

Middlesex County's Recycling and Solid Waste Guide



**New Clip and Save Schedule
on page 7!**

MIDDLESEX COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

732-745-4170

MARCH 2014

solidwaste@co.middlesex.nj.us



Dear County Residents:

Welcome to the 17th edition of Middlesex County's Solid Waste and Recycling Guide. I am pleased to present it to you as the Freeholder Chairperson for the Division of Solid Waste Management.

The County, through the Division of Solid Waste Management, continues to work closely with the Solid Waste Advisory Council, Middlesex County Improvement Authority (MCIA), and Middlesex County Utilities Authority (MCUA) to promote safe and sound solid waste and recycling practices for our citizens.

As you use this guide, please take advantage of the many County-sponsored recycling and solid waste programs and services available to you. If you have any questions, you may e-mail the Division of Solid Waste Management at solidwaste@co.middlesex.nj.us, call 732-745-4170, or visit our website at www.co.middlesex.nj.us.

It is my honor to represent and serve the citizens of Middlesex County on the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Yours sincerely,
H. James Polos
Freeholder
Chairman, Public Safety and Health

***On the cover:** Students from Samsel Upper Elementary School in Sayreville learn about vermicomposting. Pictured are Green Team members with their teacher Jennifer Mahieu, along with the Sayreville Recycling Coordinator Elyse Barone, and Freeholder H. James Polos. If your school is interested in vermicomposting, please contact the Division of Solid Waste Management at solidwaste@co.middlesex.nj.us or call 732-745-4170.*

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Recycle!

- ◆ **EVERYONE MUST RECYCLE.** This includes single-family households, multifamily apartments, condos, industries, businesses, government, offices, construction sites, schools, colleges and universities.
- ◆ **EVERYONE MUST HAVE SEPARATE CONTAINERS FOR RECYCLABLES AND GARBAGE.** The only exception to this rule is if your business has applied for and received a recycling exemption from your municipality.
- ◆ **MAKE SURE THAT YOU PROPERLY SEPARATE YOUR RECYCLABLES AND DO NOT INCLUDE ITEMS IN THE RECYCLING BIN THAT ARE NOT RECYCLABLE.** When in doubt, contact your municipal recycling coordinator for the correct information. See Page 16 for phone numbers.
- ◆ If you are aware of anyone who is not recycling, or if you see a garbage hauler mix previously separated recyclables and garbage, please call the Middlesex County Division of Environmental Health at 732-745-8492. The Division conducts inspections of these locations and haulers to ensure that recycling requirements are being followed.

What am I required to recycle?

Residents (including residents of multifamily dwellings), and occupants of governmental, institutional (schools, colleges, universities), and commercial establishments (retail, restaurants, offices, warehouses, construction sites, etc.) must recycle the following mandated materials:

- Aluminum cans
- Glass bottles and jars
- Steel and tin cans
- Plastic milk, water, soda and laundry bottles (#1 & #2)
- Newspaper
- Corrugated cardboard
- Mixed paper (magazines, office paper, junk mail)
- Textiles
- Computers and televisions
- Rechargeable batteries
- Leaves
- Brush
- Motor oil
- Tires
- White goods (refrigerators, air conditioners, washers, dryers)
- Masonry/Paving materials

In addition, commercial establishments must recycle fluorescent bulbs and new construction sites must recycle clean wood scrap. Also, warehouses, retail, and supermarkets with 25 or more employees must recycle plastic film (stretch/shrink wrap and plastic bags).



RESIDENTIAL CURBSIDE RECYCLING COLLECTION PROGRAMS

Each municipality in Middlesex County has a curbside collection program for recyclables available to residents. For questions....

Residents of the following towns can call the Middlesex County Improvement Authority at 1-800-488-6242 or their local municipal recycling coordinator.

Cranbury	Middlesex	Piscataway	South River
Dunellen	Monroe	Plainsboro	Spotswood
Helmetta	New Brunswick	Sayreville	
Jamesburg	Old Bridge	South Amboy	

Residents of the following towns should call their local municipal recycling coordinator.

Carteret	Metuchen	South Brunswick
East Brunswick	Milltown	South Plainfield
Edison	North Brunswick	Woodbridge
Highland Park	Perth Amboy	

Municipal Recycling Coordinator phone numbers are listed on page 16.

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

The Division has a number of resources available FREE to schools and other civic groups including speakers and assembly/educational programs. Call 732-745-4170 or email us at solidwaste@co.middlesex.nj.us for more information.

Medication Disposal

According to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), keeping medicines after they expire or are no longer needed creates an unnecessary health risk in the home, especially if children are present. You can safeguard your family and others by removing and disposing of unwanted or expired medications from the home.

