election campaign signs – *wire mounting stands removed*
- Plastic shelving
- Storage totes/bins/trays/lids
- Trash/recycling bins/compost bins
- Trash/recycling carts – *axles, wheels and metal handles removed*

**Contaminants** – These items either (1) do not fit the general acceptance criteria or (2) fit it, but are not accepted by Resource Recovery’s buyer or cause problems in Resource Recovery’s baler. No more than 10% of these are allowed in any load:

- Larger than 96-gallon cart: e.g. kiddie pools, sand boxes, playhouses, swing sets, plastic toys larger than a 96-gallon cart
- Smaller than a hard hat: e.g. action figures, toothbrushes, bottles, jugs, jars, cups
- Contain non-plastic parts: e.g. swimming pool filter housings; appliances with cords or electric motors, like vacuums
- Brittle plastics that may shatter or splinter upon compaction (e.g. acrylic)
- Automotive bumper covers and parts
- Black flower pots
- Coolers
- Drainage pipes and gutters
- Electronics casing from computers, keyboards, etc.
- Expanded Polystyrene (“Styrofoam”)
- Fencing
- Hubcaps
- Landscape edging
- Pallets
- Pipes
- Power tool cases
- Siding
- Truck bed liners

**Prohibitive items** – These items (1) clearly do not fit the acceptance criteria and (2) cause major problems for our system, or workers, and/or our buyer(s). Loads containing any percentage of these items will be subject to immediate rejection:

- Aren’t plastic: e.g. fiberglass, metal, wood, glass, concrete, brick, and any other non-plastic trash, including rigid plastic containers holding trash, liquids or other material
- Aren’t rigid: e.g. garden hoses, plastic hoses or tubing, window blinds
- Are drums or barrels (of any size): Prohibited by plastics buyers due to Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) regulations
- Contained hazardous materials/waste: e.g. automotive fluid containers; chemical containers; gasoline/petroleum product cans or containers; paint product cans or buckets: paint/stripper/thinner/varnish containers; pesticide/herbicide/insecticide containers

## Cardboard (Dedicated Loads)

**Delivery** - Must arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer. Cardboard delivered in mixed waste loads and not segregated by the customer will be charged as solid waste. Cardboard pieces larger than 3’ x 5’ are not accepted in Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) Mixed Recycling. Only 3’ x 5’ or smaller cardboard pieces can be delivered with Mixed Recycling.

1. **Municipal and Commercial Loads:** Municipal and commercial customers wishing to deliver dedicated loads must contact the Resource Recovery MRF (401) 228-3187 twenty four (24) hours in advance to schedule a delivery time window. Loads not scheduled will be held until tipping area is available or will be subject to rejection and/or a disposal fee.

2. **Small Vehicle Loads:** Individual customers must deliver cardboard to the Small Vehicle Area or Tipping Facility, as directed by Weighmaster at Scalehouse.

**Preparation** – Empty and flatten all boxes; tape or labels OK

**Acceptable** – Cardboard of any size

## Christmas Greenery

**Delivery** – Must be delivered to the Composting Operation and arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer. Christmas Greenery delivered in mixed waste loads and not segregated by the customer will be charged as solid waste.

**Acceptable** – Real Christmas trees, wreath branches, and garland pieces that are loose (i.e. not contained in bags or netting or tied together with wire) and free of all trimmings (e.g. ornaments, tinsel, lights, wire, ties, wire frames, etc.)

## Concrete/Asphalt/Brick/Rock

**Delivery** – Must be delivered to the Small Vehicle Area and arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer. Larger commercial loads will be directed to the stockpile location elsewhere on site. Combination concrete/asphalt/brick/rock loads are accepted. Concrete/asphalt/rock delivered in mixed waste loads with other materials and not segregated by the customer will be charged as solid waste and possibly be subject to the Load Handling Surcharge for hard to manage loads.

**Acceptable** – Concrete, asphalt, brick, and rock free of debris and litter

## Construction & Demolition (C&D) Debris

**Delivery** - Must be delivered to Small Vehicle Area, Tipping Facility or Central Landfill, as directed by Weighmaster at Scalehouse. C&D is landfilled, but tracked separately for reporting purposes.

**Acceptable\*** - (1) non-hazardous solid waste resulting from the construction, remodeling, repair, and demolition of utilities and structures and (2) uncontaminated solid waste resulting from land clearing with (3) less than 5% sheetrock/wallboard/drywall in a load, by volume, that is not (4) pre-processed in a way that renders individual waste components unrecognizable, such as pulverizing or shredding

Examples of items that fit the criteria, and are accepted, include:

- wood (including painted, treated and coated wood and wood products)
- land clearing debris
- wall coverings
- plaster
- sheetrock/wallboard/drywall (less than % 5 in a load, by volume)

- plumbing fixtures
- non-asbestos insulation
- roofing shingles and other roofing coverings
- glass
- plastics that are not sealed in a manner that conceals other wastes
- buckets ten gallons or less in size and having no more than one inch of residue remaining on the bottom
- electrical wiring and components containing no hazardous liquids, and pipe and metals that are incidental to any of the above

*\*Loads with greater than 10% of anything other than what is listed above as acceptable will not be tracked as C&D.*

