

CITY OF CENTRAL FALLS RECYCLING AND REFUSE DIVERSION PLAN

INTRODUCTION:

The Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation (commonly called the Johnston Landfill) has announced to all of the communities in the State of Rhode Island that in year 2012 they must attain a MRF Rate of at least 35%, along with a 50% Diversion. If this goal is not met there will be some financial penalties with regard to the tipping fee (the cost to dump a ton of trash at the central landfill). The City of Central falls presently has a MRF Rate of 25% (yearly average). In order to achieve the extra 10% by year 2012 there has to be new programs implemented as it is a very difficult task to gain extra percentage points. With the advent of a proper recycling program in a community there are a whole host of benefits that can be gained. To be specific back in 2004 when the City of Central Falls terminated the refuse being picked up by an outside contracting firm and put the program back into the Public Works Department the financial gain in the city the first year was over \$259,000.00. Likewise, in the year 2006 the city implemented a "Pay As You Throw" program. This coupled with the trash and recycling being picked up by the municipality increased our MRF Rate from 6.1% back in 2004 to 27.1% MRF Rate that was reported to us by the Rhode Island Resource Recovery corporation last month. Hence, by incorporating new and innovative recycling programs the City of Central Falls will witness many benefits as we have in the past from the programs mentioned above. The goals we expect to achieve are: Greater financial savings with our refuse program expenses, Higher monetary awards from the RIRRC for greater recycling tonnage (refer to Pie Chart Attachment), Streets in the city will be neater and cleaner on refuse pickup days, Resident satisfaction, they will have pride and dignity in the community due to the benefits gained from our renaissance refuse agenda.

I. TYPE OF PROGRAM:

One of the factions in the city that we will be asking for support in the recycling arena is the Education Department. The schools are an ideal vehicle to enhance recycling percentages as most of the refuse generated is paper and the amount of recyclables available in the cafeteria. If a school implements a proper recycling program their Diversion Ratio is generally in the 50 to 60 percentile.

Hence, the DPW in the City of Central Falls will be relying heavily on the New School Recycling Program that was implemented in February of 2009 to increase our MRF Rate substantially. (Refer to attachment titled: "City of Central Falls School Recycling Program for 2009"). Another program we are contemplating implementing in the city is the, "No Bins / No Barrel" policy. This is a program where, if the resident elects not to recycle the city will not pick up their trash. Many communities in the State of Rhode Island have adopted the, "No Bins / No Barrel" program and have been very successful with increasing their MRF percentage points. The city will also focus on the industrial and commercial arenas for recyclables. Presently these two factions do not recycle diligently for the most part they have dumpsters and all of their refuse is disposed of in those receptacles. It is our intent to initiate a campaign to educate them on the significance of recycling. We will encourage them to start to sort out the recyclables. If they do not have a means of sending it down to the landfill they can leave it at curb side and we will pick it up rather than sending it down in the dumpster as solid waste and take up precious real estate.

II. WASTE STREAM ANALYSIS:

The City of Central Falls has a very comprehensive refuse plan. The DPW collects trash and recyclables Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. The three day collection will cover the entire city. On Thursdays we pickup yard and leaf, a limited amount of paid bulk items, along with recycling at the schools and housing for the elderly. Friday the trucks are sent out to continue the recycling at the schools and municipal buildings. Some of the programs that have been implemented to date to increase the MRF Rate are as follows:

-A- SORTING MATERIALS ON TRASH ROUTE:

- Heavy Metal (Bed frames, White Goods, Bike frames, etc.)*
- Large Volumes of Cardboard*
- Filing Cabinets*

These materials are not dumped at the land fill they are either recycled or sold at State Line Scrap Co. Eliminating "Solid Waste Tonnage" along with bringing in revenue.