Do not dispose of prescriptions and over the counter medications down the drain or toilet! Wastewater treatment facilities cannot remove harmful pharmaceutical compounds, and these may end up in your drinking water.

There are a number of collection days and permanent locations in New Jersey that accept unused medicines.

Visit the following websites for more details:

www.disposemy meds.org

www.dea.gov

www.americanmedicinechest.com

www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/meddrop/locations.htm



If you cannot wait for a collection event or make it to a permanent collection location to dispose of your medications, please follow these 4 steps.

4 STEPS FOR PROPER DISPOSAL

1. Keep medicine in original container. Mark out personal information on prescription bottles.
2. Mix liquid medicine with undesirable substances like coffee grinds, cat litter, or dirt. Dilute pills with water, then add coffee grinds, cat litter, or dirt.
3. Place bottles in an opaque container, like a yogurt container, and secure lid; or wrap in a dark colored plastic bag.
4. Place the container in the trash. Do NOT recycle.

If you have Syringes, use the New Jersey Hospital Association's Safe Syringe Program. Contact the participating hospitals below for more details.

St. Peter's Univ. Hospital
New Brunswick
732-745-8600 ext 8282

University Medical Center at
Princeton (Plainsboro)
609-853-6140

JFK Medical Center
Edison
732-321-7539

Somerset Medical Center
Somerville
908-685-2200 x 3258

Ask for Safe Syringe Program

BULKY WASTE DISPOSAL

If you have bulky waste that you need to dispose of.....

- Call your local public works department (phone numbers on page 16) to see if they offer the service you require.
- Check the phone book under “garbage removal” to contract with a properly licensed hauler.
- See the list below of privately owned transfer stations that will allow drop-off of solid waste at their locations for a fee.

Note: The Middlesex County Landfill in East Brunswick is only open to licensed solid waste haulers and does not have the capability to handle waste deliveries from residential or other vehicles without valid NJDEP permits at this time.

PRIVATE TRANSFER STATIONS

A number of transfer stations in Middlesex County accept waste from personal vehicles or any person hauling their own waste in a vehicle weighing less than 9000 pounds for a single vehicle or 16,000 pounds combined weight for a vehicle pulling a trailer. You must deliver the waste and there will be a charge per load. Please call the facility first to determine the operating days and hours and the charge.

Importico
120 Baekeland Avenue
Middlesex
732-356-3882

Midco (New Brunswick)
5 Industrial Drive
New Brunswick
732-545-8988

South Plainfield Transfer & Recyc.
Baldwin St./2101 Roosevelt Ave.
South Plainfield
908-756-5155

Midco (Middlesex)
92 Baekeland Avenue
Middlesex
732-545-8988

Montecalvo Disposal Services
75 Crows Mill Road
Keasbey
732-738-6000



Note to licensed haulers: Middlesex County does not require all waste generated in the County to be disposed of at the Middlesex County Landfill, only that it must be disposed of at a licensed disposal facility. However, if waste is not disposed of at the Middlesex County Landfill, a tonnage report must be filed by the 20th of the subsequent month and the Solid Waste Management Services fee of \$9.92/ton must be paid. Call the Division at 732-745-4170 or visit our website (see page 16) to obtain a hauler’s compliance package.

Let's Make Middlesex County Litter Free

When you litter, those items don't just disappear. They stay in our environment until someone disposes of it properly, or it decomposes eventually. So do your part and dispose of your trash properly and always follow the recycling rules for your municipality!



Do you know how long it takes an item to decompose?

Time Table for the Estimated Decomposition of Commonly Littered Items



cigarette butt **5 - 25 years**

paper **2 - 4 weeks**

aluminum can **80 - 200 years**

plastic bag **10-20 years**

plastic bottle **450 years**

fishing line **600 years**



Clean Communities Program

The New Jersey Clean Communities Council was formed to implement a statewide program of public information and education that will change the attitudes that cause littering and the irresponsible handling of solid waste. The Council invites you to visit its website at www.njclean.org to learn about the many programs they sponsor including the Adopt-a-Beach, Slam Dunk the Junk, and Adopt-a-Highway programs.

The New Jersey Clean Communities Program takes a three-pronged approach to solving the litter problem: Cleanups, Education, and Enforcement. Counties and municipalities receive grants each year to implement an anti-litter campaign. Middlesex County participates in this program by utilizing our funds for our highly successful program for the cleanup of roads, parks, and other public places by utilizing the services of a supervised work detail from the County's Adult Corrections Center.

For more information on the County's cleanup programs, contact the Division at 732-745-4170. To participate in a local cleanup, contact your municipal coordinator (see page 16 for municipal phone numbers).