**Contaminants** – Loads containing more than 10% of these will not be tracked as C&D, even if resulting from the construction, remodeling, repair, and demolition of utilities, structures, and roads and land clearing:

- garbage
- corrugated container board
- carpeting
- furniture
- appliances
- tires
- containers greater than ten gallons in size

**Prohibitive items** –items regulated as hazardous waste; loads containing any percentage of these items will be subject to immediate rejection:

- asbestos waste
- electrical fixtures containing hazardous liquids such as fluorescent light ballasts or transformers fluorescent lights
- 55-gallon drums
- any containers having more than one inch of residue remaining on the bottom
- fuel tanks

## Cooking Oil

**Delivery** – Small amounts (less than 5 gallons) from individual customers only; must be delivered to the Small Vehicle Area and arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer. Cooking oil delivered in mixed loads and not segregated by the customer will be charged as solid waste.

**Acceptable** –100% plant-based oil with no more than trace amounts of food particles. Examples of items that fit the criteria, and are accepted, include:

- vegetable oil
- corn oil

- olive oil

**Prohibitive items** – municipal and commercial customers with large amounts

## Drums and Tanks

**Delivery** – Must be delivered to the Central Landfill and arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer.

**Acceptable** – Drums and Tanks with 1” or less of residue; Customer will be required to sign a release form indicating that the drums/tanks are “RCRA EMPTY.” (RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act)

**Preparation** – All drums/tanks must be “RCRA EMPTY.” According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA 40 CFR 261.7(b):

1. A container or inner liner removed from a container that held a non-acute hazardous waste is considered empty when:
  - a. All wastes have been removed that can be removed using commonly employed practices from that type of container, e.g. pouring, pumping, aspirating; AND
  - b. No more than 2.5 centimeters (1 inch) of residue remains on the bottom of the container or liner; OR
  - c. No more than 3 percent by weight of the total capacity of the container remains if the container is less than or equal to 110 gallons in size; OR
  - d. No more than 0.3 percent by weight of the total capacity of the container remains if the container is greater than 110 gallons in size
2. A container that has held a hazardous waste that is a compressed gas is empty when the pressure in the container approaches atmospheric pressure
3. A container or inner liner removed from a container that held an acute hazardous waste as listed in 40 CFR 261.31, .32, .33(e) is empty when:
  - a. The container or inner liner has been triple rinsed using a solvent capable of removing the commercial chemical product or manufacturing chemical intermediate
  - b. The container or inner liner has been cleaned by another method that has been shown in the scientific literature, or by tests conducted by the generator, to achieve equivalent removal; OR
  - c. In the case of a container, the inner liner that prevented contact of the commercial chemical product or manufacturing chemical intermediate with the container has been removed

Additionally, Resource Recovery requires that:

1. The tops of the containers are removed or a hole is cut into the container or drum large enough to allow a representative of Resource Recovery to safely inspect the inside to ensure “RCRA EMPTY.”
2. All hazardous waste placards be removed or defaced (e.g. spray painted over)



**Prohibitive items** – Resource Recovery will reject any load that contains any drums or containers not “RCRA EMPTY.”

## Electronic Waste (e-waste)

**Delivery** – E-waste must arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer. Acceptable e-waste as defined below is banned from landfill disposal and will not be accepted in mixed waste loads.

1. **Small Vehicle Loads:** Individuals must deliver residential e-waste to the Small Vehicle Area.
2. **Commercial Loads:** No more than fifteen (15) acceptable units per commercial customer, per day. Commercial e-waste must be delivered to the Tip Facility.
3. **Municipal Loads:** Municipalities must only deliver acceptable residential e-waste that has been **abandoned** at their municipal transfer stations/public works yards, and must call ahead to arrange to pick-up two (2) empty “wrangler” (4’x4’x4’) boxes and pallets. The municipality may fill the wranglers with ONLY acceptable e-waste, as defined below, and must contact Resource Recovery to schedule a date for drop-off. Drop-offs are limited to one wrangler/month. This is for abandoned items only. It is not meant to replace permanent municipal drop-off programs.

**Preparation** –Do not pack acceptable e-waste in cardboard boxes and foam. Unplug and discard all cables and peripherals if still attached.

**Acceptable** – TVs and computers (including monitors, computer towers, laptops and tablets) free from any peripheral devices (e.g. no keyboards, printers, VCRs, etc.)

**Prohibitive items** - Commercial customers with more than 15 units

## Fish Waste

**Delivery** – Dedicated loads of fish waste are only accepted Monday- Friday, 6 AM – 10 AM, and Saturdays 6 AM – 10 AM.

**Preparation:** Customer should take precautions to avoid any spillage of fish waste. Loads must be delivered in sealed containers. Containers visibly leaking will be barred from future disposal.

**Acceptable** – Dedicated and contained loads of untreated, unlined, raw fish waste from seafood processing facilities. The fish waste can be a combination of shellfish and fish waste.

## Foam

**Delivery** – Small amounts from individual customers only; must be delivered to the Small Vehicle Area and arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer. Foam delivered in mixed loads and not segregated by the customer will be charged as solid waste. Foam is not accepted in Mixed Recycling and should never be delivered or sent to the Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) for recycling.