-B- HEAVY PICK UP EACH QUARTER:

- Refrigerator, Removal \$10.00*
- Air Conditioner, Removal \$15.00*
- Mattress Removal \$15.00*
- Car Tire Removal \$5.00*
- Television sets free*
- Computer free*
- Propane Tanks free*
- Large Furniture Items Free*
- Washers, Dryers, Stoves, Dish Washer, etc. Free*

-C- HUGE EMPHASIS ON “RED TAGGING” NON-RECYCLERS

√ Representatives from both Code Enforcement and Public Works department inspect trash routes on pick up days to red tag violators who do not recycle

-D- TERMINATED CURB SERVICE FOR COMMERCIAL UNITS:

- >> Passed City Ordinance to cease picking up refuse from land lords owning 5 units or greater. They were classified as commercial*
- >> Offer was made to collect their recyclables if they so desired*

-E- INITIATED CAMPAIGN TO COLLECT RECYCLABLES IN MUNICIPALITIES

➔ Green and blue Recycling Bins were distributed:

- City Hall*
- Police Station*
- Fire Station*
- Community Center*
- Channel One*
- All the Schools in the City*
- Foran Manor*
- Wilford Manor*
- Blackstone Falls*

All of the above mentioned programs were vital in achieving the goal of going from a 6.1% MRF Rate to 27.1% where we are today.

III. RECYCABLE MATERIALS TO BE SOURCE-SEPARATED BY RESIDENTIAL UNITS:

In the State of Rhode Island residents have to separate their refuse into three categories before it is put out for curb side pickup. The categories are as follows:

<i>SOLID WASTE:</i>	<i>BLUE RECYCLE BIN</i>	<i>GREEN RECYCLE BIN</i>
<i>Soiled food containers</i>	<i>Plastic Soda Bottles</i>	<i>Cereal Cardboard Boxes</i>
<i>Styrofoam Trays</i>	<i>Empty Steel Aerosol Cans</i>	<i>Light bulb Containers</i>
<i>Light bulbs</i>	<i>Soda & Beer Bottles</i>	<i>Cardboard Shoe Boxes</i>
<i>Foil Food Bags</i>	<i>Aluminum & Tin Cans</i>	<i>Mail Envelops</i>
<i>Plastic Coat Hangers</i>	<i>Foil & Pie Plates</i>	<i>Magazines & Catalogs</i>

<i>Plastic Ice Cream Carton</i>	<i>Empty Latex Paint Cans</i>	<i>Phone Books</i>
<i>Plastic Plant Containers</i>	<i>Scrap Metal</i>	<i>Writing/Ledger Paper</i>
<i>Broken Glass Jars</i>	<i>Toasters & Flat Irons</i>	<i>Paperback Books</i>
<i>Styrofoam Coffee Cups</i>	<i>Wire Hangers</i>	<i>Paper Bags</i>
<i>Plastic Bottle Push Pump</i>	<i>Mayonnaise/Salsa Jars</i>	<i>Greetings Cars</i>
<i>Food Scraps</i>	<i>Plastic Water Bottles</i>	<i>Wrapping Paper</i>
<i>Plastic Bottle Caps</i>	<i>Plastics Type #1 & #2 Only</i>	<i>Shredded Paper</i>
<i>Ceramic Plates & Cups</i>	<i>Milk & Juice Containers</i>	<i>Newspaper/Inserts</i>
<i>Mirrors & Pyrex Glass</i>	<i>Shampoo Bottles</i>	<i>Corrugated Boxes</i>

IV. RECYCABLE MATERIALS TO BE SOURCE-SEPARATED BY MUNICIPAL NON-RESIDENTIAL ENTITIES:

There are several Departments in the City of Central Falls all of which incorporate recycling programs. The following are the Materials that each faction will be responsible to sort and recycle in order to achieve our 35% MRF Rate Goal:

(1) PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

- *Hazardous Waste (ECO-DEPOT)*
- *Yard and Leaf (Landfill)*
- *Waste Motor Oil (Burn in Garage Waste Oil Heater)*
- *Construction and Demolition (Landfill)*
- *Freon Content Appliances (Discard to Recycling Company)*
- *Mattresses and Box Springs (Discard to Recycling Company)*
- *Propane Tanks, Tires (Discard to Recycling Company)*
- *Televisions and Computers (Discard to Recycling Company)*
- *White Goods: Stoves, Dryers, Washers, etc. (Sell to Scrap Yard)*
- *Green Bin Recyclables (Landfill MRF)*
- *Blue Bin Recyclables (Landfill MRF)*
- *Solid Waste (Landfill)*

(2) CITY HALL:

Small desk type Green and Blue Recycling bin have been distributed to all of the office employees

- ✓ *Security Documents (Shred / Recycle)*
- ✓ *News Papers, Cardboard, Paper (Green Bin DPW Pickup)*
- ✓ *Cans, Bottles, (Blue Bin DPW Pickup)*
- ✓ *Solid Waste Material (Trash Cans DPW Pickup)*

(3) PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER:

This Center is where the Police Department and Fire Department reside. All of the individual offices have been supplied with the Green and Blue Recycling Bins.

