



INTERSHIP JOURNAL



**National
Waste & Recycling
AssociationSM**

Women's Council

Established 2003

Work Study Journal

The scope and impact of the solid waste and recycling industry is significant.

The men and women who work, day-in and day-out in this industry, and who have made the waste and recycling their chosen career path, are the true environmentalists. Even though waste operations touch every individual citizen in the nation, the public does not grasp what happens to the material they place at the curb – incredible elements of science, innovation, engineering, fleet maintenance, operations, safety, and customer service go into the collection and processing of waste and recyclables.

Through this internship program, you gain firsthand insight into this amazing field. Whether a company is a hauler, landfill operator, recycling provider, engineering firm, or a manufacture of equipment, the industry aligns itself through the National Waste and Recycling Association over the shared goal of servicing society's solid waste and recycling needs at the highest standards through environmentally sound and safe practices and continuous innovation and open competition.



Contact Information

Name

Cell Phone

Company email

Company contacts

Main number

Supervisor Name

Phone Number

Supervisor Email

Address



For the Intern:

- Contact your Internship Supervisor at least two weeks in advance of your expected final day of interning to provide exit date
- Update your resume and LinkedIn profile while the experience is still fresh in your mind
- If your supervisor doesn't initiate scheduling an exit interview, ask for feedback on your performance in advance of your departure
- Send a thank you note to your immediate supervisor, and to anyone else who helped you along the way
- Tie Up Loose Ends - ensure all of your assigned projects are completed or passed on to someone else prior to your final day
- Ask for a Reference - Politely ask if your supervisor, or others within the organization, would be comfortable being listed as a reference, or if they could provide you with a LinkedIn recommendation. Both can be your ticket to a future full-time opportunity, either within the organization or outside of it.



Internship Orientation Checklist

I. Welcome & Introduction

- ☐ What does it mean to work at this Company?
- ☐ History and Culture of the Company
- ☐ Company Mission & Values

II. Workplace Tour

- ☐ Overall Tour
- ☐ Safety exits and protocol Fire Extinguishers, Fire Escapes, Evacuation Routes, Exits, Safety Meeting Places.
Proper clothing for locations
- ☐ Introduction to the Staff

III. Tour of Facilities

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Restrooms | <input type="checkbox"/> Storage of Personal Belongings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parking | <input type="checkbox"/> Copier Room |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch Rooms | <input type="checkbox"/> Department Location |



IV. About the Company

- ☐ Company Structure
- ☐ Key People in the Company
- ☐ Day-to-Day Actives
- ☐ Customer Base
- ☐ Over Divisions or Facilities

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V. Department Specifics

- ☐ Telephone Number, Location Address, Email Address, Fax Number
- ☐ Work Schedule/ Time-Clock/ Attendance Requirement
- ☐ Working with Other Departments
- ☐ Hours / Break time / Lunch Time

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VI. Job Specific Issues

- ☐ Location of Supplies
- ☐ How to use the office equipment
- ☐ Job Description & Role
- ☐ Training Plan
- ☐ Evaluation Procedures

VII. Safety Training

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stairwell/ Fire Exits | <input type="checkbox"/> Accident Prevention |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Extinguishers | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety Training Log & Schedule |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special Hazards | <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Harassment Policy |

VIII. Supervisor's Expectations

- ☐ Dress Code
- ☐ Performance Expectations
- ☐ Company Culture (Teamwork, Service, Value, etc.)

