



FOODSERVICE PACKAGING RECOVERY

OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM



ABOUT FPI

ESTABLISHED IN 1933

- Only industry trade association in North America solely focused on all single-use foodservice packaging products
- Members include:
 - Converters and their raw material and machinery suppliers (represents about 85% of the industry)
 - Foodservice distributors and operators

FPI'S RECOVERY WORK GROUPS

2011

Paper Recovery
Alliance
(PRA)



2012

Plastics
Recovery
Group (PRG)



2016

Compost Work
Group



2018

Paper Cup
Alliance (PCA)



TARGETED MATERIALS

Specifically, our work focuses on:

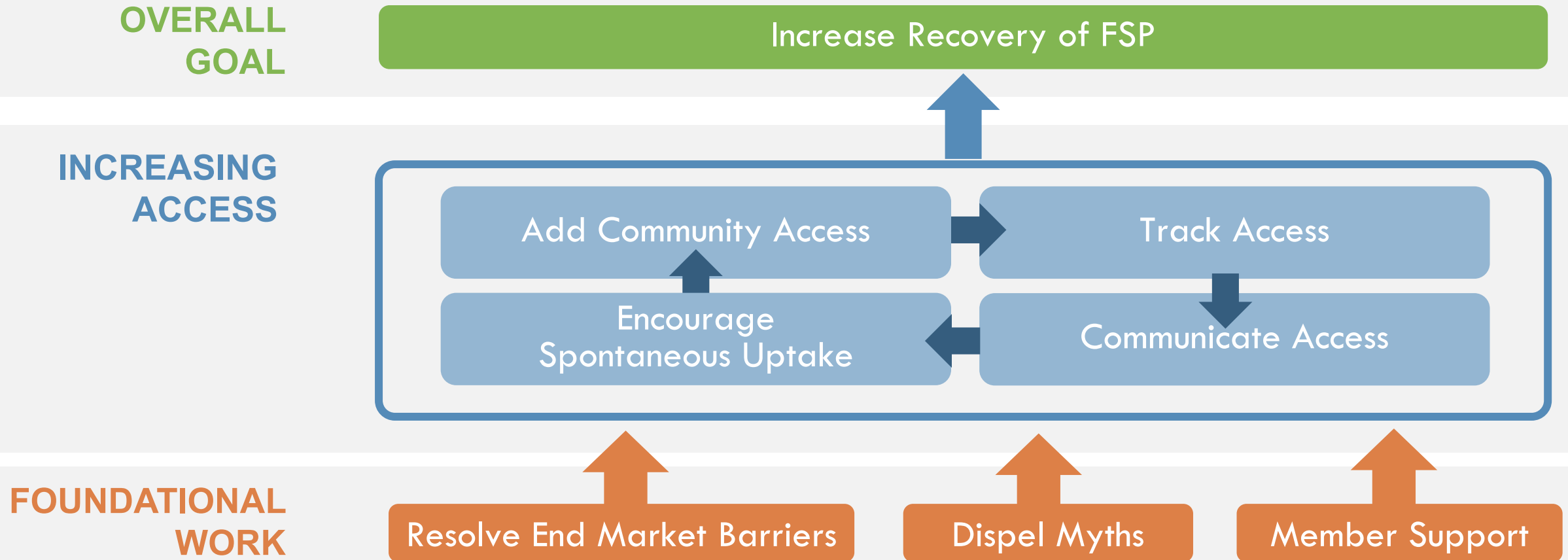
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CURRENT PRA/PRG/PCA MEMBERS



OVERVIEW OF APPROACH



PAPER CUP RECYCLING

- Made with long, bleached fiber – highly desired by paper mills.
- Can be sorted into mixed paper (Grade 54) or mill spec polycoat bales (cartons + paper cups/containers)
- Pulping systems can separate coatings from fiber with a 70%-90% yield.
- Fiber goes on to become cereal boxes, facial tissue, corrugated boxes, and new paper cups!



WHY PAPER CUPS NOW?

PULPABILITY OF POLYCOAT PAPER CUPS

- Previously, it was thought that the polycoat lining made recycling cups a challenge.
- FPI partnered with various North American mills to investigate paper cup pulpability within both mixed paper and polycoat/carton bales.
- Following multiple trials, paper cups could indeed be reclaimed and processed
- The plastic lining makes up such a small percentage of the item.



PAPER CUPS AT THE MILL



WM ACCEPTANCE ACROSS NATIONAL FOOTPRINT

WM Now Accepts To-Go Cups in Curbside Recycling

Plastic and Paper Cups from Companies Nationwide Now Accepted in More Local Recycling Programs

HOUSTON, Nov. 12, 2025 /PRNewswire/ -- WM (NYSE: WM), North America's leading environmental solutions provider and largest recycler, has added plastic cups made of polypropylene and paper to-go cups to its universal list of accepted recyclable materials. This means residents can recycle to-go cups curbside in more local recycling programs across the U.S.