CLIP & SAVE RECYCLING PROGRAM SCHEDULE

1st Wednesday of the Month:

-Compost Bin Sale

1st Saturday of the Month:

-E Cycle (Except July 5)

-Paint @ Middlesex and East Brunswick

2nd Friday of the Month:

-Paper Shred (April, May, July, September ONLY)

2nd Saturday of the Month

-Paper Shred (April - November)

-Paint @ Dunellen, New Brunswick, Old Bridge

To check locations for these events
email solidwaste@co.middlesex.nj.us
or call 732-745-4170.

3rd Sunday of the Month:

-Household Hazardous Waste
(March, July, November ONLY)

3rd Monday of the Month:

-E Cycle

3rd Wednesday of the Month:

-Compost Bin Sale

3rd Saturday of the Month:

-Household Hazardous Waste
(May & September ONLY)

-Paint @ Helmetta and South Plainfield

4th Saturday of the Month:

-Paper Shred (March - November EXCEPT May)
-Paint @ Woodbridge and South Brunswick

E-Cycle Drop-off Program

ITEMS ACCEPTED:

(including but not limited to)

Computers *

Monitors *

Televisions *

Telephones

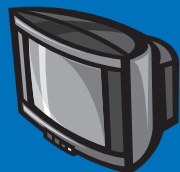
Fluorescent Light Bulbs

Thermostats

Thermometers

Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs

* denotes an item that must be recycled



When:

1st Saturday of every month 9 am - 1 pm *

3rd Monday of every month 12 pm - 4 pm

* closed July 5, 2014

Location:

SIMS RECYCLING SOLUTIONS

401 Mill Road (Heller Park Lane)

Edison, NJ 08837 (in Heller Industrial Park)

From Route 514, turn onto Mill Road. Travel just under 1 mile going through one traffic light. Turn left just after the child care center onto Heller Park Lane. SIMS will be on your left.

No Fees!

(for Middlesex County residents only)

Paint Drop-off Program

Monthly Weekend Cycle	Northern Locations	Southern Locations
1st Saturday	Middlesex Recycling Drop-off Center 1200 Mountain Ave.	East Brunswick Reclamation Center 357 Dunhams Corner Rd.
2nd Saturday	Dunellen Public Works Yard 235 Hall Street	New Brunswick DPW Yard 400 Jersey Ave. <hr/> Old Bridge Public Works Yard Route 516
3rd Saturday	South Plainfield Recycling Drop-off Center Kenneth Ave.	Helmetta Behind Municipal Bldg. 51 Main Street
4th Saturday	Woodbridge (Keasbey) Public Works Yard 225 Smith Street	South Brunswick Recycling Center (behind Municipal Bldg.) Kingston Ln./Rt. 522

RULES

ALL SITES ARE OPEN FROM 8 AM—12 NOON Free of Charge

Middlesex County Residents Only (proof of residency required)

Note: Other services at these drop-off sites are for township residents only.

Acceptable Items:

Paints, and Paint Related Items (Latex, Water, and Oil Based Paints, Stains, Varnishes, Lacquers, Thinners, Paint Aerosols). Items must be labeled.

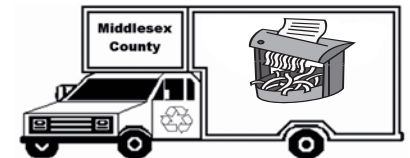
- **No Household Hazardous Waste**
- **No Empty Containers** (they can be thrown out in the regular trash)
- **No Commercially Generated Paint** (see page 11)



Closed holidays and some holiday weekends—call 732-745-4170 for information.

Residential Paper Shred Program

Recycle your residentially (no businesses) generated old documents and confidential files* safely and securely! Come to our mobile **paper shredding** events.



2014 Events:

March 22	Old Bridge	June 28	South Brunswick	September 13	North Brunswick
April 11	Monroe (Friday)	July 11	New Brunswick (Friday)	September 27	South Plainfield
April 12	Metuchen	July 12	Edison	October 11	Piscataway
April 26	South Amboy	July 26	Woodbridge	October 25	Milltown
May 9	Highland Park (Friday)	August 9	Plainsboro	November 8	South River
May 10	Sayreville	August 23	Helmetta	November 22	Carteret
June 14	Spotswood	September 12	Monroe (Friday)		

All Paper Shred events run from 9am - 12 noon or until the truck is full, whichever occurs first. Residents may bring a maximum of 5 file boxes or up to 100 pounds (in a manageable container - no plastic bags) to each event. See page 10 for location addresses and visit our website (see page 16) for directions.

* No magazines, newspaper inserts or telephone books—please recycle those with your mixed paper.