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**Preparation:** Acceptable foam must be secured inside of clear or translucent plastic bags, with the exception of any oversized rigid packaging foam pieces that would one fit one-to-two pieces per clear trash bag (these can remain loose).

**Acceptable** – Clean, dry polystyrene foam. Examples of items that fit the criteria, and are accepted, include:

- Coffee cups
- Meat trays
- Take-out containers
- Rigid foam that protected items packaged in cardboard boxes

**Prohibitive items** – municipal and commercial customers with large amounts; in addition, these items either (1) do not fit the general acceptance criteria or (2) fit it, but are prohibited by our buyer.

- Loose foam not secured inside of clear or translucent plastic bags
- Spongy foam (i.e. foam that you can squeeze like “#1” Fan fingers or pool noodles)
- Foam packaging peanuts
- Foam insulation board

## Household Hazardous Waste

**Delivery:** Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) is accepted by appointment only, on certain Saturdays. To see the schedule and make an appointment visit [www.rirrc.org/ecodepot](http://www.rirrc.org/ecodepot) or call 942-1430 x 241.

**Origin:** HHW must originate from a Rhode Island household. It cannot be from out-of-state, commercial, or industrial sources. Find options for out-of-state, commercial, or industrial hazardous waste disposal at [www.rirrc.org/recycling-composting-disposal/hazardous-waste/non-residential](http://www.rirrc.org/recycling-composting-disposal/hazardous-waste/non-residential).

**Acceptable** – Waste generated in a RI household that is (1) flammable, combustible, corrosive, toxic, poisonous, labeled with skull and crossbones, etc., (2) not marine flares, fireworks, or ammunition and (4) not more than four, triple-bagged, contractor-size bags of dampened asbestos. Examples of items that fit the criteria, and are accepted, include:

- Antifreeze
- Arts and crafts chemicals
- Batteries (rechargeable and long-lasting)
- Bug sprays
- Charcoal lighter fluid
- Compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs
- Disinfectant
- Drain clog dissolvers
- Driveway sealer
- Flea dips, sprays and collars
- Fluorescent light bulbs and lamps
- Gasoline
- Household pest and rat poisons
- Houseplant insecticides
- Lawn chemicals, fertilizers and weed killers
- Mercury thermostats
- Metal polishes
- Mothballs

- Motor oil and filters
- Muriatic acid (concrete cleaner)
- Nail polishes and nail polish removers
- Oven cleaner
- Paints, paint thinners, strippers, varnishes and stains
- Pool chemicals
- Propane tanks
- Rug and upholstery cleaners
- Shoe polish
- Turpentine
- Windshield wiper fluid

**Prohibitive items** – These items (1) clearly do not fit the general acceptance criteria and (2) may cause major problems for our workers. Loads containing any percentage of these items will be subject to immediate rejection:

- Out-of-state hazardous waste
- Commercial or industrial hazardous waste
- More than four (triple-bagged, contractor-size) bags of asbestos (dampened)
- Improperly prepared bags of asbestos
- Marine flares
- Fireworks
- Ammunition

## Leaf & Yard (L&Y) Debris

**Delivery** - Must be delivered to the Compost Operation or designated area, as directed by Weighmaster at Scalehouse. L&Y Debris must arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer. In addition, stumps must be segregated from other L&Y Debris. L&Y Debris delivered in comingled loads and not segregated by the customer will be charged as stumps.

**Preparation** - Acceptable L&Y Debris must be delivered loose or in paper leaf and lawn bags; large stumps or brush greater than 3” inches must be segregated from all other L&Y Debris.

**Acceptable** – Brush and branches less than 3” inches in diameter, leaves, twigs, and grass clippings; larger stumps segregated from all other L&Y Debris.

**Prohibitive items** - These items (1) clearly do not fit the general acceptance criteria and (2) cause major problems for our system, or workers, and/or our buyer(s). Loads containing any percentage of these items will be subject to immediate rejection and applicable fees.

- Larger stumps mixed in with brush and branches less than 3” inches in diameter
- Large stumps or brush greater than 3” inches in diameter
- Plastic bags: Leaf and yard inside plastic bags must be emptied out at the leaf and yard debris intake pile or will be charged as solid waste.
- Litter (e.g. coffee cups, plastic bottles, paper, plastic)

## Mattresses/Box Springs (for Recycling)

**Delivery** – Acceptable Mattresses/Box Springs can arrive together, but acceptable Mattresses / Box Springs delivered in mixed waste loads with other materials, and not segregated by the customer, will be charged as Unrecoverable Mattresses/Box Springs.