END MARKETS FOR POST-CONSUMER PAPER CUPS

MIXED PAPER MARKETS

Cascades, Ashland, VA
Cascades, Kingsey Falls, QC
Cascades Containerboard, Niagara Falls, NY
Cascades, Greenpac Mill, Niagara Falls, NY
Essity, Barton, AL
Essity, Menasha, WI
Essity, Middletown, OH
Georgia-Pacific, Green Bay, WI
Georgia-Pacific, Muskogee, OK
Georgia-Pacific, Rincon, GA
Graphic Packaging Int'l, East Angus, QC
Graphic Packaging Int'l, Kalamazoo, MI
Graphic Packaging Int'l, Waco, TX
Green Bay Packaging, Green Bay, WI
Greif, Milwaukee, WI
ND Paper - Biron Mill, Wisconsin Rapids, WI
Newman Paperboard, Philadelphia, PA
NORPAC, Longview, WA

SORTED OFFICE PAPER MARKETS

Resolute, Menominee, MI

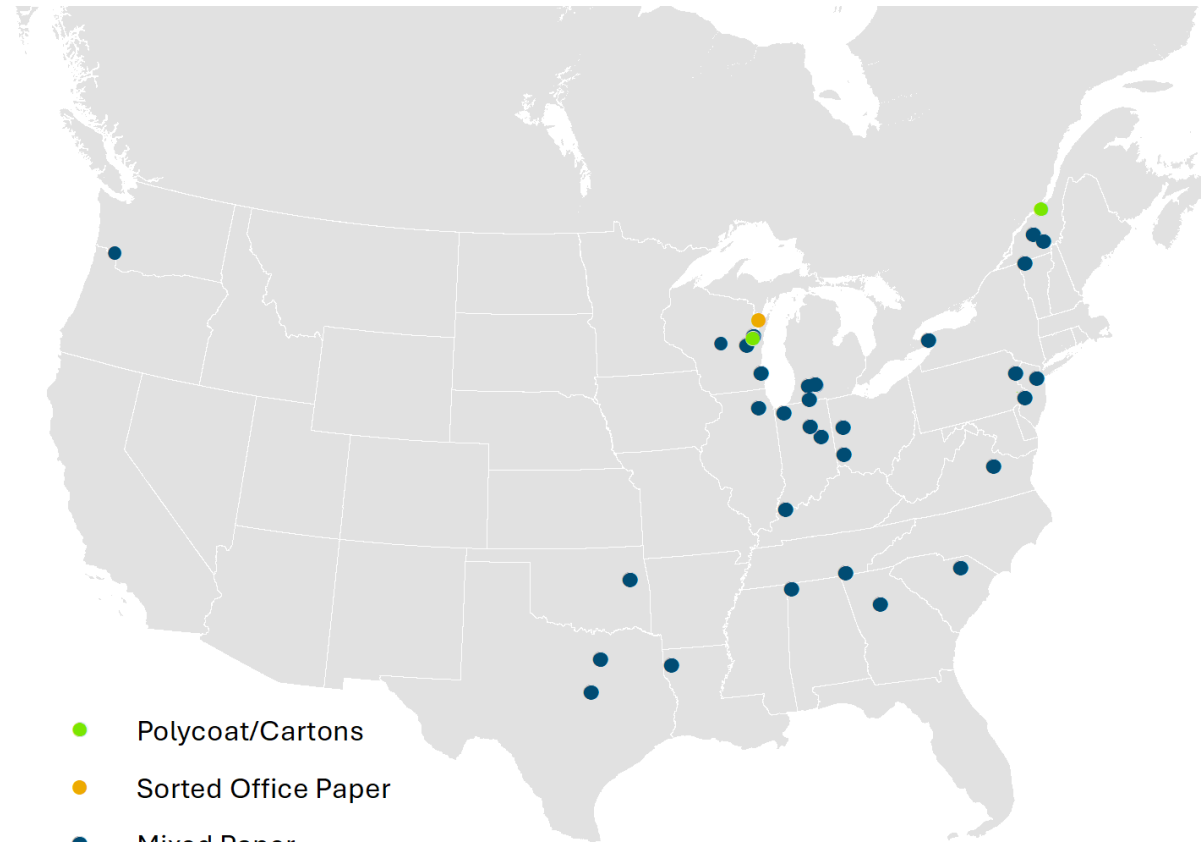
POLYCOAT / CARTON MARKETS

Sustana (Breakey Fiber), Levis, QC
Sustana (Fox River Fiber), DePere, WI

Ox Industries, Aurora, IL
Ox Industries, Eaton, IN
Ox Industries, White Pigeon, MI
Paperworks Industries, Wabash, IN
Pratt, Conyers, GA
Pratt, Henderson, KY
Pratt, Shreveport, LA
Pratt, Staten Island, NY
Pratt, Valparaiso, IN
Pratt, Wapakoneta, OH
Smurfit WestRock, Battle Creek, MI
Smurfit WestRock, Dallas, TX
Smurfit WestRock, Missisquoi, VT
Smurfit WestRock, Stroudsburg, PA
Sonoco, Chattanooga, TN
Sonoco, Hartsville, SC

BROKERS

America Chung Nam
Continental Paper Grading
GP Recycling
Omnisphere
Padnos
ReMM Group
Source One Ventures
Storelli Recycling
Wilmington Paper