Middlesex County residents only.

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Program (HHW)

2014 Schedule

LOCATION (for location information, see page 10)	DATE
Middlesex County College (Edison)	Sundays, March 16 & November 16
Middlesex County Highways Division	Saturday, May 17
Old Bridge Public Works	Sunday, July 20
Woodbridge Public Works	Saturday, September 20

RULES:

- FREE OF CHARGE!
- ALL DROP-OFF TIMES ARE 8:00 A.M.– 2:00 P.M.
- Proof of Middlesex County Residency Required
- RESIDENTIAL WASTE ONLY (No Waste From Commercial or Industrial Sources)

What to Bring:

Aerosol Cans - Lighter Fluid - Antifreeze - Gas/Oil Mix - Household Batteries (No Alkaline Batteries)- Car Batteries - Pesticides/Herbicides - Gasoline - Latex Paints - Photographic Chemicals - Pool Chemicals - Propane Tanks - Oil Based Paint - Drain Cleaners - Thermometers - Paint Thinners - Driveway Sealer - Used Motor Oil - Mercury Containing Items - Stains - Varnishes - Fluorescent Light Bulbs (No Broken Bulbs, Please)

What Not to Bring:

- Tires - Explosives, Flares and Munitions - Medical/Infectious Waste - Unknowns - Empty Containers - Electronics - Appliances/Furniture - Containers over 10 gallons - Alkaline Batteries
 - RESIDENTS BRINGING ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIAL **MUST PRE-REGISTER** BY CALLING 732-745-4170.

Tire Recycling Drop-off Program



Middlesex County residents (**NO BUSINESSES***) can recycle FREE OF CHARGE up to **four** tires/month with or without rims by bringing them to one of four locations located in the County. Automobile and light truck tires only — no over-sized tires.

PLAINSBORO CONSERVATION RECYCLING CENTER

Off Grovers Mill Road

April 1st – December 15th December 16th – March 31st
 Monday 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 Thursday 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
 Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

METUCHEN RECYCLING CENTER

Jersey Avenue

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
 Saturday 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

EAST BRUNSWICK RECLAMATION CENTER

357 Dunhams Corner Road

Monday – Saturday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

WOODBIDGE RECYCLING CENTER

225 Smith Street, Keasbey (beneath Parkway & Rt. 9 Bridges)

Monday – Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

* Businesses - see page 11 for recycling options

EVENT/PROGRAM LOCATIONS

- Carteret, Community Center - 100 Cooke Avenue (PAPER SHRED)
- Dunellen, Department of Public Works - 235 Hall St. 08812 (PAINT DROP-OFF SITE)
- East Brunswick, Recycling Center - 357 Dunhams Corner Rd. 08816 (PAINT & TIRE DROP-OFF SITE)
- Edison, Middlesex County College - Woodbridge Ave. And Mill Road, Edison 08837 (HHW)
- Edison, Municipal Building Parking Lot - 100 Municipal Boulevard 08817 (PAPER SHRED)
- Helmetta, Municipal Building - 51 Main St. 08828 (PAINT, PAPER SHRED DROP-OFF SITE)
- Highland Park, Senior Center Parking Lot - 220 South 6th Avenue 08904 (PAPER SHRED)
- Metuchen, Department of Public Works - Jersey Ave. 08840 (TIRE DROP-OFF SITE)
- Metuchen, Edgar School, Rear Parking Lot - Whitman and Lake Avenue 08840 (PAPER SHRED)
- Middlesex Borough, Recycling Center - 1200 Mountain Ave. 08846 (PAINT DROP-OFF SITE)
- Milltown, American Legion Post 25 Parking Lot 4 - JF Kennedy Drive 08850 (PAPER SHRED)
- Monroe, Thompson Park Parking Lot near Manalapan Lake 08831 (PAPER SHRED)
- New Brunswick, Department of Public Works - 400 Jersey Ave 08901 (PAINT DROP-OFF SITE)
- New Brunswick, High School Parking Lot - 1000 Somerset Street (Rt. 27) 08901 (PAPER SHRED)
- North Brunswick, Middlesex County Highways Dept. - Apple Orchard Ln., North Brunswick 08902 (HHW)
- North Brunswick, Babbage Park - Laurel Place 08902 (PAPER SHRED)
- Old Bridge, Municipal Complex - 1 Old Bridge Plaza (Rt. 516 & Cottrell Rd.) 08857 (HHW, PAINT SITE, PAPER SHRED)
- Piscataway, Senior Center Parking Lot - 700 Buena Vista Avenue 08854 (PAPER SHRED)
- Plainsboro, Recycling Center - Grovers Mill Road. 08536 (TIRE DROP-OFF SITE)
- Plainsboro, Municipal Center - 641 Plainsboro Road (PAPER SHRED)
- Sayreville, Senior Center Parking Lot - 423 Main Street 08872 (PAPER SHRED)
- South Amboy, Municipal Building Parking Lot - 140 North Broadway 08879 (PAPER SHRED)
- South Brunswick, Recycling Center - Kingston Lane/Rt. 522 (Ridge Road) 08852 (PAINT DROP-OFF SITE)
- South Brunswick, Senior Center Parking Lot - 540 Ridge Road 08852 (PAPER SHRED)
- South Plainfield, Recycling Center - Kenneth Ave. 07080 (PAINT DROP-OFF SITE)
- South Plainfield, PAL Building/Recreation Center - 1250 Maple Avenue 07080 (PAPER SHRED)
- South River, Department of Public Works - 9 Ivan Way 08882 (PAPER SHRED)
- Spotswood, Municipal Building Parking Lot - 77 Summerhill Road 08884 (PAPER SHRED)
- Woodbridge, Department of Public Works - 225 Smith St., Keasbey 08832 (PAINT, PAPER SHRED, TIRE, HHW SITE)