- ✓ *Bio-Waste ("Red" Bags Discard at Hospital)*
- ✓ *Gun Power / Explosive Material (Special Discard Call DPW 727-7466)*
- ✓ *Hazardous Waste (ECO-DEPOT)*
- ✓ *Confidential Manuscripts (Shred / Recycle)*
- ✓ *Security Documents (Shred / Recycle)*
- ✓ *Office Papers/Cardboard (Green Bin DPW Pickup)*
- ✓ *Scrap metal, Plastic Bottles, Cans (Blue Bin DPW Pickup)*
- ✓ *Solid Waste Materials ((Trash Cans DPW Pickup)*

(4) LIBRARY:

Our Public Library was supplied with both the green and blue recycling bins for the employees and the public to use.

- ✓ *Damaged Books (Harper for DPW Pickup)*
- ✓ *News articles (Green Bin DPW Pickup)*
- ✓ *Magazines (Green Bin DPW Pickup)*
- ✓ *Office Paper (Green Bin DPW Pickup)*
- ✓ *Water Bottles, Soda Cans (Blue Bin DPW Pickup)*
- ✓ *Yard and Leaf (Paper Bags DPW Pick)*

(5) COMMUNITY CENTER:

The Community Center is a facility that entertains senior citizens, children and young adults. Within the complex they have many activities for the members. It has a cafeteria which generates a lot of recyclables

- ✓ *Number 10 Tin Cans (Recycling tote for DPW Pickup)*
- ✓ *Cardboard Boxes (Green Recycling tote for DPW Pickup)*
- ✓ *Metal Exercise Equipment (Blue Bin DPW Pickup)*
- ✓ *Plastic Toys & Games (Blue Bin DPW Pickup)*
- ✓ *Office Paper (Green Bin DPW Pickup)*
- ✓ *Water Bottles, Soda Cans (Blue Bin DPW Pickup)*

V. RECYCABLE MATERIALS TO BE SOURCE-SEPARATED BY COMMERCIAL ENTITIES PARTICIPATING IN THE MUNICIPAL PROGRAM:

The DPW in the City of Central Falls has initiated programs where it has urged the commercial community to sort the recyclables from their solid waste. This sorting process entails all the rules and regulations that we follow in the Public Works Department. The categories that are obligated are as follows:

- ⇒ *Bio-Waste*
- ⇒ *Hazardous Waste*
- ⇒ *C & D Materials*
- ⇒ *Yard & Leaf*
- ⇒ *Paper & Cardboard*
- ⇒ *Bottles & Cans*
- ⇒ *Scrap Metal*

VI. NON-TRADITIONAL RECYCLABLE MATERIALS TO BE DIVERTED FROM THE SOLID WASTE STREAM BY RESIDENTIAL UNITS:

The City of Central Falls through Resident Outreach Programs has educated the Residents to sort out the non-traditional items from their refuse so the material will be diverted from the landfill. The materials in question are as follows:

- *Freon Content Appliances:*
 - *Refrigerator*
 - *Air Conditioner*
 - *Humidifiers*
 - *De-humidifiers*
 - *Compressor type Water Fountains*
- *Mattresses*
- *Box Springs*
- *Propane Tanks*
- *Tires*
- *Televisions*
- *Computers*
- *White Goods:*
 - *Stoves*
 - *Dryers / Hot Water Heaters*
 - *Washing Machines*
 - *Dish washers*

VII. COLLECTION OF MATERIALS:

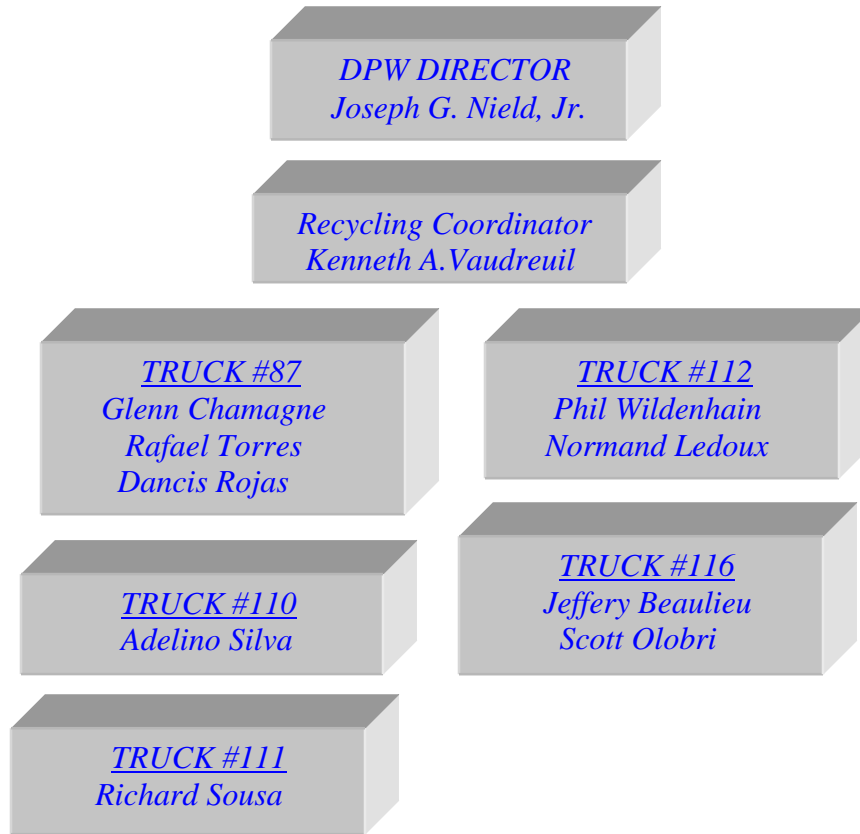
The following is the schedule for the Curb Side Collection of the newly proposed refuse plan:

- 1. The Solid Waste and Recycling will be Collected on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.*
- 2. In the event a Holiday falls on any given pickup day the refuse will be collected the following day.*
- 3. Trash Cans and Recycling Bin can be put out after 4:00 PM the day before pickup.*
- 4. All Trash Cans and Recycling Bins must be put away no later than 4:00 PM the day of pick.*
- 5. On Thursdays Yard and Leaf material will be collected no appointed needed just put it out a truck picks up the entire city.*
- 6. Special pickup for bulk items and white goods will take place twice a year (once in the Spring and once in the Fall). Collection by appointment only, to schedule call: (401)-727-8184*
- 7. The “No Bins No Barrel” policy means: If Trash Cans are put out at curb side without recycling bins the city will NOT pickup the trash.*

VIII. SPECIFICATIONS FOR COLLECTION SERVICES:

In the City of Central Falls the Refuse Collection is under the jurisdiction and performed by the Department of Public Works. We have a fleet of refuse trucks which we own and maintain. There are 7,200 households that the city provides curb side pickup service. Those households are divided into three main sections, where: Section #1 will be picked up on Monday, Section #2 is picked up on Tuesday, and Section #3 is collected on Wednesday. On each day the truck schedule is as follows:

REFUSE DEPARTMENT STAFFING



COLLECTION SCHEDULE

- a. Recycling/Trash Truck #87 Three Laborers pick up Green Bins/Cardboard
- b. Recycling Truck #110 One Laborer picks up Blue Bins
- c. Recycling Truck #111 One Laborer picks up Blue Bins
- d. Trash Truck #112 Two Laborers pick up Trash
- e. Trash Truck #116 Two Laborers pick up Trash

IX. PROGRAM FEES:

In July of 2006 the City implemented a “PAY AS YOU THROW” Program. We were the first community in the State of Rhode Island with curb side service to incorporate that agenda. The financials for the program are as follows:

- *Each household is allowed the same capacity of Solid Waste, that being one (1) 36 Gallon Can and one (1) 33 gallon bag. Any amount over that limit the resident must purchase city bags and discard the solid waste in those bags. However, they can put out as much Recycling as they want. The following is a financial breakdown for the program:*
- *The bags are orange with our city logo printed on them, a resident can purchase them in local hardware and grocery stores:*
 - *The Price per bag is \$1.25*
 - *Of which \$0.25 is allocated to the purchase of new bags*
 - *The balance of \$1.00 supplements our refuse program (used for tipping fees, purchase Blue & Green Recycling Bins etc)*
- *Since the city terminated the outside contracting for refuse removal and put the collection under the DPW it has won financial awards from the RIRRC for its recycling programs, (Last August we received a check for \$35,815.00).*
- *With the Award Funds we have received in the past four years we have purchased:*
 - *Recycling Trailer*
 - *Enclosed Container to store bulk items*
 - *Dump Trucks*
 - *City Street Signs*

RESIDENT BULK ITEM FEES:

- *Refrigerator, Removal \$10.00*
- *Air Conditioner, Removal \$15.00*
- *Mattress Removal \$15.00*
- *Car Tire Removal \$5.00*
- *Television sets free*
- *Computer free*
- *Propane Tanks free*
- *Large Furniture Items Free*
- *Washers, Dryers, Stoves, Dish Washer, etc. Free*

All of the items above are diverted from the landfill by either selling them for scrap or sending them to a recycling company

X. RECYCLABLE MATERIAL PREPARATION:

At one time the DPW implemented a program where we extracted the Freon from refrigerators and air conditioners. This was at the time we had to pay \$15.00 per refrigerator to have a recycling company haul them away. However, approximately a year ago we identified a local company that wanted to pay the DPW \$8.00 per refrigerator and then haul it away. The company had the resources and equipment to extract Freon efficiently. After the extraction process they would then sell the refrigerator for scrap. Needless to say we were elated with this contract, as we no longer have to conduct the extraction process in house and the financial gains were exceptional.

Since the elimination of extracting Freon, we do very little in the line of preparing our recyclables to discard to private recyclers. Typically when we receive recycling articles on heavy pick-up day we will store them either in our container or in our large storage shed. Then when we accumulate enough where it is cost effective for the recycling firm to pick them up with a large truck we will give them a call.

XI. PUBLICITY AND PUBLIC EDUCATION:

The City of Central Falls is very conscientious about public education and outreach. It is essential that the Department of Public Works keep the residents of the community well informed on the policies and regulations of our refuse programs. The following illustrates how we disseminate information to the citizens of the community:

- A. For notices to inform the residents that because of the holiday their refuse will not be picked up on their regular trash day, however it will be picked up the following day, this type information would be posted in the newspaper (Providence Journal).*
- B. It is our policy in the DPW Office that when residents come in to purchase recycling bins we give them a whole host of educational material on recycling and how to put trash out at curb side, such as:*
 - ⇒ What Capacity trash barrel and bag is allowed for Solid Waste*
 - ⇒ Purchase of special city bags must be used when over capacity*
 - ⇒ Pamphlets explaining why we recycle*
 - ⇒ Material on how to recycle (sorting articles for blue and green bins)*
 - ⇒ Make them aware of the consequences if they neglect to recycle (for instance increase in taxes due to higher tipping fees)*
 - ⇒ RIRRC education programs with Max Man in all schools*

C. We have received two grants for \$10,000.00 each to produce educational and Informational calendars. The first Calendar was published in 2009 with a picture and feature article each month on our recycling and solid waste disposal program.

D. The second calendar is being generated at this time to be ready for 2010 which will address some of the innovative ways we proposed to achieve a 35% MRF Rate. Some of the featured articles will be as follows:

- ❖ Huge Recycling program implemented in the Central Falls School system
- ❖ City to adopt a “No Bins No Barrel” Program
- ❖ Elimination of Bulk Pick Up Quarterly
- ❖ Terminate the weekly collection (Thursdays) of pay goods (Refrigerators, Air Conditioners, Mattresses / Box Springs, Tires, etc.)
- ❖ High emphasis on “Red Tagging” Trash that is in violation when put out for collection. This will be conducted by our Code Enforcement Department

XII. RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING PROCEDURES:

Record retention is a very important attribute in our Department of Public Works. The office administrator is extremely meticulous with documentation for our Recycling and Trash programs. As he has in prior practice, he will maintain the same scrupulous collection and compiling of data to report on the new innovative programs that will be implemented to achieve the goal of 35% MRF Rate. To be specific:

(1) Collect Data and Document:

- ✦ Vehicle Used on a Given Route
- ✦ Employees Working on the Vehicle
- ✦ Duration of Time the Truck was Deployed
- ✦ Fuel Consumption of the Vehicle
- ✦ Maintenance, Insurance, and Depreciation of Vehicle
- ✦ Tonnage of Recyclables and Trash Tipped at the Landfill
- ✦ Tonnage of White Goods / Materials diverted from Landfill
- ✦ Tonnage of Metals Sold at the Scrap Yard

(2) New Programs Data Collection to Achieve 35% MRF Rate:

- ❖ School Recycling Program “Recyclables Before and After Implementation”
- ❖ Tonnage of Recyclables Before and After Incorporating the “No Bins No Barrel” Program

- ❖ *Tonnage Before and After Terminating Multi Bulk Pick Schedules*
- ❖ *Track the reduction of the Solid Waste Weight Before and After our “Strict Code Enforcement” Policy*
- ❖ *Monthly Reports (Bar Chart Graphs and Calculation of the MRF Rate) will be posted in the Department office.*

XIII. PROVISIONS FOR ENFORCEMENT / COMPLIANCE:

A very “Key Element” in the success of a curb side refuse program in the Code Enforcement Department. The City of Central Falls witnessed that when we implemented our “PAY AS YOU THROW” Program. We will incorporate the same procedures and measures that we executed during the PAYT tenure. It is the utmost importance that the residents comply to the rules and regulations of our new agenda, if not the program will fail. Hence, “COMPLIANCE” is the driving force for our new enhancement planks that are being initiated to complete the goals for our recycling platform. The following is a road map that our Code Enforcement Department follows to obtain disciplinal with our curb side refuse collection.

- a. When the refuse collection crew identifies a non-compliant stop they immediately call the Inspector in the Code Enforcement Department.*
- b. One of the C.E. inspectors will be out on the routes and will respond*
- c. Upon arrival the inspector will take a photo of the infringement*
- d. They will write a Non-Compliant report for the record*
- e. Before leaving the scene the inspector will leave a “Red Tag” violation Sticker on the residents trash container*
- f. On the red tag it will explain to the resident what the violation was, hence the resident has 48 hours to take the infringement off the curb side*
- g. If the violation occurs again the following week then the inspector will issue a \$150.00 fine ticket.*
- h. The resident will have to pay the \$150.00 fine in the municipal court*
- i. For the three days the City collects refuse the Code Enforcement Department will be out inspecting the stops*

XIV. IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE:

With regard to the implementation of our Recycling Enhancement program, the following is a schedule that will show the events, the date the events will be completed and who has responsibility for a given event:

<u>PROGRAM EVENT</u>	<u>RESPONSIBILITY</u>	<u>COMPLETION</u>
<i>1. Generate a Recycling / Refuse Diversion Plan</i>	<i>J. Nield</i>	<i>06/26/09</i>
<i>2. Phase I School Recycling Program (Green Bins)</i>	<i>Radcliff / Nield</i>	<i>01/12/09</i>

<i>3. Implement "No Bins No Barrel" Program</i>	<i>K. Vaudreuil</i>	<i>11/16/09</i>
<i>4. Initiate Strict Code Enforcement Inspection Policy</i>	<i>K. Slowik</i>	<i>11/23/09</i>
<i>5. Refuse Data Collection for Metrics Comparison</i>	<i>R. Chagnon</i>	<i>11/23/09</i>
<i>6. Termination of Multi Bulk Pick-Up Schedules</i>	<i>Vaudreuil/Nield</i>	<i>12/21/09</i>
<i>7. Institute One Bulk Pickup in April</i>	<i>K. Vaudreuil</i>	<i>04/22/10</i>
<i>8. Institute One Bulk Pickup in October</i>	<i>K. Vaudreuil</i>	<i>10/28/10</i>

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CITY OF CENTRAL FALLS
PUBLIC EDUCATION OUTREACH PROGRAM

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