- Polycoat/Cartons
- Sorted Office Paper
- Mixed Paper



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



FOODSERVICE PACKAGING
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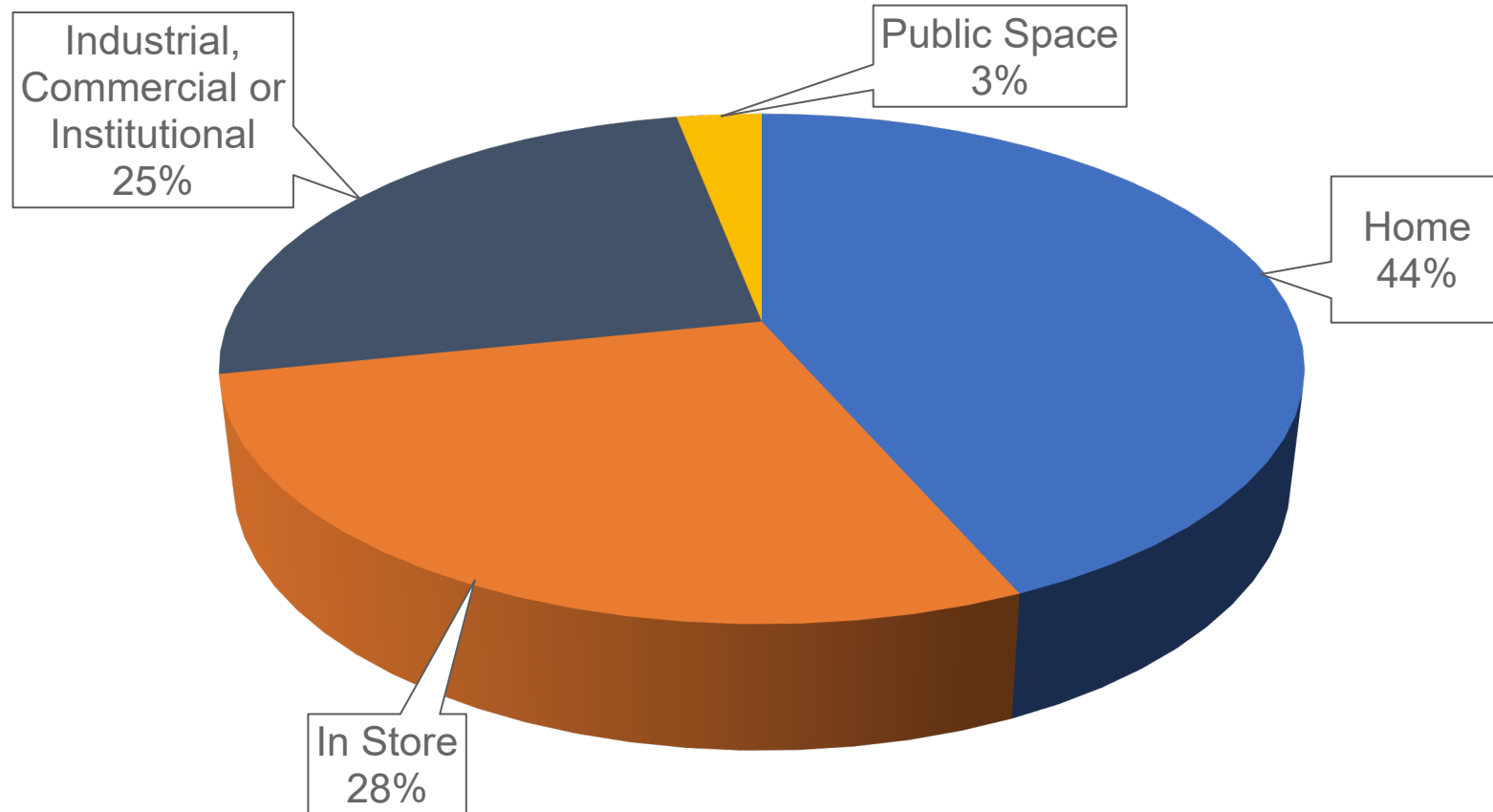
GOALS

FPI's overall goal is to develop and promote economically viable and sustainable recovery solutions for foodservice packaging.

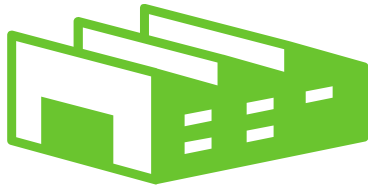
The purpose of FPI's Community Partnership program is to add a suite of foodservice packaging to **curbside recycling programs.**

WHY FOCUS ON CURBSIDE COLLECTION?

Most foodservice packaging is discarded at home or in the workplace



COMMUNITY PARTNER PREREQUISITES



MRF Buy-In

Operations



MRF Buy-In

End Markets (impact, options, location)



Haulers

Community contracts, Suite of materials collected



Community Buy-In

Director of Public Works, Solid Waste
Director, Solid Waste/Recycling Staff



Market Assurances

Trade Association and Oversight
Organization support

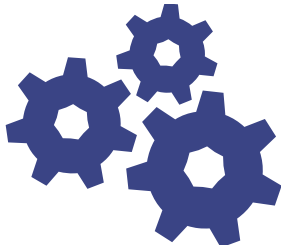


End Market Buy-In

What can they handle? Volume,
quality, overall impact?

OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

If all stakeholders agree, FPI and partners work together in these areas:

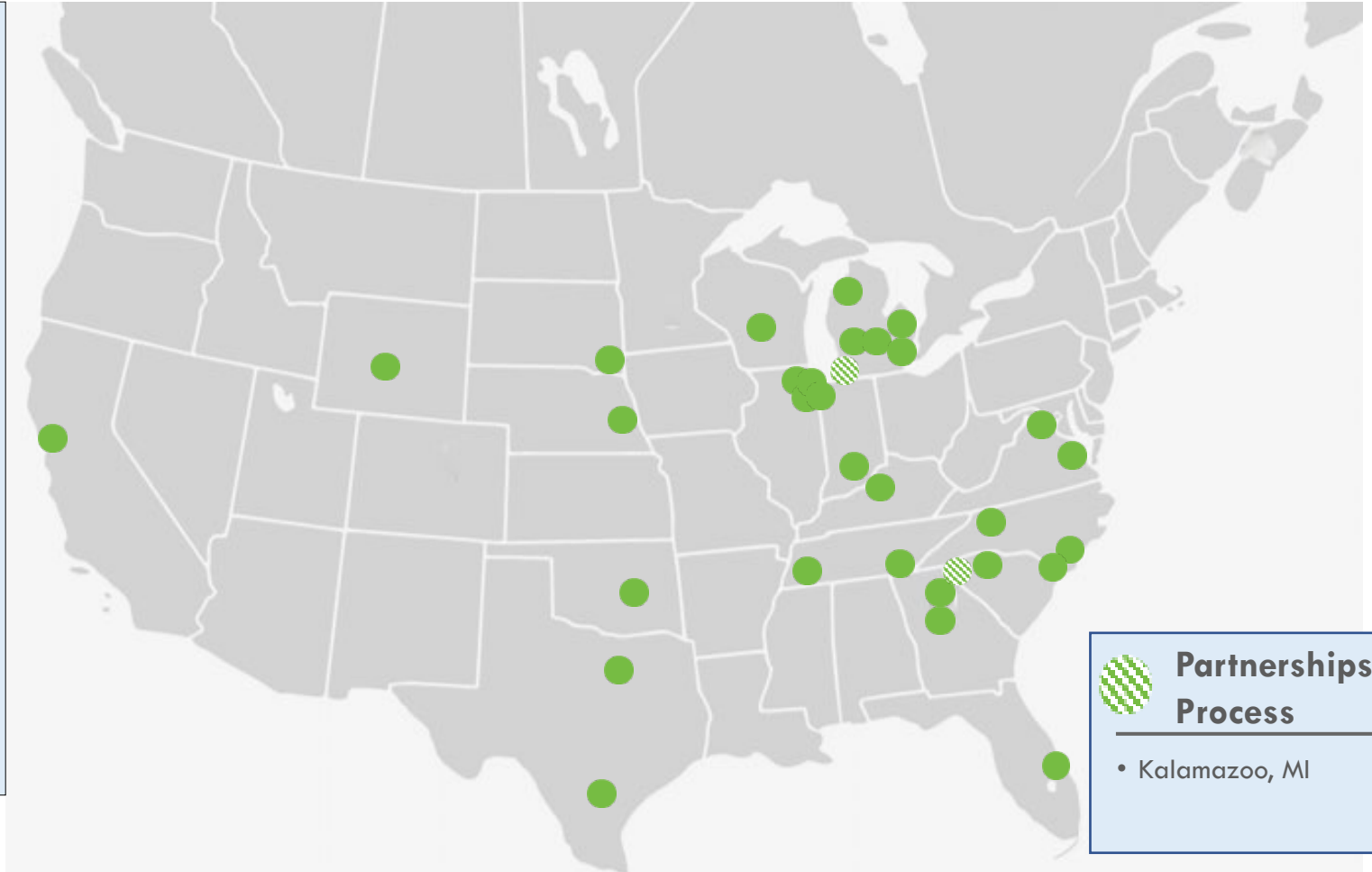
				
Contracting Define obligations of community and aspects of FPI support	Operations Plan How big? Any process changes? What is sorted where?	Communications Plan Education and outreach planning, adding new material (language, images, integration into existing media)	Community Kick-off Event PR and publicity kick-off event. Campaign runs for 2 months following kickoff.	Measurement & Benchmarking tonnage, residue, bale audit – what and how much? Before snapshot and again 6-9 months after kickoff.

FPI COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP REACH



Partnerships Launched

- Chattanooga, TN
- Louisville, KY
- Washington, DC
- Denver, CO
- Millennium Recycling (Sioux Falls, SD)
- Clark County, IN
- Kent County, MI
- St. Lucie County, FL
- Martin County, FL
- Indian River County, FL
- Athens-Clarke County, GA
- Atlanta, GA
- DeKalb County, GA
- Detroit, MI
- RRRASOC MRF (Oakland County, MI)*
- GFL MRF (New Boston, MI)*
- Lansing/East Lansing, MI*
- Pellitteri Waste Systems (Madison, WI)*
- Groot Industries, LRS*, SWALCO (Chicago region, IL)
- New Hanover County, NC
- Catawba County, NC
- Tulsa, OK
- Dallas, TX*
- Memphis, TN
- Brunswick County, NC
- Chicago, IL
- Ukiah, CA
- Spartanburg County, SC
- Chesapeake, VA
- Austin, TX Balcones MRF
- First Star Recycling (Omaha, NE)
- Grand Traverse County, MI



Partnerships in Process

- Kalamazoo, MI

Updated: October 2025

*community partnership + equipment grant



FOODSERVICE PACKAGING
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WHAT PARTNERS PROVIDE

- Points of contact for operations, communications
- “In-kind” assistance, such as:
 - Piggybacking on planned education and outreach activities
 - Sharing contacts and connections who can help the roll-out
 - Assistance with some data collection (e.g., residue audits) and reporting
- Willingness to be cited as reference, case study, etc.

WHAT FPI CAN PROVIDE

- Information, research data
- Technical assistance, e.g., on operational questions, as needed
- Support in end market dialogues, as needed
- Communications planning
- Assistance in developing educational materials for residents (flyers, templates, graphics, etc.)
- Join our network of Community Partners through ongoing updates, webinars, and graphics



COMMUNITIES TAKING ACTION

Community Partners are added to our 'Communities Taking Action' Map

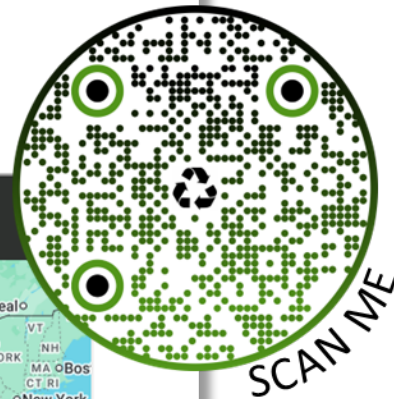
Visual representation of communities that have joined the movement to add paper cups to their recycling programs.

Communities Taking Action

The communities shown here have added paper cups to the accepted list of materials in their recycling programs. This action helps divert more materials from landfills and instead, recycle paper cups into new products like toilet paper, paperboard, and yes, even new paper cups!

Here are great resources for adding paper cups & continuous education:

- [Value Chain Engagement Checklist](#)
- [Resident Education Kit](#)



www.recyclefsp.org/communities-taking-action

COMMS APPROACH

UPDATE INFORMATION

- Website, recycling flyer, and/or Waste Wizard. Add to Yes and remove from No lists.
- Key messaging: **clean and empty** (no lids, stirrers, or straws)

COMMUNITY OUTREACH/EDUCATION

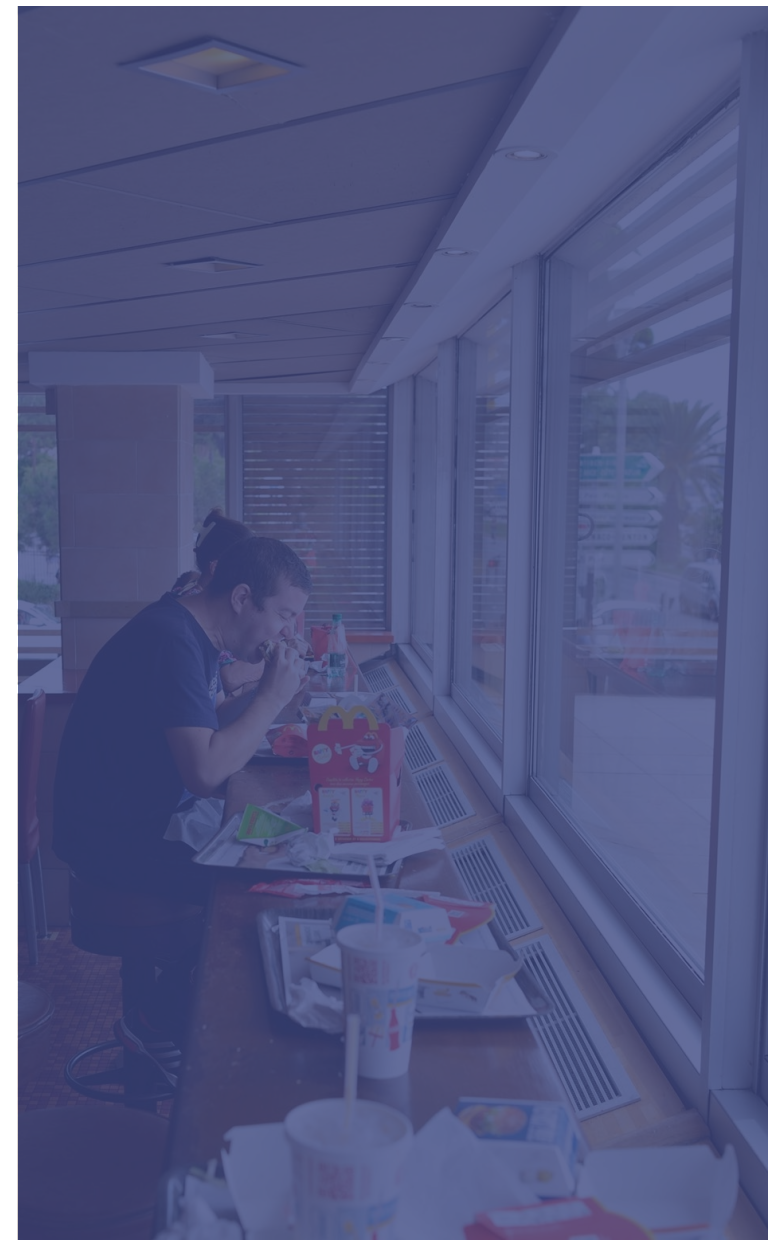
- Social media - posts, GIF, videos
- Advertisements - digital, outdoor, and/or print
- Identify community ambassadors

MEDIA

- Joint press release with FPI

BENCHMARK AND TRACK PROGRESS

- Pre-campaign residential survey and post-campaign survey
- Pre- and post campaign engagement metrics



SAMPLE EDUCATIONAL FLYER

RECYCLING FLYER

RECYCLE MORE!

RecycleAnyTown.com



PAPER

Flattened Cardboard
(clean & empty)

Paper Containers & Cups
(clean & empty)

Milk, Juice & Soup Cartons
(clean & empty)

Newspapers/Inserts, Phone
Books, Magazines, Junk
Mail & Office Paper

NO TISSUE



PLASTIC

Plastic Bottles,
Cups & Containers
(clean & empty)

NO PLASTIC BAGS



GLASS

Glass Bottles & Jars
(clean & empty;
amber, green & clear)

**NO WINDOWS
OR CERAMICS**



METAL

Steel & Aluminum
Bottles/Cans
(clean & empty)

**NO PAINT
CANS**



HOW TO PREPARE YOUR RECYCLABLES:



Recyclables
should be clean
and empty



Do not use plastic
bags; leave
recyclables loose.



Include only listed items. Check
with your local government or
recycling service provider if unsure.

TIP: Return grocery bags to participating stores for recycling.

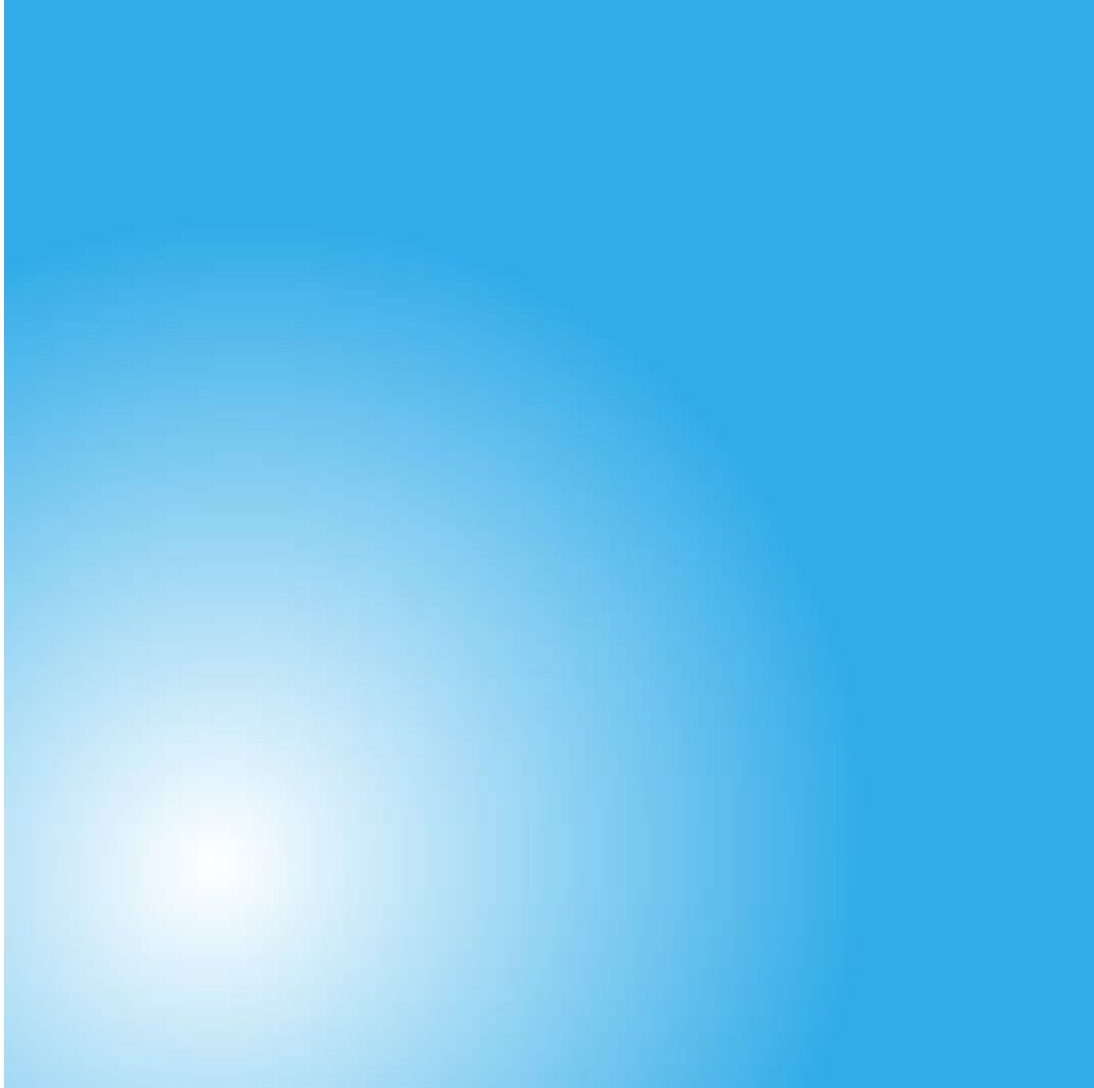


FOODSERVICE PACKAGING
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CUSTOMIZABLE VIDEO



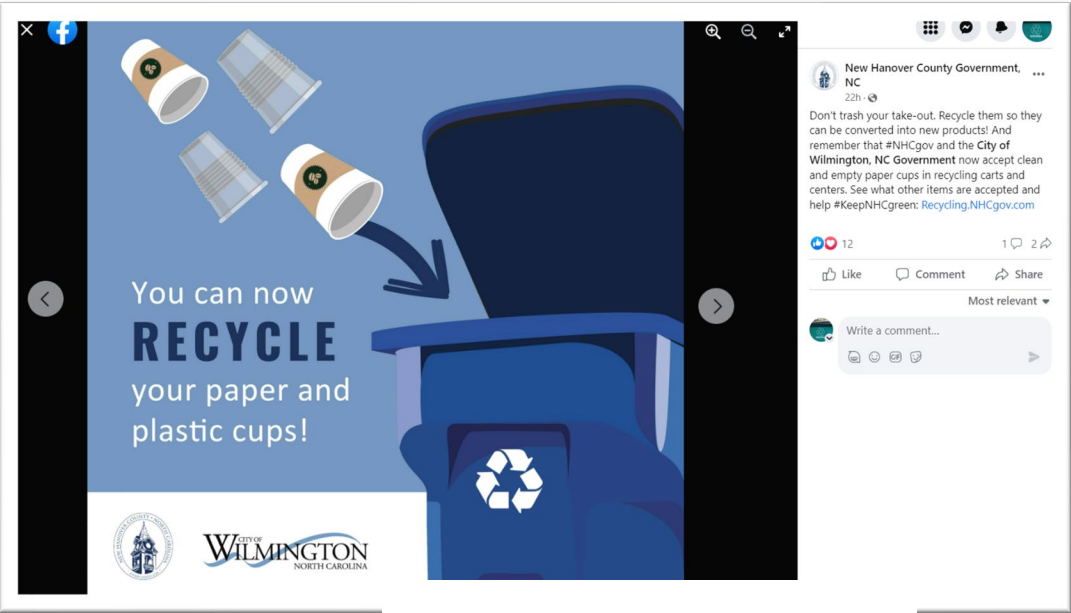
SHORTER ANIMATIONS



GROOT (CHICAGOLAND) - 2023



NEW HANOVER COUNTY & WILMINGTON, NC- 2023



SPARTANBURG COUNTY, SC - 2025



Don't trash your paper cups,
RECYCLE THEM!



Empty, Clean and Loose at
Your Nearest Recycling
Drop-Off Center.



REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE!



PAPER

Flattened Cardboard
(clean & empty)

Paper Containers & Cups
(clean & empty)

Newspapers/Inserts,
Phone Books, Magazines,
Junk Mail & Office Paper

NO TISSUE



CO-MINGLED

Plastic Bottles, Cups &
Containers
(clean & empty)

Steel & Aluminum Bottles,
Cans & Containers
(clean & empty)

**NO PAINT CANS
NO PLASTIC BAGS
NO STYROFOAM**



HOW TO PREPARE YOUR RECYCLABLES:

- Recyclables should be clean and empty
- Do not use plastic bags; leave recyclables loose.
- Use a Spartanburg County recycling drop-off location and recycle only accepted items. Find one near you on our website.

SPARTANBURGCOUNTY.ORG/203/WHAT-AND-WHERE-CAN-I-RECYCLE

You can **now** recycle
your clean & empty
PAPER CUPS!




No tires los envases de
comida para llevar
¡RECÍCLALOS!



PAPEL



MEZCLADO

VACÍOS Y SUELTOS EN EL CONTENEDOR DE RECICLAJE



TULSA, OK - 2023

Don't trash your takeout, **RECYCLE IT!**

You can now recycle clean and empty take-out items such as paper and plastic cups, paper and plastic containers, pizza boxes, drink carriers, and paper bags!



RECYCLABLES COLLECTION

Acceptable take-out items can be collected in the Mr. Murph curbside and drop-off recycling programs.

- Empty all food and liquid residue from cups and containers.
- Discard straws, cutlery, soiled napkins, wrappers, Styrofoam items, and heavily soiled containers.
- Place loose in recycling carts and drop-off bins. Do not place in plastic bags



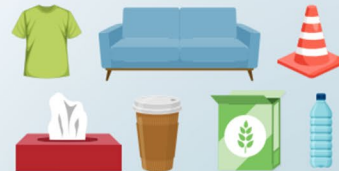
HAULING AND MRF SORTATION