Call (732-745-4170) or visit the Division's website for directions and program flyers.

Batteries

- **Alkaline Batteries fall below Federal and State hazardous waste standards and can be disposed of in the regular trash.** Alkaline batteries include AA, AAA, C, D and 9-V and will have the word "ALKALINE" imprinted on the battery.
- **Batteries from vehicles contain lead and should be recycled.**
- **Rechargeables must still be recycled. Button Cell Batteries should still be separated for proper disposal.**

Rechargeable batteries can be found in cordless power tools, cellular and cordless phones, laptop computers, digital cameras, two-way radios, camcorders, and remote control toys. Rechargeable batteries can be recycled through the national Call2Recycle program. To find a retail collection site use the collection site locator at www.call2recycle.org or call the consumer help-line, 1-877-273-2925.

Middlesex County will accept vehicle, rechargeable and button cell batteries at our household hazardous waste (HHW) days. Federal regulations require that you must individually bag each rechargeable & button cell battery or tape each terminal end prior to recycling.

Attention Businesses:

RECYCLING

All businesses in Middlesex County must recycle the following items:



- Aluminum cans
- Glass bottles and jars
- Steel and tin cans
- Plastic milk, water, soda and laundry bottles (#1 & #2)
- Newspaper
- Corrugated cardboard
- Mixed paper (magazines, office paper, junk mail)
- Textiles
- Computers and televisions
- Rechargeable batteries
- Leaves
- Brush
- Motor oil
- Tires
- White goods (refrigerators, air conditioners, washers, dryers)
- Masonry/Paving materials
- Fluorescent bulbs
- Clean wood scrap (new construction sites)
- Plastic film/stretch/shrink wrap/plastic bags (warehouses, retail, and supermarkets with 25 or more employees)

In many cases, businesses will need to contract out with their own hauler to handle their recyclables.

The Division of Solid Waste Management has prepared a Markets Directory listing businesses that provide recycling services. There are over 30 different items in the directory. Visit the Division's website listed on page 16 or call 732-745-4170 for a free copy.

Note: **EVERYONE MUST HAVE SEPARATE CONTAINERS FOR RECYCLABLES AND GARBAGE.** The only exception to this rule is if your business has applied for and received a recycling exemption from your municipality. Businesses are also required to provide an annual recycling tonnage report to their municipal recycling coordinator.

ATTENTION CONTRACTORS/ CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES



It is now mandatory that you fill out a Notification of Construction/Demolition Activity Form when you receive a permit to perform any construction and demolition related work in Middlesex County.

At the time of issuance of your building permit, the municipal building code official will provide you with written instruction on proper disposal or recycling of construction and demolition waste and furnish the Notification Form. You must fill out the Form and fax it to the Division of Solid Waste Management (fax 732-745-3010) within 48 hours of the issuance of the municipal permit.

If you have not received the form, please call the Division at 732-745-4170 or visit our website (see page 16) to obtain a copy.

New Jersey WasteWise Business Network

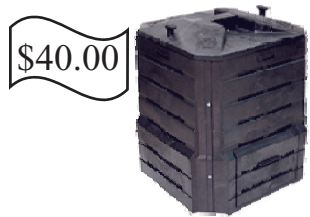
WasteWise is a free, voluntary program established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency to promote waste reduction (also known as source reduction), recycling and recycled product procurement.

