

SMaRT Station® Annual Report 2012-2013



Mountain View, Palo Alto
and Sunnyvale

A SMaRT
Partnership

International Paper Markets Impose Strict Contamination Controls

Most paper collected for recycling in the U.S. is shipped to China to be made into new paper products. The recent crack-down by the Chinese government, "Operation Green Fence," is considered an effort to reduce contamination found in recyclables feedstock. Customs officials are rejecting entire shipments of baled paper whose contamination levels exceed the 1.5 percent allowance, and returning them to the U.S. at shipping fees of \$6,000 per container.

Contaminants commonly found in baled paper shipments include plastic bags, glass, metal and plastic containers, packing materials, bags of garbage, and even dirty diapers. Higher contamination levels make it more difficult and labor-intensive to render materials clean enough for use as industrial feedstocks.

The SMaRT Station manually and mechanically separates contaminants from paper on two sorting lines that handle incoming material: the curbside recycling line and the mixed waste line. On the curbside recycling line, a "negative" sort is done to pull contaminants out of the paper as it moves along a conveyor belt. Additional staff has been added to the recycling line to ensure this task is accomplished. On the mixed waste line, a "positive" sort is done to pull the cleanest, dry paper off the line, separating it from contaminants and moisture to satisfy recycling market requirements. Due to careful sorting on both lines, paper sorted at the SMaRT Station is in high demand and has never been rejected because of contamination.

In an effort to minimize curbside contamination, SMaRT cities have generated outreach materials to remind residents to recycle only those items that their recycling programs accept.



Karen Gissibl, City of Sunnyvale Recycling Manager, displays sample contaminants culled from a curbside paper recycling load.



CITY OF
PALO
ALTO

Mike Sartor
Public Works Director
City of Palo Alto



CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

Michael A. Fuller
Public Works Director
City of Mountain View



John Stufflebean
Environmental Services Director
City of Sunnyvale

Costs, Revenues and Diversion 2012-2013

Financial Summary of Costs and Revenues

	Mtn. View	Palo Alto	Sunnyvale	Totals
City Population	76,260	66,368	145,973	288,601
Cost Sharing Percentage	31%	17%	51%	
COSTS (in thousands)				
Operating costs	\$4,008	\$2,220	\$6,542	\$12,770
Landfill Fees and Taxes	\$2,920	\$1,891	\$5,251	\$10,062
Yardwaste Recycling costs	\$117	\$248	\$271	\$636
Capital Replacement Fund	\$47	\$42	\$111	\$200
Host Fees to General Fund	\$221	\$122	\$350	\$693
Total Costs	\$7,313	\$4,523	\$12,525	\$24,361
REVENUES (in thousands)				
MRF Recovered Recycling Revenues	\$195	\$106	\$319	\$620
Source Separated Recycling Revenues	\$729	\$0	\$1,063	\$1,792
Public Haul Fees collected	\$200	\$111	\$326	\$637
Total Revenues	\$1,124	\$217	\$1,708	\$3,049
NET COSTS (in thousands)	\$6,189	\$4,306	\$10,817	\$21,312

SMaRT Station Diversion Summary

(in tons)	Mtn. View	Palo Alto	Sunnyvale	Totals
City Population	76,260	66,368	145,973	288,601
MSW* delivered to SMaRT Station	55,143	30,544	90,064	175,751
MSW Public haul	1,456	1,617	11,014	14,087
Total MSW Delivered to SMaRT	56,599	32,161	101,078	189,838
MSW disposed at landfill	49,355	27,337	80,610	157,303
MSW material diverted from the landfill at the SMaRT Station	7,244	4,824	20,468	32,536
Yard trimmings brought to SMaRT Station	6,440	13,682	14,962	35,084
Recyclables brought to SMaRT Station	8,843	12	11,014	19,869
Total Delivered	71,882	45,855	127,053	244,791
Total amount of material delivered to the SMaRT Station and diverted from the landfill	22,527	18,518	46,444	87,489

* MSW = Municipal Solid Waste

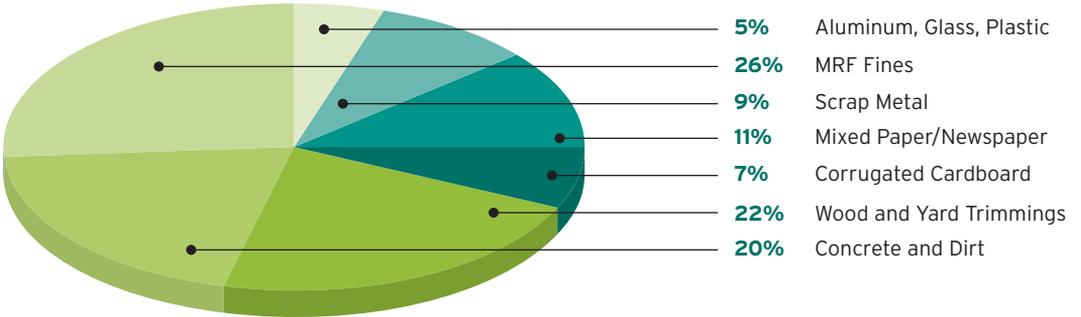


Recyclables baled and ready for shipment to markets.