1. **Municipal and large commercial loads** - Municipal and commercial customers must bring all dedicated loads of Mattresses/Box Springs for Recycling directly to an MRC Recycling Facility (<http://byebyemattress.com/rhode-island/>), and **not to Resource Recovery**. Dedicated loads sent to Resource Recovery will be considered solid waste and charged in accordance with the current fee schedule as Unrecoverable Mattress/Box Springs. Resource Recovery will only accept a total of 2 dedicated loads of mattresses daily and they must be received no later than 1 pm Monday through Friday. Customers are encouraged to call the Scalehouse at 401-942-1430 prior to shipment of any dedicated load for disposal.
2. **Small commercial loads** – Small commercial customers are encouraged to bring all dedicated loads of Mattresses/Box Springs for Recycling directly to an MRC Recycling Facility (<http://byebyemattress.com/rhode-island/>), and **not to Resource Recovery**. However, Resource Recovery will accept small commercial loads of Mattresses/Box Springs up to three (3) individual units provided the items are placed in the designated location, as directed.
3. **Small vehicle loads** – Individual customers must deliver Mattresses/Box Springs for Recycling to the Tip Facility. Customers are responsible for placing mattresses and box springs in the designated location, as directed, or they will be charged as solid waste. See current Fee Schedule for pricing.

**Acceptable Mattresses** – Any sleep surface (including used or renovated), that is (1) whole and intact, (2) dry, (3) not broken, twisted, damaged (must lie flat in container), (4) not contaminated with bed bugs, and (5) not severely contaminated with bodily fluids or odors, that is also (6) covered with ticking or fabric and contains resilient material, such as steel innersprings, foam, fiber, or other filling or upholstery materials, used alone or in combination, regardless of size or shape.

**Acceptable Box Springs:** Any structure (including used or renovated) used to support a mattress or sleep surface that is (1) whole and intact, (2) dry, (3) not broken, twisted, damaged (must lie flat in container), (4) not contaminated with bed bugs, and (5) not severely contaminated with bodily fluids or odors, that is also (6) covered with ticking or fabric and comprised of a frame, foam, springs or other structure, or other materials, used alone or in combination, and includes both adjustable bases or foundations and stationary foundations.

**Prohibitive items** – These units either (1) clearly do not fit the general acceptance criteria or (2) fit it, but are not accepted in the Mattress Recycling Council program. The following will be charged as either Unrecoverable Mattresses/Box Springs or as Solid Waste, according to the current Fee Schedule:

Unrecoverable Mattresses/Box Springs:

- Disassembled units, or units from which materials, such as metal, have been removed
- Saturated or frozen units
- Units that are not ticking- or fabric-covered

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- Broken, twisted, or damaged units that do not lie flat
- Units contaminated with bed bugs (must be wrapped in plastic and marked with “BB” on both sides prior to landfill disposal)
- Units severely contaminated with bodily fluids or strong odors

Solid Waste:

- Air mattresses that contain no upholstery material (such as camping beds)
- Car beds
- Crib and bassinet mattresses
- Juvenile products (e.g. carriages, baskets, dressing tables, strollers, playpens, infant carriers, lounge pad, crib bumpers)
- Mattress pads
- Mattress toppers
- Pillows
- Sleeping bags
- Sofa beds
- Futons
- Collapsible roll-away beds
- Water beds that contain no upholstery material

## Mixed Recycling (MRF)

**Delivery** - Must be delivered to the Materials Recycling Facility (municipal and commercial loads) or Small Vehicle Area (individual residents and small contractors). All acceptable Mixed Recycling materials can arrive mixed together. Mixed Recycling delivered in mixed waste loads with other materials, and not segregated by the customer, will be charged as solid waste.

**Preparation** - Resource Recovery expects customers to treat unprocessed comingled recyclables as a commodity during collection and delivery to the MRF to allow for proper sortation when processed through the MRF facility. Materials received in a condition inconsistent with the **moisture** and **compaction** standards below, or otherwise found objectionable by Resource Recovery staff, may be rejected as these issues contribute to cross-contamination, loss of quality recyclables, processing inefficiencies and higher residue rates. Rejected loads will be recoded as solid waste and the customer will be subject to the appropriate fee and other surcharges including equipment usage fees.

**Excessive Moisture:** Customers shall ensure that recyclables are delivered to the MRF free of excess moisture. Loads that are determined to be too wet or contain an excessive amount of snow, ice or frozen material to process shall be subject to rejection. Such determination shall be made by Resource Recovery and shall be binding.

**Excessive Compaction:** While balancing the utilization of the hauling vehicle’s maximum load capacity, the customer shall prevent the excessive compaction of material to be delivered to the MRF. Loads that have been subject to excessive compaction cannot be sorted properly causing excess residue and/or contamination. Resource Recovery recommends a 2.5:1 maximum compaction ratio to reduce MRF residue and preserve commodity values. Using data from the

2016 EPA Volume to Weight conversion table, single family comingled recyclables average 126 pounds per cubic yard (e.g. a vehicle with 30 yards capacity should not exceed 5 tons of residential single stream material). Loads that are found to be excessively compacted and unsuitable for processing may be subject to rejection. Such determination shall be made by Resource Recovery and shall be binding.

**No Bagging/Bundling:** All materials must arrive loose (i.e. not be in plastic bags, leaf and lawn bags, cardboard boxes or bundled together). Materials received in bags will be treated as solid waste and disposed of as residue regardless of the recyclability of the items within the bags.

**Acceptable** – Materials must be (1) comingled plastic, glass, metal, and paper/cardboard items that follow the acceptance criteria outlined below, by material type, (2) dedicated loads of acceptable material types, (dedicated loads of glass may be accepted with advance notice and permission from RIRRC), (3) no more than 50% glass by weight in any mixed load, (4) free from excessive moisture, (5) loose, and (6) free from excessive compaction.