The New Jersey WasteWise Business Network is an organization devoted to spreading the WasteWise message to businesses, local governments, and other organizations in New Jersey. Visit the following websites to learn how to get involved with the Network:

www.nj.gov/dep/dshw/recycling/wastewise/brbn03.htm
www.anjr.com/njwastewise/new-jersey-wastewise.html

Backyard Composting

Help the environment while creating a wonderful nutrient for your soil!

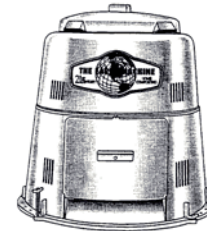


\$40.00

Soil Saver

32" high X 28" wide X 28" long

Middlesex County residents can buy
Compost Bins the first and third
Wednesdays of each month year-round.



\$40.00

Earth Machine

32" high X 32" wide at base

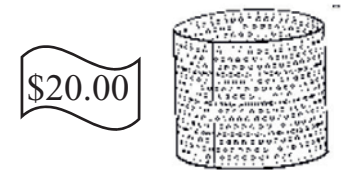
11am - 2pm, 55 Edgeboro Road, East Brunswick



\$50.00

Vermicomposter
for indoor use

Free kitchen pail and composting guide included.
Call the Division at 732-745-4170 for more information.



\$20.00

Geobin

30" high X 36" wide at base

To learn more about Composting, come to one of our FREE workshops:

Sign up now! Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

Backyard Composting
Saturday, April 5, 2014
10 am

Vermi(worm)composting
Monday, April 7, 2014
6:30 pm

Both workshops will be held at
the EARTH Center in Davidson's
Mill Pond Park, 42 Riva Avenue,
South Brunswick, home to
Rutgers Cooperative Extension
of Middlesex County.
Workshops will run approx. 2 hours.

Fall workshops: October 18
(backyard), October 22 (vermi)

Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

Phone _____

Backyard Composting _____

Vermicomposting _____

If you are interested in purchasing a compost bin,
please enclose the appropriate fee by check made
payable to Treasurer, County of Middlesex. Pre-
purchased bins can be picked up at the workshop. No
purchase necessary to attend the workshops!

Please indicate the type and quantity of bin(s) you are
purchasing:

Geobin - \$20 each _____

Earth Machine - \$40 each _____

Soil Saver - \$40 each _____

Vermicomposters - \$50 each _____

Mail registration form to: Middlesex County Division of Solid Waste Management,
711 Jersey Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 or e-mail to solidwaste@co.middlesex.nj.us

CUT IT & LEAVE IT!

“The Greener Choice”

Grasscycling: Don't bag your grass clippings.

Grasscycle For a Healthy Lawn

Lawn experts at Rutgers University and other research centers have found that:

- Short grass clippings left on your lawn act as a natural fertilizer, producing a healthier lawn that greens earlier in the spring and stays green later into the fall.
- The grass clippings shelter the tender grass roots from the sun and conserve moisture.
- Grass clippings help to create a thicker, healthier lawn that is more resistant to weeds and certain lawn diseases.
- Grasscycling does not cause thatch. Short grass clippings decompose within a few days.

Grasscycling Saves....

Your Time. Experts say we spend as much as 35% of our mowing time getting rid of the clippings: emptying the mower bag, raking, filling the lawn waste bags and dragging them to the curb.

Your Money. You need to water and fertilize your lawn far less frequently, because the clippings conserve moisture and act as a natural fertilizer. They add almost two pounds of valuable nitrogen to every 1,000 square feet of lawn. You will also buy fewer lawn waste bags.

Your Town's Money. An average lawn creates about one ton of clippings each year. Municipal costs for the collection and disposal or recycling of grass clippings run about \$100 per ton.

5 Tips For A Great Looking Lawn

1. Any lawn mower will work, but a mulching mower (or a conventional mower with a mulching attachment) will produce the best results.
2. Mow high. Remove only the top 1/3 of the grass blade. You may mow a little more frequently, but your overall lawn care time will decrease.
3. Keep your mower blade sharp. Dull blades tear the grass. This produces ragged, brown edges that invite lawn disease.
4. Water in the morning to a depth of one inch. Shallow watering leaves your lawn susceptible to drought stress, disease and insect problems.
5. Don't over-fertilize. Grasscycled lawns need fertilizer only once or twice per year.



Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Middlesex County

SAVE THE DATES!

May 3, Sat. 10 AM - 4 PM

Master Gardener's

“Garden Q & A” Day

Consult with MGs on best practices for your garden.

Unique plants will be available.

Celebrate National Herb Day

4-H Youth Center,

645 Cranbury Rd.,

East Brunswick

May 10, Sat. 10 AM- Noon

Beginner Beekeeping

Have you ever wanted to become an amateur apiarist?