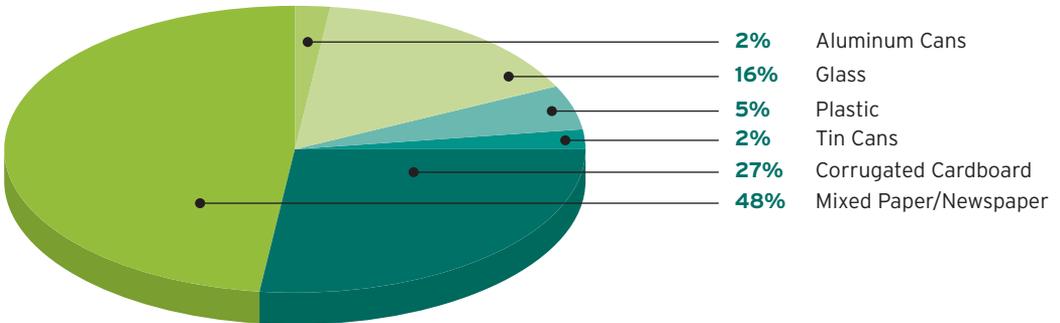
Marketing Success

Percentages shown on these charts for diverted and marketed materials reflect material weight.

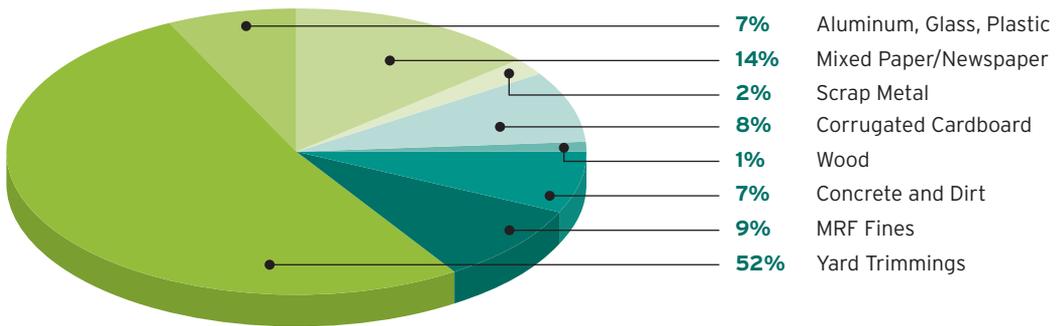
Materials Diverted from MSW



Materials Marketed from Curbside Collection



SMaRT Station All Materials Marketed



Partners in Leadership 2012-2013

CITY OF SUNNYVALE

- Mayor Tony Spitaleri
- Vice Mayor Jim Griffith
- Councilmember Christopher Moylan
- Councilmember Dave Whittum
- Councilmember Pat Meyering
- Councilmember Tara Martin-Milius
- Councilmember Jim Davis

City Manager Gary Luebbers

CITY OF PALO ALTO

- Mayor Gregory Scharff
- Vice Mayor Nancy Shepherd
- Councilmember Patrick Burt
- Councilmember Karen Holman
- Councilmember Larry Klein
- Councilmember Gail A. Price
- Councilmember Liz Kniss
- Councilmember Greg Schmid
- Councilmember Mark Berman

City Manager James Keene

CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

- Mayor John Inks
- Vice Mayor Chris Clark
- Councilmember Margaret Abe-Koga
- Councilmember Ronit Bryant
- Councilmember R. Michael Kasperzak, Jr.
- Councilmember Jac Siegel
- Councilmember John McAlister

City Manager Daniel H. Rich

SMaRT Station Highlights

SMaRT Station Recycling Center Accepts Hard-to-Recycle Materials

Most partner city residents know the SMaRT Station Recycling Center accepts the basic recyclables – paper, cardboard, scrap metal, and plastic, metal and glass containers. What they may not know is the Center has expanded upon the types of materials accepted nearly every year. The Center's most recent additions include **holiday light strands, cooking oil, and shoes and clothes.**

Residents are encouraged to take advantage of all the Center's recycling services:

- Compost and mulch pick-up – available on a first-come, first-served basis. Residents may collect up to three 32-gallon containers of compost weekly at no charge.
- Beverage Container Buy-Back Center – cash is paid for California Redemption Value (CRV) beverage containers. Recent legislation limits plastic and metal containers redemption to 100 pounds and glass containers redemption to 1,000 pounds per day.
- Sharps Recycling – needles and lancets must be sealed in a biohazard or heavy-duty plastic or metal container and labeled as "Sharps". Dispose of container in the designated red bin.
- Electronics and items requiring special handling that are prohibited in garbage or recycling carts or bins – TVs, computers, monitors and peripherals, small household appliances, household and auto batteries, cell phones, fluorescent bulbs, coils and tubes, thermostats and thermometers, **cooking oil, holiday light strands**, used motor oil and filters, and antifreeze – may be dropped off at the Center. Daily drop-off limits are as follows: four TVs or computer monitors; up to twenty fluorescent tubes or bulbs; up to 10 gallons of used motor oil, cooking oil or antifreeze in 5-gallon containers or smaller.*
- Clothing and shoes – green drop-boxes available for used clothing and shoes, regardless of condition.



The Recycling Center provides bins for recycling electronics, holiday lights, batteries, fluorescents and bottles and cans redemption.



All clothing, wearable or not, and shoes can be dropped off for donations.



Residents collect compost to use for landscaping and gardening needs.



Red bin offers safe disposal of sharps in sealed and labeled containers.

* Residents may drop off these personally-used, household-generated waste items for recycling at no charge. If generated by commercial entities, property management companies or home owner associations, these items may be recycled at business hazardous waste drop-off events.

A partnership of the cities of Mountain View, Palo Alto and Sunnyvale
Operated by Bay Counties Waste Services