**Contaminants** - These items either (1) do not fit the general acceptance criteria or (2) fit it, but are not accepted by our buyer(s). No more than 10% of these are allowed in any load:

	<b>Acceptable</b>	<b>Contaminants</b>
<b>Plastic</b>	<p><b>Plastic items must be empty containers that never held flammable liquid, 5 gallons in size or smaller.</b> Examples of items that fit the criteria, and are accepted, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jars (e.g. peanut butter, mayo)</li> <li>• Jugs (e.g. milk, juice, detergent)</li> <li>• Tubs (e.g. ice cream, margarine)</li> <li>• Bottles (e.g. soda, shampoo)</li> <li>• Cups (e.g. iced coffee)</li> <li>• Clamshells (i.e. clear plastic take-out containers)</li> <li>• Cartons (i.e. plastic egg cartons)</li> <li>• Blister packaging (i.e. containers molded into the shape of the consumer product it holds)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any plastic item that is not a container (e.g. hangers, toys, VHS tapes, shelving)</li> <li>• <i>(Any plastic container that held hazardous liquid - see Prohibitives below.)</i></li> <li>• Any plastic container larger than 5 gallons in size (e.g. large plastic storage totes)</li> <li>• Containers that aren't empty</li> <li>• Hybrid items made up of near equal parts of different materials or 3+ different materials (e.g. foil-plastic juice pouches, snack bags, candy wrappers, yogurt tops)</li> <li>• Styrofoam containers (e.g. cups, take-out containers, coolers, etc.)</li> <li>• Compostable containers (labeled "compostable," "biodegradable" or "PLA")</li> <li>• Containers that crinkle or tear easily (e.g. plant plug trays)</li> <li>• Containers that shatter (e.g. CD cases)</li> <li>• Plastic film (plastic bags, bubble wrap, shrink wrap)</li> </ul>
<b>Metal</b>	<p><b>Metal items must be empty cans/lids or clean foil.</b> Examples of items that fit the criteria, and are accepted, include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any metal items that aren't cans/lids or foil (e.g. wire hangers, pots, pans)</li> <li>• Cans that aren't empty</li> <li>• Foil that is not clean</li> </ul>

	Acceptable	Contaminants
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aluminum beverage cans/bottles</li> <li>Aluminum cat food cans</li> <li>Steel/tin food cans</li> <li>Aerosol cans (depressed nozzle results in no product/air/noise)</li> <li>Aluminum foil</li> <li>Aluminum pie plates and serving dishes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hybrid items made up of near equal parts of different materials or 3+ different materials (e.g. juice pouches, snack bags, candy wrappers, yogurt tops)</li> </ul>
<b>Glass</b>	<p><b>Glass items must be empty bottles or jars.</b> Examples of items that fit the criteria, and are accepted, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drink bottles (e.g. soda, juice, tea, beer, wine)</li> <li>Food jars (e.g. sauce, jam/jelly, condiments, baby food)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any glass items that aren't bottles or jars (e.g. lightbulbs, windows, drinking glasses, bowls, ceramics)</li> <li>Glass bottles and jars that aren't empty</li> <li>Hybrid items made up of near equal parts of different materials or 3+ different materials (e.g. ½ glass ½ plastic pepper grinder)</li> <li><i>Though broken glass bottles and jars are accepted, Resource Recovery continues to advise those cities, towns, businesses, or institutions with manual collection to refrain from putting broken glass bottles or jars in their recycling for the protection of custodial staff and curbside haulers.</i></li> </ul>
<b>Paper/ Cardboard/ Cartons</b>	<p><b>Paper and cardboard must be (1) reasonably clean, dry, and flat (some grease on cardboard pizza boxes is OK); (2) in pieces no larger than 3' x 5'; Cartons must be (1) empty and (2) not crushed completely flat.</b> Examples of items that fit the criteria, and are accepted, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Books (soft-covered or with hard cover removed)</li> <li>Cartons - Gabletop (e.g. milk, creamer, juice)</li> <li>Cartons - Aseptic (e.g. soy milk, broth, juice boxes)</li> <li>Corrugated cardboard (up to 3' x 5', flattened)</li> <li>Egg cartons</li> <li>Envelopes</li> <li>100% paper gift bags with handles removed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paper/Cardboard that isn't clean (some grease on cardboard pizza boxes OK)</li> <li>Paper/Cardboard that isn't reasonably dry</li> <li>Cardboard pieces larger than 3' x 5' should be cut down to size</li> <li>Hybrid items made up of near equal part of different materials or 3+ different materials (e.g. photographs, cigarette packs, bubble wrap padded envelopes, nut canisters, three ring binders)</li> <li>Sanitary paper (e.g. napkins, tissues, or paper towels)</li> <li>Shredded paper</li> <li>Wet-strength cardboard (e.g. soda boxes, six-pack carriers, frozen food boxes, paper coffee beverage/soup cups, soap or laundry detergent boxes)</li> </ul>