Try this introduction.

Register at 732-398-5262

June, July & August

Saturdays & Sundays

10 AM - Noon

Master Gardeners

Butterfly House

Filled with butterflies and attracting plants. Educational and fun for the family.

August 16, Sat., 10 AM - 3 PM

EARTH Center

Garden Field Day/Open House

Garden Tours, Demonstrations, Taste Tests, Music & Family Fun!

Join us for our biggest event all year.

August 25-29, 9 AM - 2 PM

Eco-Ventures at the EARTH

Center Environmental

Summer Day Program

Open to Grades 5-8

Register at 732-398-5261

Rutgers Master Gardener

Classes Begin

Sept. 11 Thursday Evening

Sept. 12 Friday Morning

For more info contact Pat Evans

evans@aesop.rutgers.edu

Year-Round consult with the

County's Master Gardener

Helpline 732-398-5220

Monday to Friday

October - March

10 AM - 12 Noon

April - September

9 AM - Noon

Unless otherwise noted, all events are held at the Middlesex

County EARTH Center

in Davidson's Mill Pond Park

42 Riva Ave., South Brunswick

Phone 732-398-5260

Visit us online at

[www.co.middlesex.nj.us/
extensionservices](http://www.co.middlesex.nj.us/extensionservices)

Great Recycling Resources

Here are some great sources to help you Reduce and Reuse:

- ◆ The **Reuse Marketplace** is a free regional network to find, sell, trade, or give away reusable and surplus items that would otherwise be disposed as trash. It is open to businesses, institutions, governments, and organizations in New Jersey and some surrounding states. Visit their website at www.reusemarketplace.org/.
- ◆ Go to www.freecycle.org and visit the **Middlesex group**. The **Freecycle Network** is a grassroots movement open to all communities including non-profit organizations and to all individuals who want to participate. When you want to find a new home for something - whether it's a chair, a fax machine, piano, or an old door - you simply send an e-mail offering it to members of your local Freecycle group. Everything posted must be free, legal, and appropriate for all ages.
- ◆ Visit www.dmachoice.org to help manage the amount of unwanted mail and catalogs you receive.
- ◆ Visit www.yellowpagesoptout.com/ to opt out of receiving the yellow pages.

Have an Old Cell Phone? Try these programs

www.911cellphonebank.org

www.call2recycle.org or call 1-877-2-RECYCLE



Have a Bicycle?

Try Pedals for Progress

www.p4p.org



Have Polystyrene “Styrofoam” Peanuts? Try these websites -

www.theupsstore.com

www.mbe.com

www.loosefillpackaging.com

www.mccrecycling.com

www.recycle techno.com



Need information? Try these websites

www.co.middlesex.nj.us (Middlesex County's official web site)

www.njhazwaste.com (Association of NJ Household Hazardous Waste Coordinators)

www.anjr.com (Association of NJ Recyclers)

www.mciauth.com (Middlesex County Improvement Authority)

www.state.nj.us/dep/dshw (NJ DEP Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste)

www.ifplantscouldtalk.rutgers.edu/ (Rutgers Cooperative Extension Service)

www.earth911.org (Earth's 911)

www.epa.gov/region02/ (US EPA Region 2 Homepage)

www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/ (USEPA Region 2 Superfund sites)

Note: Inclusion on the above list does not constitute approval or endorsement by the Middlesex County Division of Solid Waste Management.

Kids' page

Elementary School Students - Coloring Contest

Students in grades 3-5 are invited to submit a design for a recycling bin.

Submit an 8 1/2" by 11" design with a general recycling message including a picture and slogan and your entry may be chosen to be printed on stickers which will be placed on our desk side recycling bins.

Designs must be submitted by May 1st. See the website for more details.



Unscramble the words and then unscramble the letters in the shaded boxes to complete the phrase.

TESWA



VEINTMERONN



YCCLIREGN INB



STOPMOC



When we Recycle,
----- !

Answers to games can be found on the Division's website (see page 16)

