



What Every Business Should Know About RI's Commercial Recycling Regulations

*Key Requirements in RI's Commercial Recycling Regulations**

Recyclable Materials

The following materials must be segregated from the commercial waste stream:

Metals	Paper and Cardboard	Automotive
aluminum	newspaper	automobiles
steel and tin coated steel cans	office paper	used lubricating oil
white goods (appliances)	telephone directories	vehicle batteries
	corrugated cardboard	
Plastic and Glass	C&D or Landscaping Waste	Others
glass food and beverage containers	wood waste	laser toner cartridges
coated unbleached kraft beverage carriers		
polyethylene terephthalate (PET) plastic soft drink containers	leave and yard waste	
high density polyethylene (HDPE) plastic milk and water containers		

Segregation of Recyclables from Commercial Solid Waste

- Any business, school, institution or government that generates commercial solid waste must segregate out the recyclable material.
- Once separated, no one shall mix together segregated recyclables with commercial solid waste.

Reporting Requirements for Businesses

According to the regulations, businesses with 50 or more employees must submit recycling plans. These plans have now been replaced by [The RI Annual Recycling Report](#) and will be due February 15th of each year and should be submitted [online](#). Companies with less than 50 employees, do not need to submit a report but are still required to recycle. Assistance in starting or enhancing a commercial recycling program is available upon request. Please direct your questions or request for assistance to Alyson Silva, Commercial Recycling Coordinator, at 401-222-2797 x7134 or alyson.silva@dem.ri.gov.

Are There Other Regulated Recyclable Materials Not Addressed in RI's Commercial Recycling Regulations?

Yes. Certain types of electronic waste (e.g. TVs and computers) will be banned from landfill disposal effective July 1, 2008. In addition, fluorescent light bulbs contain mercury and are regulated as universal waste. For more information on the regulations for fluorescent light bulbs, please see our [Universal Waste Fact Sheet](#).

This document is not intended to summarize all requirements as contained in RI's Commercial Recycling Regulations. To access a complete copy of the recycling regulations, please go to:

www.dem.ri.gov/pubs/regs/regs/stratpol/commrecy.pdf.