	Acceptable	Contaminants
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Magazines / catalogs</li> <li>• Newspaper</li> <li>• Notebooks</li> <li>• Office paper</li> <li>• Paperboard boxes (e.g. food boxes, shoe boxes)</li> <li>• Paper towel inner tubes</li> <li>• Wrapping paper</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wax coated or wire reinforced cardboard (e.g. boxes used to transport fresh produce)</li> </ul>

**Other contaminants:**

- Textiles: e.g. clothing, towels, blankets, sheets, linens, luggage, backpacks, tote bags and footwear

**Prohibitive items** - These items (1) clearly do not fit the acceptance criteria and (2) cause major problems for our system, workers, and/or our buyer(s). Loads containing any percentage of these items will be subject to immediate rejection:

- Aren't loose (i.e. any bagged materials, including bagged recycling and bagged municipal or commercial solid waste, any materials that are excessively compacted.)
- Aren't empty (i.e. any container still containing hazardous waste, pressurized contents, or unknown contents)
- Aren't reasonably dry (i.e. material that has been coated by liquids such as paint, petroleum or chemicals)
- Aren't: (1) plastic containers that never carried flammable liquid, (2) metal cans/lids or foil, (3) glass bottles or jars, (3) paper, cardboard, or cartons, for example:
  - Organics: e.g. food waste, cooking oil-soaked materials, pet waste, human waste, deceased animals, and yard waste such as leaves, branches, stones, mulch, dirt / potting soil, grass clippings, flowers, plants and weeds
  - Construction and demolition debris: e.g. windows, siding, tile, gutters, shingles, pipe, drywall concrete, brick, gravel, wood, sawdust, dirt, sand
  - Medical/biological waste: e.g. hypodermic needles, auto-injection pens and lancets, intravenous (IV) tubing and bags, oxygen respiration tubing and masks, soiled diapers/changing pads
  - Explosives/flammables/combustibles: e.g. firearms, ammunition, fireworks, cylinders/tanks including but not limited to propane/acetylene/oxygen/helium, and containers labeled as having one time contained flammable fluids such as automotive fluid containers; chemical containers; gasoline/petroleum product cans or containers; paint product cans or buckets; paint/stripper/thinner/varnish containers; pesticide/herbicide/insecticide containers).
  - Items that wrap / can be tied in a knot: e.g. string, twine, rope, cables, chain, wire, hose, tubing, electrical cords, Christmas tree lights, fishing line and nets
  - Bulky/special waste: e.g. electronic items like printers and laptops, appliances like A/C units and microwaves, furniture, exercise equipment



- Dangerous ferrous and non-ferrous scrap metal: e.g. sheet metal, pipe, auto parts-such as brake rotors/brake drums, wheels, structural steel such as rebar, angle iron, channel steel, tools, knives, razor blades, saw blades, drill bits, nails/screws
- Lithium Batteries/Lithium Ion Batteries: Loose or installed in a device.

## Motor Oil and Filters

**Delivery** – Small amounts (up to 10 gallons) from individual customers only; must be delivered to the Small Vehicle Area and arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer. Motor oil and filters delivered in mixed loads and not segregated by the customer will be charged as solid waste.

**Acceptable** – Less than 10 gallons of new and used oil motor oil and filters from cars, motorcycles, boats, trucks, lawnmowers, etc.

**Prohibitive items** – Municipal and commercial customers with large amounts

## Plastic Bags and Film

**Delivery** – Plastic bags and film must arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer. Plastic Bags and Film delivered in mixed waste loads and not segregated by the customer will be charged as solid waste. Plastic bags and film are not accepted in Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) Mixed Recycling. They must be segregated from all other materials.

- 1. Small vehicle loads:** There is no collection container for plastic bags and film in the Small Vehicle Area (SVA). Individual customers with small amounts should utilize the plastic bag and film collection containers located in large grocery, pharmacy, or big-box stores in RI. Individual customers wishing to deliver large amounts must contact the Resource Recovery MRF 401-228-3187 twenty four (24) hours in advance to schedule a delivery time window. Loads not scheduled will be held until tipping area is available or will be subject to rejection and/or a disposal fee.
- 2. Municipal and commercial loads:** Municipal and commercial customers wishing to deliver dedicated loads must receive prior approval from the Resource Recovery MRF by calling 401-228-3187 twenty four (24) hours in advance. Loads arriving without prior approval will be subject to rejection and/or a disposal fee.
- 3. Acceptable Items** – Plastic bags and film must be (1) empty, (2) clean, (2) dry, and (3) capable of stretching over your thumb (even just a little). Plastic bags and film should never be delivered mixed with Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) Mixed Recycling. Examples of items that fit the criteria, and are accepted, include:
  - Airpacks (from shipped packages)
  - Bread/bagel bags
  - Bubble wrap
  - Cereal box liners
  - Dry cleaning bags
  - Electronic overwrap
  - Mattress bags
  - Newspaper bags
  - Paper towel and toilet paper overwrap
  - Pellet/firewood bags

- Produce bags
- Sandwich bags (pull any hard zippers off first).
- Shopping bags
- Shrink wrap from cases of beverages

**Contaminants** – These items either (1) do not fit the acceptance criteria or (2) fit it, but are not accepted by our buyer(s). No more than 10% of these are allowed in any load:

- Don't stretch: (e.g. cellophane wrapping, vinyl bags, microwave-ready bags)
- Clingy food wrap
- Fertilizer and pesticide bags
- Bags labeled "biodegradable" or "compostable"

## Scrap Metal

**Delivery** - Must be delivered to the Small Vehicle Area and arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer. Scrap metal delivered in mixed loads and not segregated by the customer will be charged as solid waste. Scrap metal is not accepted in Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) Mixed Recycling and should never be delivered or sent to the MRF for recycling.