IX. Materials

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personnel Handbook | <input type="checkbox"/> Required Documents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organization Chart | <input type="checkbox"/> Security Procedures |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone & Email Directory | |



Glossary

A	
Aerobic	Life or processes that require, or are not destroyed by, the presence of oxygen. (See also Anaerobic) (EPA Glossary)
Aerobic Treatment	Process by which microbes decompose complex organic compounds in the presence of oxygen and use the liberated energy for reproduction and growth. (Such processes include extended aeration, trickling filtration, and rotating biological contactors.) (EPA Glossary)
Agricultural Waste	Poultry and livestock manure, and residual materials in liquid or solid form generated from the production and marketing of poultry, livestock or fur-bearing animals; also includes grain, vegetable, and fruit harvest residue. (EPA Glossary)
Airborne Particulates	Total suspended particulate matter found in the atmosphere as solid particles or liquid droplets. Chemical composition of particulates varies widely, depending on location and time of year. Sources of airborne particulates include: dust, emissions from industrial processes, combustion products from the burning of wood and coal, combustion products associated with motor vehicle or non-road engine exhausts, and reactions to gases in the atmosphere. (EPA Glossary)
Airspace	The projected bank cubic yards (BCY) of the landfill to be filled with waste as determined by survey and/or other engineering techniques.
Algae	Simple rootless plants that grow in sunlit waters in proportion to the amount of available nutrients. They can affect water quality adversely by lowering the dissolved oxygen in the water. They are food for fish and small aquatic animals. (EPA Glossary)
Algal Blooms	Sudden spurts of algal growth, which can affect water quality adversely and indicate potentially hazardous changes in local water chemistry. (EPA Glossary)
Anaerobic	A life or process that occurs in, or is not destroyed by, the absence of oxygen. (EPA Glossary)
Anaerobic Decomposition	Reduction of the net energy level and change in chemical composition of organic matter caused by microorganisms in an oxygen-free environment. (EPA Glossary)
Aquifer	A geologic formation, group of formations or part of a formation that contains sufficient saturated, permeable materials to yield significant quantities of water to wells and springs. (CGS Section 22a)
Asbestos	A mineral fiber that can pollute air or water and cause cancer or asbestosis when inhaled. EPA has banned or severely restricted its use in manufacturing and construction. (EPA Glossary)
Ash	Bottom ash, air pollution control residue and other residuals of the combustion process from an incinerator utilized for the combustion of municipal solid waste
B	
Bacteria	(Singular: bacterium) Microscopic living organisms that can aid in pollution control by metabolizing organic matter in sewage, oil spills or other pollutants. However, bacteria in soil, water or air can also cause human, animal and plant health problems. (EPA Glossary)

Bale	A densified and bound cube of recycled materials, such as waste paper, scrap metal, or rags.
Baler	A piece of equipment used to compress, and form recycled material into bales.
Battery	Device that converts chemical energy into electrical energy, consisting of a group of electric cells that are connected to act as a source of direct current. The term is also now commonly used for a single cell, such as the alkaline dry cell used in flashlights and portable tape players, but strictly speaking batteries are made up of connected cells encased in a container and fitted with terminals to provide a source of direct electric current at a given voltage. A cell consists of two dissimilar substances, a positive electrode and a negative electrode, that conduct electricity, and a third substance, an electrolyte, that acts chemically on the electrodes. The two electrodes are connected by an external circuit (e.g., a piece of copper wire); the electrolyte functions as an ionic conductor for the transfer of the electrons between the electrodes.
Best Management Practice (BMP)	Methods that have been determined to be the most effective, practical means of preventing or reducing pollution from non-point sources.
Biodegradable	Capable of decomposing under natural conditions. (EP The Risk Assessment Information System." Insert Name of Site in Italics. N.p., n.d. Web. 05 Jun. 2019 https://rais.ornl.gov/home/glossary.html .A Glossary)
Biodegradable Plastic	A degradable plastic in which the degradation results from the action of naturally occurring microorganisms such as bacteria, fungi, and algae. (ASTM Standard Specification D6400)
Biological Treatment	A treatment technology that uses bacteria to consume organic waste. (EPA Glossary)
Bottle Bill	Proposed or enacted legislation which requires a returnable deposit on beer or soda containers and provides for retail store or other redemption. Such legislation is designed to discourage use of throw-away containers. (EPA Glossary)
Brownfield Development	EPA defines a brownfield as an "abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial facility where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination."
Bulky Waste	Large items of waste materials, such as appliances, furniture, large auto parts, trees, stumps. (EPA Glossary)
C	
Cap	A layer of clay, or other impermeable material installed over the top of a closed landfill to prevent entry of rainwater and minimize leachate. (EPA Glossary)
Capping	This is the process of placing the final cover material on the landfill.
Carbon Footprint	A measure of the impact our activities have on the environment, and in particular climate change. It relates to the amount of greenhouse gases produced in our day
Cell	Landfills are constructed in phases (cells) that adjoin one another, separated by a berm to contain leachate within an area. The entire permitted area will be divided into separate cells for construction.
Climate Change	The term 'climate change' is sometimes used to refer to all forms of climatic inconsistency, but because the Earth's climate is never static, the term is more properly used to imply a significant change from one climatic condition to another. In some cases, 'climate change' has been used synonymously with the term, 'global warming'; scientists however, tend to use the term in the wider sense to also include natural changes in climate. (See Also Global Warming) (EPA Glossary)