Middle School Essay Contest

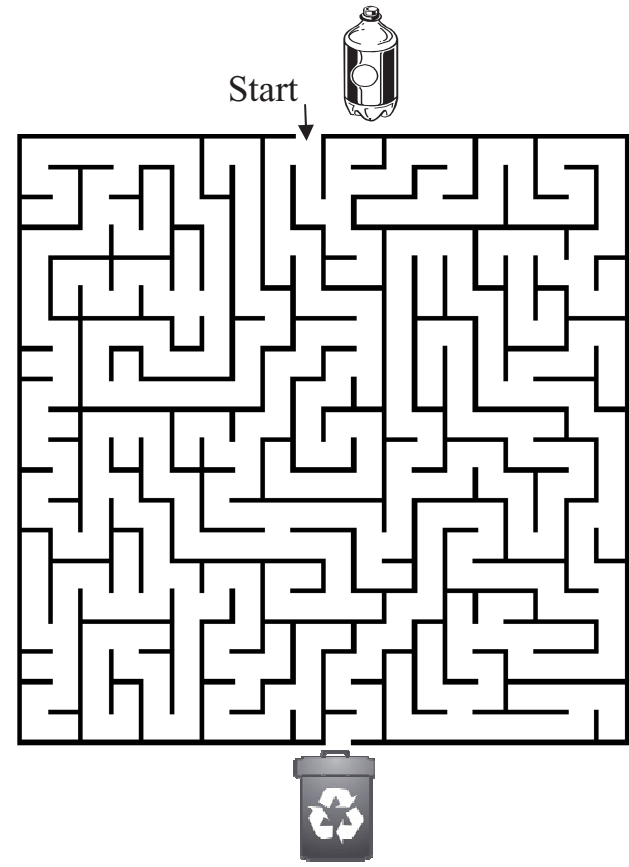
Middlesex County is sponsoring an Environmental Essay Contest. Students in grades 6-8 from both Public and Private schools throughout Middlesex County are invited to participate. Nine winners will be chosen, three from each grade. This year there will be a different topic for each grade level. Below are the topics:

Sixth grade: How can we prevent nonpoint source pollution from entering our storm drains?

Seventh grade: New Jersey has struggled in recent years to reach our mandated recycling goals. What new material do you think we should start recycling in order to reach the goals?

Eighth grade: What should New Jersey do in order to reduce the amount of food waste being disposed of?

All entries are due by May 1st and will be judged by the Division of Solid Waste Management & Environmental Health Staff. More details can be found on the Division's website (see page 16).



Help the bottle find its way to the recycling bin!



Carol Barrett Bellante
Deputy Director



Ronald G. Rios
Freeholder Director



Kenneth Armwood



Charles Kenny



Middlesex
County
Board of
Chosen
Freeholders



H. James Polos



Charles E. Tomaro



Blanquita B. Valenti

John A. Pulomena, County Administrator

This guide was prepared by:

**Middlesex County Department of Public Safety and Health,
Division of Solid Waste Management**

711 Jersey Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

732-745-4170 solidwaste@co.middlesex.nj.us

Joseph W. Krisza, Department Head

www.co.middlesex.nj.us/planningboard/solidwaste.asp

Other Agencies' Contact Information:

Middlesex County Improvement Authority

101 Interchange Plaza, Cranbury, NJ 08512

1-609-655-5141 (Cranbury), 1-800-488-6242 (Recycling)

www.mciauth.com

Middlesex County Utilities Authority

732-721-3800 (Main Office), 732-246-4313 (Landfill)

www.mcua.com

Rutgers Cooperative Extension Service of Middlesex County

732-398-5262

Middlesex County Environmental Health Division

732-745-8480

Municipal Contact Information

Town	Public Works Phone #	Recycling Phone #
Carteret	732-541-3881	732-541-3881
Cranbury	609-395-0900 x222	609-395-0900 x229
Dunellen	732-968-5455	732-968-5455
East Brunswick	732-390-6984	732-432-6011
Edison	732-248-7288	732-248-7288
Helmetta	732-521-4946	732-521-4946
Highland Park	732-247-9379	732-514-1277
Jamesburg	732-521-3335	732-521-3335
Metuchen	732-632-8519	732-632-8519
Middlesex	732-968-1603	732-356-7953
Milltown	732-828-2100 x182	732-828-2100 x135
Monroe	732-656-4575	732-656-4575
New Brunswick	732-745-5104	732-745-5059
North Brunswick	732-297-1134	732-297-1134
Old Bridge	732-721-5600 x6140	732-721-5600 x6107
Perth Amboy	732-826-2010	732-826-2010 x4204
Piscataway	732-562-2390	732-562-2390
Plainsboro	609-799-0099	609-799-0099
Sayreville	732-390-7042	732-390-7008
South Amboy	732-721-8100	732-721-8100
South Brunswick	732-329-4000 x7260	732-329-4000 x7274
South Plainfield	908-755-2187	908-226-7621
South River	732-257-9051	732-257-9051
Spotswood	732-251-0700 x822	732-251-0700 x822
Woodbridge	732-738-1311	732-738-1311 x3049

Are you interested in participating in our events but can never seem to remember when they are? Sign up for monthly email reminders for our various programs. Just send your email address to the Division at: solidwaste@co.middlesex.nj.us

Email addresses will remain private and not be sold.