**Preparation** – (1) Always remove as much non-metal from scrap items as possible (plastic, foam, textile, etc.); (2) Sharp ends on scrap items such as knives must be covered with thick tape (masking, electrical, duct) or a piece of folded cardboard; (3) Fluids must be drained from lawn/garden power equipment and any batteries must be removed.

**Acceptable:** Scrap metal items that are 100% metal. Scrap metal items that are less than 100% metal are evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Examples of items that fit the criteria, and are accepted, include:

- |                                   |                                    |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • auto parts                      | • license plates                   |
| • car jacks                       | • nails and screws                 |
| • chain link fencing              | • nuts and bolts                   |
| • filing cabinets                 | • pipes                            |
| • golf clubs                      | • pots and pans                    |
| • grills/grill plates             | • tools                            |
| • keys                            | • shower heads                     |
| • lawn mowers – drained of fluids | • shower rods                      |
| • lawn mower blades               | • snow blowers – drained of fluids |

## Seaweed

**Delivery:** Municipal customers wishing to deliver dedicated loads must contact the Resource Recovery Scalehouse at 401-228-3102 twenty four (24) hours in advance to schedule a delivery time window. Loads not scheduled will be held until tipping area is available or will be subject to rejection and/or a disposal fee.

**Acceptable** – Seaweed (i.e. marine plants and algae)

**Contaminants** – Because municipal customers are allowed to deliver seaweed under the Municipal L&Y Debris Cap, no more than 10% of these are allowed in any municipal load:

- Debris/litter

## Sharps, Household

**Delivery:** Sharps are accepted by appointment only, on certain Saturdays. To see the schedule and make an appointment visit [www.rirrc.org/ecodepot](http://www.rirrc.org/ecodepot) or call 942-1430 x 241.

**Origin:** Sharps must originate from a Rhode Island household. They cannot be from out-of-state, commercial, or industrial sources. Find options for out-of-state, commercial, or industrial hazardous waste disposal at [www.rirrc.org/recycling-composting-disposal/hazardous-waste/non-residential](http://www.rirrc.org/recycling-composting-disposal/hazardous-waste/non-residential).

**Acceptable** - Puncture-proof plastic containers containing home-generated medical sharps (needles, syringes, lancets) that have been taped shut, labeled “sharps,” and kept in the front seat of a vehicle (separate from any other Household Hazardous Waste) at the time of delivery to an Eco-Depot collection event.

**Prohibitive items** – Loads containing any percentage of these items will be subject to immediate rejection, and must be removed from the facility:

- Sharps from any out-of-state source
- Sharps from any commercial or industrial source
- Improperly prepared sharps

## Sheetrock

**Delivery** - Must be delivered to the Small Vehicle Area, Tipping Facility or Central Landfill, as directed by Weighmaster at Scalehouse. Sheetrock is landfilled, but tracked separately for reporting purposes.

**Acceptable\*** – Sheetrock (i.e. plasterboard made of gypsum layered between sheets of heavy paper)

*\*Loads with greater than 10% of anything other than what is listed above as acceptable will not be tracked as sheetrock material.*

## Shredded Paper

**Delivery** – Must arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer. Shredded paper delivered in mixed waste loads and not segregated by the customer or delivered un-bagged will be charged as solid waste. Shredded paper is not accepted in the Mixed Recycling program at the MRF.

1. **Municipal and Commercial Loads:** Municipal and commercial customers wishing to deliver dedicated loads must contact the Resource Recovery MRF (401) 228-3187 twenty four (24) hours in advance to schedule a delivery time window. Loads not scheduled will be held until tipping area is available or will be subject to rejection and/or a disposal fee. Properly prepared shredded paper (contained in plastic bags) can also be included with dedicated cardboard loads (as outlined in “Cardboard [Dedicated Loads]).
2. **Small Vehicle Loads:** Individual customers must deliver shredded paper to the Small Vehicle Area.

**Preparation** – Shredded paper must be secured in a bag prior to placement in the container.

**Acceptable** – Pre-shredded sensitive documents; trace amounts of shredded staples, paper clips, tape, etc. If you are looking to have sensitive documents shredded, look for events listed on [www.rirrc.org](http://www.rirrc.org).

## Sludge Ash

Customers wishing to deliver sludge ash must contact Resource Recovery directly for detailed testing criteria: [www.rirrc.org/contact-us](http://www.rirrc.org/contact-us) or 942-1430.

**Delivery** – Must be delivered to the Central Landfill

**Acceptable** – Sludge ash (i.e. by-product produced during the combustion of dewatered sewage sludge in an incinerator).