Closed Site (Landfill)	A landfill that has reached its permitted waste capacity and has been permanently capped and certified as closed by the appropriate state regulatory agency.
Closure	The period of time after a landfill has reached its permitted capacity but before it has received certification of closure from a state regulatory agency. During the closure period, certain activities must be performed to comply with environmental and other regulations (e.g. capping, landscaping, etc.).
Collector	Public or private hauler that collects nonhazardous waste and recyclable materials from residential, commercial, institutional and industrial sources. (See also Hauler) (EPA Glossary)
Commercial Waste	All solid waste emanating from business establishments such as stores, markets, office buildings, restaurants, shopping centers, and theaters. (EPA Glossary)
Commingled Recyclables	refers to a mixture of several recyclable materials in one container. (U.S. EPA, 1989)
Compact Fluorescent Lamp (CFL)	Small fluorescent lamps used as more efficient alternatives to incandescent lighting. Also called PL, CFL, Twin-Tube, or BIAx lamps. (EPA Glossary)
Compaction	Reduction of the bulk of solid waste by rolling and tamping. (EPA Glossary)
Compost	A humus or soil material created from aerobic, microbial decomposition of organic materials such as food scraps, yard trimmings, and manure (EPA Glossary)
Compostable	Capable of undergoing biological decomposition in a compost site as part of an available program, such that the material is not visually distinguishable and breaks down into carbon dioxide, water, inorganic compounds, and biomass, at a rate consistent with known compostable materials. (ASTM Standard Specification D6002)
Compostable Plastic	A plastic that undergoes degradation by biological processes during composting to yield CO ₂ , water, inorganic compounds, and biomass at a rate consistent with other known compostable materials and leave no visible, distinguishable or toxic residue. (ASTM Standard Specification D6400)
Composting	A process of accelerated biological decomposition of organic material under controlled conditions. (CGS Section 22a)
Composting Facility	An offsite facility where the organic component of municipal solid waste is decomposed under controlled conditions; 2.an aerobic process in which organic materials are ground or shredded and then decomposed to humus in windrow piles or in mechanical digesters, drums, or similar enclosures. (EPA Glossary)
Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris	refers to waste that is generated during the construction, remodeling, repair, or demolition of buildings, bridges, pavements, and other structures. C&D debris includes concrete, asphalt, lumber, steel girders, steel rods, wiring, dry wall, carpets, window glass, metal and plastic piping, tree stumps, soil, and other miscellaneous items related to the activities listed above. This category also includes natural disaster debris. (U.S. EPA, 1989, 1994d)
Construction and Demolition Waste Processing Facility	A volume reduction plant, the operations of which involve solely the reduction in volume of construction and demolition waste generated elsewhere.
Container	Any receptacle used to accumulate waste from residential, commercial and industrial sites. Containers vary in size and type according to the needs of the customer or restrictions of the community. Containers are also referred to as dumpsters.
Contaminated Soil	refers to the introduction of micro-organisms, chemicals, toxic substances, wastes, or wastewater into soil in concentrations that make the soil unfit for its intended use. (U.S. EPA, 1994d)

Contamination	Introduction into water, air, and soil of microorganisms, chemicals, toxic substances, wastes, or wastewater in a concentration that makes the medium unfit for its next intended use. Also applies to surfaces of objects, buildings, and various household and agricultural use products. (EPA Glossary)
Cost/Benefit Analysis	A quantitative evaluation of the costs which would have incurred by implementing an environmental regulation versus the overall benefits to society of the proposed action. (EPA Glossary)
Cover Material	Soil used to cover compacted solid waste in a sanitary landfill. (EPA Glossary)
Cullet	Broken or waste glass suitable for remelting.
Curbside Collection	Method of collecting recyclable materials at homes, community districts or businesses. (EPA Glossary)
D	
Daily Cover	The material used to cover the working face of a landfill at the close of each day.
Decomposition	The breakdown of matter by bacteria and fungi, changing the chemical makeup and physical appearance of materials. (EPA Glossary)
Deconstruction	A technique practitioner are using to salvage valuable building materials, reduce the amount of waste they send to landfills, and mitigate other environmental impacts. It is the disassembly of a building and the recovery of its materials, often thought of as construction in reverse. (EPA, Lifecycle Construction Resource Guide)
Decontamination	Removal of harmful substances such as noxious chemicals, harmful bacteria or other organisms, or radioactive material from exposed individuals, rooms and furnishings in buildings, or the exterior environment. (EPA Glossary)
Degradable Plastic	A plastic designed to undergo a significant change in its chemical structure under specific environmental conditions, resulting in a loss of some properties that may be measured by standard test methods appropriate to the plastic and the application in a period of time that determines its classification. (ASTM Standard Specification D6400)
Digestion	The biochemical decomposition of organic matter, resulting in partial gasification, liquefaction, and mineralization of pollutants. (EPA Glossary)
Disposal	Final placement or destruction of wastes. Disposal may be accomplished through use of approved secure landfills, surface impoundments, land farming, deep
Disposal Facilities	refers to repositories for solid waste including landfills and combustors intended for permanent containment or destruction of waste materials. Excludes transfer stations and composting facilities. (U.S. EPA, 1991b and National Recycling Coalition, 1995)
Disposal Fee	A fee charged for the amount of waste disposed of by customers at a landfill. (also see Tipping Fee)
Diversion Rate	The percentage of waste materials diverted from traditional disposal such as landfilling or incineration to be recycled, composted, or reused. (EPA Glossary)



Drop-off Box or Center	A central, predesignated area, building, or facility set up to receive recyclables which are dropped off by individuals.
Dual Stream	Collection system where recyclables are funneled into two streams – usually one is paper/fiber and the other is containers.
Dump	A site used to dispose of solid waste without environmental controls. (EPA Glossary)
Dumpster	A generic term use for front-load and rear-load containers.
E	
End User	Consumer of products for the purpose of recycling. Excludes products for re
Energy Recovery	Obtaining energy from waste through a variety of processes (e.g. combustion). (EPA Glossary)
Environmental Equity/ Justice	Equal protection from environmental hazards for individuals, groups, or communities regardless of race, ethnicity, or economic status. This applies to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies, and implies that no population of people should be forced to shoulder a disproportionate share of negative environmental impacts of pollution or environmental hazard due to a lack of political or economic strength levels. (EPA Glossary)
Extended Producer Responsibility	Environmental protection strategy to reach an environmental objective of a decreased total environmental impact from a product, by making the manufacturer of the product responsible for the entire life
F	
Ferrous Metals	Magnetic metals derived from iron or steel; products made from ferrous metals include appliances, furniture, containers, and packaging like steel drums and barrels. Recycled products include processing tin/steel cans, strapping, and metals from appliances into new products. (EPA Glossary)
Fill	Man-made deposits of natural soils or rock products and waste materials. (EPA Glossary)
Fluorescent Lamps	(a.k.a. fluorescent light bulb) An electric lamp that produces light through fluorescence. In most fluorescent lamps, a mixture of argon and mercury gas contained in a glass bulb is stimulated by an electric current, producing ultraviolet rays. These rays strike a fluorescent phosphor coating on the interior surface of the bulb, causing it to emit visible light. Fluorescent lamps are much more efficient than incandescent lamps because very little energy is lost as heat. (American Heritage Science Dictionary, 2002 via dictionary.com) See also Incandescent lamp.
Fly Ash	Non-combustible residual particles expelled by flue gas. (EPA Glossary)
Food Processing Waste	Food residues produced during agricultural and industrial operations. (EPA Glossary)
Food Scraps	refers to uneaten food and food preparation wastes from residences and commercial establishments (grocery stores, restaurants, and produce stands), institutional sources (school cafeterias), and industrial sources (employee lunchrooms). Excludes food processing waste from agricultural and industrial operations. Examples of recycling include composting and using food scraps to feed pigs, but excludes source reduction activities such as backyard (onsite) composting and use of food items for human consumption (food banks).

G	
Generators	refers to producers of municipal solid waste such as residences, institutions, commercial businesses, and industry.
Glass Containers	refers to containers and packaging such as beer and soft drink bottles, wine and liquor bottles, and bottles and jars for food, cosmetics, and other products. For the purpose of recycling, container glass is generally separated into color categories (clear, green, and amber or brown). Examples of recycling include processing glass into new containers, construction materials (aggregate), or fiberglass (insulation). (U.S. EPA, 1995d)
Global Warming	An increase in the near surface temperature of the Earth. Global warming has occurred in the distant past as the result of natural influences, but the term is most often used to refer to the warming predicted to occur as a result of increased emissions of greenhouse gases. Scientists generally agree that the Earth's surface has warmed by about 1 degree Fahrenheit in the past 140 years. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) recently concluded that increased concentrations of greenhouse gases are causing an increase in the Earth's surface temperature and that increased concentrations of sulfate aerosols have led to relative cooling in some regions, generally over and downwind of heavily industrialized areas. (See Also Climate Change) (EPA Glossary)
Green Remediation	The practice of considering all environmental effects of remedy implementation and incorporating options to maximize the net environmental benefit of cleanup actions. (EPA CLU)
Greenhouse Gas	Any chemical or physical substance that is emitted into the air and that the Commissioner of Environmental Protection may reasonably anticipate to cause or contribute to climate change, including, but not limited to, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride. (CGS Section 22a)
Ground Water	The supply of fresh water found beneath the Earth's surface, usually in aquifers, which supply wells and springs. Because ground water is a major source of drinking water, there is growing concern over contamination from leaching agricultural or industrial pollutants or leaking underground storage tanks. (EPA Glossary)
H	
Halogen	A type of incandescent lamp with higher energy-efficiency than standard ones.
Hauler	refers to a waste collection company that provides complete refuse removal services. Many will also collect recyclables. Includes both private and public entities. Also see Collector. (U.S. EPA, 1994d)
High Density Polyethylene (HDPE)	A type of plastic used to make milk jugs and other rigid plastic bottles (City Cycle, 1990) A material used to make plastic bottles and other products that produces toxic fumes when burned. (EPA Glossary) Coded #2
Household Collection	Individualized set out of recyclables where each household or unit sets out its own container of recyclables for collection from a designated location or aggregated centralized collection where residents in a multifamily complex all place their recyclables in central storage containers serving the whole complex.
Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)	Hazardous products used and disposed of by residential as opposed to industrial consumers. Includes paints, stains, varnishes, solvents, pesticides, and other materials or products containing volatile chemicals that can catch fire, react or explode, or that are corrosive or toxic. (EPA Glossary)
Humus	The dark or black carbon rich relatively stable residue resulting from the decomposition of organic matter. (On Farm Composting Handbook)



I	
Incandescent Lamp	A lamp that produces light by heating up a filament of wire inside a bulb with an electric current, causing incandescence. The glass bulb containing the filament is filled with a nonreactive gas, such as argon, to prevent the wire from burning. (American Heritage Science Dictionary, 2002 via dictionary.com)
Incinerator	A furnace for burning waste under controlled conditions. (EPA Glossary)
Industrial Waste	Unwanted materials from an industrial operation; may be liquid, sludge, solid, or hazardous waste. (EPA Glossary)
Institutional Waste	Waste generated at institutions such as schools, libraries, hospitals, prisons, etc. (EPA Glossary)
Integrated Waste Management	Using a variety of practices to handle municipal solid waste; can include source reduction, recycling, incineration, and landfilling. (EPA Glossary)
Intermediate Processing Center (IPC)	A facility which can recycle an item or items and market or deliver for reuse the resulting material product or products. Such facilities may be owned by the public or private entities or combinations thereof and may offer service on a state, regional, municipal or submunicipal level. (RCSA Section 22a)
J	
K	
L	
Landfills	Sanitary landfills are disposal sites for non-hazardous solid wastes spread in layers, compacted to the smallest practical volume, and covered by material applied at the end of each operating day. 2. Secure chemical landfills are disposal sites for hazardous waste, selected and designed to minimize the chance of release of hazardous substances into the environment. (EPA Glossary)
Leachate	Water that collects contaminants as it trickles through wastes, pesticides or fertilizers. Leaching may occur in farming areas, feedlots, and landfills, and may result in hazardous substances entering surface water, ground water, or soil. (EPA Glossary)
Leachate Collection System	A system that gathers leachate and pumps it to the surface for treatment. (EPA Glossary)
Life Cycle of a Product	All stages of a product's development, from extraction of fuel for power to production, marketing, use, and disposal. (EPA Glossary)
Liner	A relatively impermeable barrier designed to keep leachate inside a landfill. Liner materials include plastic and dense clay. (EPA Glossary)
Litter	The highly visible portion of solid waste carelessly discarded outside the regular garbage and trash collection and disposal system. (EPA Glossary)

M	
Manual Separation	Hand sorting of recyclable or compostable materials in waste. (EPA Glossary)
Markets	The businesses who accept recyclable materials for reuse or processing, either for their own consumption or for resale. A public agency may also be a market. (City Cycle, 1990)
Materials Recovery Facility (MRF)	A facility that processes residentially collected mixed recyclables into new products available for market. (EPA Glossary)
Medical Waste	refers to any solid waste generated in the diagnosis, treatment, or immunization of human beings or animals, in research pertaining thereto, or in the production or testing of biologicals, excluding hazardous waste identified or listed under 40 CFR Part 261 or any household waste as defined in 40 CFR Subsection 261.4 (b) (1). (U.S. EPA, 1994d)
Methane	A colorless, nonpoisonous, flammable gas created by anaerobic decomposition of organic compounds. A major component of natural gas used in the home. (EPA Glossary)
Monocell	A variation of the cell construction method whereby only a single type of solid waste is disposed of in any individual cell. (RCSA Section 22a)
Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)	refers to wastes such as durable goods, nondurable goods, containers and packaging, food scraps, yard trimmings, and miscellaneous inorganic wastes from residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial sources, such as appliances, automobile tires, old newspapers, clothing, disposable tableware, office and classroom paper, wood pallets, and cafeteria wastes. Excludes solid wastes from other sources, such as construction and demolition debris, autobodies, municipal sludges, combustion ash, and industrial process wastes that might also be disposed of in municipal waste landfills or incinerators. (U.S. EPA, 1996b)
N	
O	
Open Burning	Uncontrolled fires in an open dump. (EPA Glossary)
Open Dump	An uncovered site used for disposal of waste without environmental controls. (See also Dump) (EPA Glossary)
Organic	1. Referring to or derived from living organisms. 2. In chemistry, any compound containing carbon. (EPA Glossary)
P	
Packer truck, compacter truck	A refuse or recycling collection vehicle that compacts the materials. This is the most common type of refuse collection vehicle.
Pallet	A wooden platform used in connection with a forklift for moving bales or other large items. Also called a 'skid'. (Business Recycling Manual, INFORM & Recourse Systems, 1991)
Paper	In the recycling business, refers to products and materials, including newspapers, magazines, office papers, corrugated containers, bags and some paperboard packaging that can be recycled into new paper products. (EPA Glossary)



