Vehicle Identification Requirement for Trash Trucks Being Used to Collect Recyclable Materials

The purpose of this Advisory is to clarify the county's requirements regarding signage on trash trucks being used to collect recyclables. Section 109.1-5-6(b)(2)(iii) of the Code of Fairfax County requires that, “Vehicles permitted to collect recyclables must be clearly identified as such. Such signage shall be removed if the vehicle is used to collect refuse”. To ensure that these vehicles have the appropriate signage to deliver the intended message—that the vehicle is currently being used to collect recyclables—in a manner that is clear to the casual observer, the following criteria must be met:

- Signage must specifically read "Recycling Collection".
- Signage must be at least 2 feet by 2 feet, to ensure visibility. Exceptions to this requirement can only be made by the Director, Recycling, Engineering, and Environmental Compliance Division.
- Signage must be attached to both sides of the truck and must be removable to differentiate between collection types (e.g., trash versus recyclables).

As part of the CTO renewal process, collection companies who intend to collect recyclables with their packer-truck fleet will be required to present two (2) functional “Recycling Collection” signs for County review during the collection vehicle inspections.

This revised Advisory supersedes an earlier version dated November 4, 2010.