Did you know the average Marylander generates 6 pounds of waste each day? This adds up and in the City of Mount Rainier this totaled close to $75,000 in landfill costs in 2014. Reducing waste, recycling and composting can help save the planet and save money. The purpose of this guide is to help residents find alternatives and beneficial uses of your waste.

City Recycling Programs

Curbside Recycling Pickup
The City picks up recycling every Friday. If there is a holiday, it will be picked up the following Monday. Accepted materials include aluminum and steel/tin food and bev-erage cans, glass bottles and jars, mixed paper and card-board, plastics #1 through #7 (See quick guide on back). If you need a cart contact Public Works at 301-985-6583.

Curbside Yard Waste Pickup
Biodegradable yard waste is collected every Monday March through November. Yard waste must be in biodegradable paper bags or in reusable containers—no plastic bags. Residents are allowed 3 cubic yards per pick up, anyone going over the limit will be asked to pay for the overage. Bamboo and wood are not yard waste, these are collected as bulk trash. Yard waste such as brush and branches must be tied in bundles not more than 4’ in length and/or 50 pounds.

Backyard Composting Program
The City launched a program to help residents compost by offering compost bins for residents at a subsidized cost of $20. The bins generally retail for more than $80. Help keep food waste out of the landfill and contact Public Works to purchase a bin at 301-985-6583.

Electronic Waste/Polystyrene Days
The City hosts electronic waste recycling days on the third Saturday of March, June, September, and December where residents can bring their items to 3750 Wells Ave (Public Works). Acceptable items include computers, tab-lets, keyboards, mice, printers, scanners, fax machines, TVs, VCRs, DVD/CD/MP3 players, stereos, radios, tumtables, telephones, cell phones, cables/cords, and ink jet and toner cartridges.

The Green Team at the same time hosts polystyrene #6 (Styrofoam) recycling collection, which is taken to the EPS Industry Alliance in Crofton. If you don’t want to wait, you can take your polystyrene to the location during business hours. For more information on what polystyrene is acceptable: http://bit.ly/mrgt-polylist

Other Recycling Options

Plastic Bags
As of July 1, 2015 plastic bags are no longer recyclable. Many grocery stores accept plastic bags and have bins for recycling. You can search for the nearest location here: http://www.plasticfilmrecycling.org/s01/s01dropoff.html

My Organic Market
My Organic Market (MOM) grocery store offers recycling of many types of items including drink pouches, corks, sneakers, and batteries, in addition to plastic bags. For more info: https://momsorganicmarket.com/recycle-center/

Refrigerators, Freezers, Air Conditioners
Pepco has an appliance-recycling program and will recycle old, working refrigerators or freezers and give you $50. Through this program you can also recycle working window air conditioners and get an extra $25 at the same time. You can schedule a pickup by calling 877-395-5540 or visit the Pepco Appliance Recycling Program website.

Building Materials & Furniture

Community Forklift
Community Forklift in Edmonston accepts donations of mostly new and salvaged building & landscaping materials, appliances, and tools, as well as antique and vintage housewares. They also accept furniture and commercial materials on a case-by-case basis. More info is available by contacting 301-832-0781 or by visiting http://communityforklift.org/donate/donate-materials/

Habitat For Humanity
The Habitat for Humanity Restore accepts donations of household goods, building supplies, and furniture donations. All household goods and furniture donations are sold to the public at deep discounts and all proceeds are used to fund new affordable housing in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. You can drop off items or they will pickup. http://habitatmm.org

Concrete
Do you have concrete, bricks or chunks of clay and rubble? Luckily there is a local business that will recycle this material for a small price at 3334 Kenilworth Ave in Hyattsville. Contact DC Materials at 301-403-0200 or http://www.dcmaterials.com/

Scrap Metal
Scrap metal is a hot commodity in Mount Rainier. One option is to place it on the curb and likely it will disappear within hours. However, if you'd like to get some cash for your metal, you can bring it to Metro Re-Uz-It Co., Inc. at 3401 Kenilworth Ave in Hyattsville. More information is available at http://www.metroreuzit.com
Clothing, Housewares, Etc.

**Goodwill**
Find a local Goodwill to donate items to:
http://www.goodwill.org

**Charity Pickups**
Find a charity that will pick up your donations for free:
http://www.donationtown.org/donation-pick-up.html

**Freecycle**
Freecycle is a moderated listserv for people who are giving (and getting) stuff for free. It's all about reuse and keeping good stuff out of landfills. Each local group is moderated by local volunteers:
https://www.freecycle.org/

**Mount Rainier Listserve**
If you have something to get rid of, consider posting it to the Mount Rainier listserv. If you aren't on the list you can join by contacting:
mountrainiermd-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

**Something else not listed?**
Search Earth 911 for recycling/reuse locations:
http://search.earth911.com/

### Recycling Quick Guide

**The City cannot accept recyclables in plastic or paper bags**

**Glass**
* Food and beverage containers

**Metals**
* Empty aerosol cans
* Aluminum, bimetal, ferrous, and steel food and beverage containers
* Aluminum foil

**Mixed Paper/Corrugated Cardboard**
* All paper
* Aseptic/gable-top milk and juice cartons
* Catalogs & Magazines
* Flattened corrugated cardboard (boxes)
* Frozen food packaging
* Hard- and soft-covered books
* Kraft paper bags and wrapping paper
* Magazine
* Newspapers with inserts
* Paper board (cereal and cracker boxes)
* Telephone books
* Unsoiled Pizza Boxes

**Plastics**
* Drinking cups
* Flower pots
* Narrow-neck containers numbers #1 through #7
* Wide-mouth containers such as peanut butter, yogurt, cottage cheese, sour cream, mayonnaise tubs
* Prescription bottles

*Remember to rinse all food and beverage containers and to recap or place the lids in the recycling cart/bin.*

**Common items that are NOT RECYCLABLE:**
* Plastic Bags (As of July 1, 2015 no plastic bags or film)
* Styrofoam
* Coat hangers

### Hazardous Items

**Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs)**
Do NOT throw CFLs away in your household garbage. CFLs contain a very small amount of mercury within the tubing - an average of 5 milligrams - and are safe to use in your home. However, the bulbs should be handled with care. Broken CFLs are considered hazardous waste. Unbroken CFLs can be brought to any Home Depot store or you can search here for other locations near you:
http://www.lamprecycle.org/

**Hazardous Waste**
The City is not permitted to collect hazardous material. All material must be brought to the Brown Station Road Sanitary Landfill in Upper Marlboro. For information call **311**. It is free of charge to County citizens and residents who need to dispose of harmful household waste.

The County does offer collection for Senior citizens and the disabled. To qualify, no one living in the home can be under 65 years of age or be physically able to transport the material to the County’s facility. Residents who qualify for this service should call 311 to schedule an appointment for the at home collection of household hazardous waste.

For more info call 311 or visit http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov