



## Frequently Asked Questions - FAQs

### Is recycling required at all multifamily residential properties in Fairfax County?

Yes, since July 2007, all multifamily residential properties – which includes apartments and condominiums – have been required to provide a recycling system for residents. The system must be convenient and located on-site. Requiring residents to transport their recyclables offsite is not an acceptable system.

### Why is recycling required?

Fairfax County's 1.2 million residents generate over one million tons of refuse per year. Recycling and waste reduction efforts are major components of managing our municipal waste stream. In addition, recycling helps conserve resources and reduces air and water pollution.

### Who is responsible for providing recycling service for residents of multifamily properties?

Management is responsible for establishing convenient on-site recycling systems. The system must have adequate capacity so that recycling is not overflowing. Materials collected for recycling must be taken to a processing facility, and not to a disposal facility.

### Will recycling services increase my collection costs?

Not necessarily. If managed effectively, recycling can actually reduce the monthly trash collection bill. Although residents will still generate the same quantity of materials, the amount processed as refuse will be significantly reduced. The recyclables which are taken out of the waste stream are a resource that will eventually be used in the manufacturing of new materials.