Take-out items are taken to the Mr. Murph materials recovery facility (MRF) where they're sorted by material type, baled, and sent to end users.



CONVERSION

Recycled take-out containers are broken down and given a second life as they're converted into cereal boxes, facial tissues, and even new take-out containers as well as clothes, furniture, or building materials!



Visit our website to learn what other items are acceptable in recycling carts and drop-off bins!
www.feedmrmurph.com/whats-recyclable

HEY TULSANS! Paper cups can now go in your recycling cart or drop-off bin!



TRANSFORM TODAY'S PAPER CUP INTO TOMORROW'S PAPER TOWEL.



DO NOT PLACE IN RECYCLING
Straws, cutlery, soiled napkins



News Weather Videos Sports | **Trending:** May 20, 2013 LIV Golf

BREAKING NEWS: MAN DIES FROM INJURIES SUSTAINED IN CRASH ALONG I-244 IN TULSA

TULSA RECYCLING PLANT EDUCATES ON PROPER WAY TO RECYCLE TAKE-OUT FOOD CONTAINERS

Monday, May 22nd 2023, 5:27 am

By: [Alyssa Miller](#)



No tires los recipientes de comida para llevar
¡RECÍCLALOS!



#FeedMrMurph



FOODSERVICE PACKAGING INSTITUTE®

MEMPHIS, TN - 2023



HEY MEMPHIS!
You can **now recycle**
your paper cups!



CLEAN, EMPTY
AND LOOSE IN
YOUR CART. TOSS
LIDS IN TRASH.



Don't
trash
your
takeout,

RECYCLE IT!

EMPTY & LOOSE IN
YOUR RECYCLING
CART.



RECYCLE RIGHT MEMPHIS!

RECYCLE.MEMPHISTN.GOV



PLASTIC

Plastic Bottles &
Containers
(clean & empty,
leave lids & caps on)

**NO PLASTIC BAGS,
HANGERS, BUBBLE
WRAP OR PLASTIC CUPS**



PAPER

Flattened Cardboard
(clean & empty)

Paper Containers & Cups
(clean & empty)

Milk, Juice & Soup Cartons
(clean & empty)

Newspapers/Inserts, Phone
Books, Magazines, Junk
Mail & Office Paper

**NO TISSUE, PAPER TOWELS
OR SHREDDED PAPER**



GLASS

Glass Bottles, Jars
& Containers
(clean & empty,
amber, green & clear)

**NO WINDOWS, CERAMICS,
DISHES OR GLASS CUPS**



METAL

Steel & Aluminum
Bottles, Cans &
Containers
(clean & empty)

**NO PAINT CANS OR
AEROSOL CANS**



NO FOAM, BATTERIES, SHOES, CLOTHES OR FOOD

HOW TO PREPARE YOUR RECYCLABLES:

Recyclables
should be
clean and
empty

Do not use
plastic bags;
leave recyclables
loose.