Participation Rate	Portion of population participating in a recycling program. (EPA Glossary)
Pay As You Throw/Unit-Based Pricing (PAYT)	Systems under which residents pay for municipal waste management and disposal services by weight or volume collected, not a fixed fee. (EPA Glossary)
Polyethylene Terephthalate (PETE)	A type of plastic used to make soft drink bottles and other kinds of food containers. PET is also used to make fabric. Coded #1. (Earth911.org)
Processors	refers to intermediate operators that handle recyclable materials from collectors and generators for the purpose of preparing materials for recycling (material recovery facilities, scrap metal yards, paper dealers, and glass beneficiation plants). Processors act as intermediaries between collectors and end users of recovered materials.
Product Stewardship	Product stewardship is a principle that directs all participants involved in the life cycle of a product to take shared responsibility for the impacts to human health and the natural environment that result from the production, use and end-of-life management of the product. The greater the ability of a party to influence the life cycle impacts of a product, the greater the degree of that party's responsibility. The stakeholders typically include manufacturers, retailers, consumers, and government officials. (Product Stewardship Institute)
Q	
R	
Reclamation	(In recycling) Restoration of materials found in the waste stream to a beneficial use which may be for purposes other than the original use. (EPA Glossary)
Recovery Rate	Percentage of usable recycled materials that have been removed from the total amount of municipal solid waste generated in a specific area or by a specific business. (EPA Glossary)
Recyclables	refers to those materials recovered from the solid waste stream and transported to a processor or end user for recycling. (National Recycling Coalition, 1995)
Recycling	refers to the series of activities by which discarded materials are collected, sorted, processed, and converted into raw materials and used in the production of new products. Excludes the use of these materials as a fuel substitute or for energy production. (National Recycling Coalition, 1995)
Residential Waste	Waste generated in single and multi unit households
Residual	Amount of a pollutant remaining in the environment after a natural or technological process has taken place; e.g., the sludge remaining after initial wastewater treatment, or particulates remaining in air after it passes through a scrubbing or other process. (EPA Glossary)
Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA)	The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) gives EPA the authority to control hazardous waste from the "cradle to grave"
Resources Recovery Facility	A facility utilizing processes to reclaim energy from municipal solid waste. (CGS Section 22a
Reuse	Using a product or component of municipal solid waste in its original form more than once; e.g., refilling a glass bottle that has been returned or using a coffee can to hold nuts and bolts. (EPA Glossary)

S	
Sanitary Landfill	(See Landfills)
Scavenger	Originally a "person hired to remove refuse from streets," from M.E. scawageour. (Random House Dictionary, 2009 via Dictionary.com)
Scrap	Materials discarded from manufacturing operations that may be suitable for reprocessing. (EPA Glossary)
Sharps	Hypodermic needles, syringes (with or without the attached needle), Pasteur pipettes, scalpel blades, blood vials, needles with attached tubing, and culture dishes used in animal or human patient care or treatment, or in medical, research or industrial laboratories. Also included are other types of broken or unbroken glassware that were in contact with infectious agents, such as used slides and cover slips, and unused hypodermic and suture needles, syringes, and scalpel blades. (EPA Glossary)
Single Stream Collection	Collection system where recyclables are fully commingled, mixing fiber (papers) and containers (glass bottles, metal cans and plastic containers). (CT DEEP)
Solid Waste	Unwanted or discarded solid, liquid, semisolid or contained gaseous material, including, but not limited to, demolition debris, material burned or otherwise processed at a resources recovery facility or incinerator, material processed at a recycling facility and sludges or other residue from a water pollution abatement facility, water supply treatment plant or air pollution control facility. (CGS Section 22a)
Solid Waste Management Plan	An administrative and financial plan for an area which considers solid waste storage, collection, transportation, volume reduction, recycling, reclamation and disposal practices for a extended period of time.
Source Separation	Segregating various wastes at the point of generation (e.g., separation of paper, metal and glass from other wastes to make recycling simpler and more efficient). (EPA Glossary)
Sustainability	Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. (EPA Glossary)
T	
Textiles	refers to fibers from discarded apparel, furniture, linens (sheets and towels), and carpets. Examples of recycling include converting apparel and linens into wiper rags and processing textiles into new products (linen paper or carpet padding). (U.S. EPA, 1996b)
Transfer Station	refers to a facility where solid waste is transferred from collection vehicles to larger trucks or rail cars for longer distance transport. (U.S. Congress, 1989)
Trash	Material considered worthless or offensive that is thrown away. Generally defined as dry waste material, but in common usage it is a synonym for garbage, rubbish, or refuse. (EPA Glossary)
U	



V	
Vector	An organism, often an insect or rodent, that carries disease. 2. Plasmids, viruses, or bacteria used to transport genes into a host cell. A gene is placed in the vector; the vector then "infects" the bacterium. (EPA Glossary)
W	
Waste	Unwanted materials left over from a manufacturing process. 2. Refuse from places of human or animal habitation. (EPA Glossary)
Waste Characterization Studies	refers to the identification and measurement (by weight or volume) of specific categories of municipal solid waste materials (glass, plastic, and metals) for the purpose of projecting landfill capacity, determining best management practices and developing cost-effective recycling programs. (U.S. EPA, 1996b)
Waste Generation	refers to the amount (weight or volume) of materials and products that enter the waste stream before recycling, composting, landfilling, or combustion takes place. (U.S. EPA 1996b)
Waste Stream	The total flow of solid waste from homes, businesses, institutions, and manufacturing plants that is recycled, burned, or disposed of in landfills, or segments thereof such as the "residential waste stream" or the "recyclable waste stream." (EPA Glossary)
Waste-To-Energy Facility/ Combustor	refers to a facility where recovered municipal solid waste is converted into a usable form of energy, usually through combustion. (U.S. EPA, 1995b)
White Goods	refers to major appliances such as refrigerators, stoves, air conditioners, and washing machines. Also see Major Appliances and Bulky Waste. (U.S. EPA, 1989)
Windrow	A long, relatively narrow, and low (compost) pile. Windrows have a large exposed surface area which encourages passive aeration and drying. (On Farm Composting Handbook)
Wood Packaging	Wood products such as pallets, crates, and barrels. (EPA Glossary)
X	
Y	
Z	
Zero Waste	Zero Waste is a goal that is both pragmatic and visionary, to guide people to emulate sustainable natural cycles, where all discarded materials are resources for others to use. Zero Waste means designing and managing products and processes to reduce the volume and toxicity of waste and materials, conserve and recover all resources, and not burn or bury them. Implementing Zero Waste will eliminate all discharges to land, water or air that may be a threat to planetary, human, animal or plant health. (Zero Waste International Alliance)

For more information about NWRA, please visit: www.wasterecycling.org
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Activity Log

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