**Preparation** - No dust nuisance should be caused upon tipping; Load Handling Surcharge fee applies to loads that create a dust nuisance.

## Sludge/Grit/Rags

Customers wishing to deliver sludge must contact Resource Recovery directly for detailed testing criteria: [www.rirrc.org/contact-us](http://www.rirrc.org/contact-us) or 942-1430.

**Delivery** – Dedicated loads of sludge/grit/rags are only accepted Monday- Friday, 9 AM – 2 PM.. Prior notification is required when regular sludge/grit/rag customers will be delivering a higher-than-typical volume.

**Preparation** - Customer should take precautions to avoid any spillage of sludge waste. Loads must be delivered in sealed containers. Containers visibly leaking will be barred from future disposal.

**Acceptable** – In state residual, semi-solid material that is produced as a by-product during sewage treatment of municipal wastewater; grit and rags captured during the treatment of sludge are accepted. Sewage sludge material produced from all sources is subject to pre-approval from Resource Recovery.

## Solid Waste

**Delivery** - Must be delivered to the Small Vehicle Area, Tipping Facility, or Central Landfill, as directed by Weighmaster at Scalehouse.

**Acceptable:** Solid waste generated in RI, free of all banned materials. Banned materials include:

- Out-of-state waste (\$50,000 fine)
- Regulated Hazardous Waste
- Regulated Medical Waste
- Televisions
- Computers (including monitors, computer towers, laptops and tablets)
- Mercury-added products

**Prohibitive items** – Loads containing any percentage of these items will be subject to immediate rejection, and must be removed from the facility.

- Out-of-state waste (\$50,000 fine)
- All other banned materials listed above.

## Solid Waste Soils

**Delivery** – Must be delivered to the Central Landfill

**Acceptable** – Soils not accepted as Alternate Cover (see *Alternate Cover*).

**Preparation** - No dust nuisance should be caused upon tipping; Load Handling Surcharge fee applies to loads that create a dust nuisance.

## Street Sweepings

**Delivery** – Must be delivered to the Central Landfill

**Acceptable** – Sand that was used on streets, roads, highways and parking areas, both public and private, and that is ultimately swept or cleaned; may be mixed with residual salt during winter storm operations

**Contaminants** – Contaminated street sweepings will be charged as Solid Waste. The following items do not fit the general acceptance criteria. No more than 10% of these are allowed in any load:

- Trash, debris or other items not typically found in streets, roads, highways and parking areas
- Storm water catch basin, manhole, or inlet cleanings

## Textiles

**Delivery:** Small amounts from individual customers only; must be delivered to the Small Vehicle Area and arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer. Textiles delivered in mixed loads and not segregated by the customer will be charged as solid waste. Textiles are not accepted in Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) Mixed Recycling and should never be delivered or sent to the MRF for recycling.

**Preparation:** Textiles must be bagged in plastic bags prior to placement in clothing/textile bin.

**Acceptable** – Clean, dry, odorless textiles, including non-apparel and worn/torn/stained items. Examples of items that fit the criteria, and are accepted, include:

- Bedding/sheets/comforters
- Belts
- Clothing
- Costumes
- Curtains
- Hats
- Pet beds and clothing
- Pillows
- Purses
- Scarves
- Shoes/boots/slippers
- Swimsuits
- Table cloths and cloth napkins
- Ties
- Towels
- Undergarments

**Contaminants** - These items fit the general acceptance criteria, but are not accepted by Resource Recovery's recycler.

- Rugs/carpeting
- Rags ever used for hazardous waste residue (e.g. motor oil, paint)
- Things that wrap (yarn, string)

**Prohibited items** - Municipal and commercial customers with large amounts

## Tires

**Delivery:** Must be delivered to the Small Vehicle Area and arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer. Tires delivered in mixed loads and not segregated by the customer will be charged the per unit fee in addition to the solid waste fee.

**Acceptable** – Whole tires from cars (including those on rims), motorcycles, trucks, and bicycles; oversized tires are also accepted at a separate rate. Tires must be clean and delivered free from any dirt or debris. See current Fee Schedule for pricing.

**Prohibited:** Forklift tires, Solid tires, Tires filled with foam, Tires cut in half (or more), or Tires contaminated with dirt or other debris. Any Dedicated loads of tires that do not meet the acceptable criteria will be deemed “un-recoverable” and sent to the landfill for disposal. These loads will be charged according to the current Fee Schedule as Tires-Non-Recoverable.

## Wood Pallets (Clean Wood)

**Delivery:** Must be delivered to the wood pallet drop-off area and arrive segregated, or upon arrival, be segregated by the customer. Wood pallets delivered in mixed loads and not segregated by the customer will be charged as solid waste.

**Acceptable** – Clean wooden pallets free of any paint, banding, bolts, or metal

**Prohibitive items** – These items (1) clearly do not fit the acceptance criteria and (2) cause major problems for our system, workers, and/or our buyer(s). Loads containing any percentage of these items will be subject to immediate rejection:

- Unclean pallets (e.g. pallets with paint, banding, bolts, metal, etc.)
- Non-pallet wood items (e.g. plywood, lumber, stumps, firewood, branches, spools, crates, etc.)