Include only listed
items. **Check the
Waste Wizard tool**
if unsure on an item.



FOODSERVICE PACKAGING
INSTITUTE®

CITY OF CHICAGO - 2024

HEY CHICAGO!

**RECYCLE YOUR
CLEAN & EMPTY
PAPER CUPS**



ChicagoRecycles.org



**RECICLA TUS VASOS
DE PAPEL LIMPIOS
Y VACÍOS**

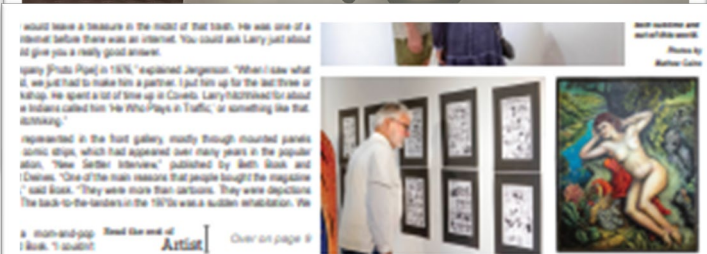
Tirar las
tapas a la
basura



#ChicagoRecycles



MENDOCINO & LAKE COUNTY, CA - 2024



REDWOOD MEADOWS
for Apartment Community
1733 Redwood Road • Ukiah, CA 95480
APARTMENTS AVAILABLE NOW
Call now: 707-459-1616

Make the smart and responsible choice...

RECYCLE YOUR CLEAN & EMPTY PAPER CUPS!

TOSS LIDS IN TRASH.

www.CandSWaste.com

KNOW BEFORE YOU THROW!

Empty, clean and loose in your cart.

WWW.CANDSWASTE.COM

C&S Waste Solutions

Make the smart and responsible choice...

RECYCLE YOUR CLEAN & EMPTY PAPER CUPS!

TOSS LIDS IN TRASH.

[Learn More](#)

C&S Waste Solutions

advertisement

00:30

00:08

[Skip Ad](#)

[Learn more](#)

TFC RECYCLING (CHESAPEAKE, VA) - 2025



Recycling your paper cups is easy!

tfc.recycling
Original audio

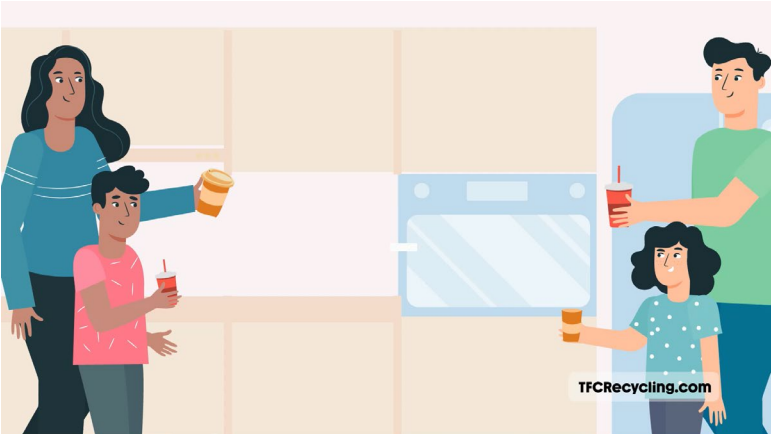
Recycling operates within a dynamic framework that evolves over time due to various factors. Just like a market, its rules can change based on technological advancements or shifts in demand. When we introduce new item(s) to our list of acceptable recyclables, it's a positive step toward refining and strengthening our recycling initiatives. Our recycling guidelines may continue to evolve as we expand our list of acceptable items and improve our environmental impact. Your understanding and support as we navigate these positive changes are greatly appreciated!

#recyclight #wocartsaesmart #tfcrecycling #recyclingupdates #startsmartrecyclight

livingcoinspired They are lined with plastic, so how are they recycled?
15h · 1 like · Reply

tfc.recycling @livingcoinspired Previously, recycling paper cups was challenging due to their plastic lining. However, advancements in recycling technology have improved this process. Modern paper mills now use better methods to separate the paper from the plastic lining. These upgrades prevent plastic from clogging the equipment and ensure that most of the paper from the cups is recovered. Studies have shown that paper cups can be effectively processed and recycled, making it possible for them to be used in making new paper products.
15h · Reply

3 likes
20 hours ago



TFC Recycling
10h · 🌐

This is a huge update for us and we are proud to have new systems in place to separate paper products from all other items. Thanks for the story, [WAVY TV 10](#)!

WAVY TV 10 · Follow
4d · 🌐

A local recycling company recently acquired new AI technology that can separate paper products from all other items.

[wavy.com](#)

AI camera allows TFC Recycling to expand program to include paper

FIRST STAR RECYCLING (OMAHA, NE) - 2025



wishcycling" the cups, so the locally owned recycler decided to pave the way Dasishifi/Shutterstock

y added paper take-out cups to its list of accepted items for recycling, with recycling leading the way in the resident-driven effort.

's biggest city announced it would accept paper cups for both hot and cold as well as at drop-off locations. "By increasing the variety of recyclable items, easier for residents to participate in recycling programs and contribute to a city said in an Earth Day [press release](#).



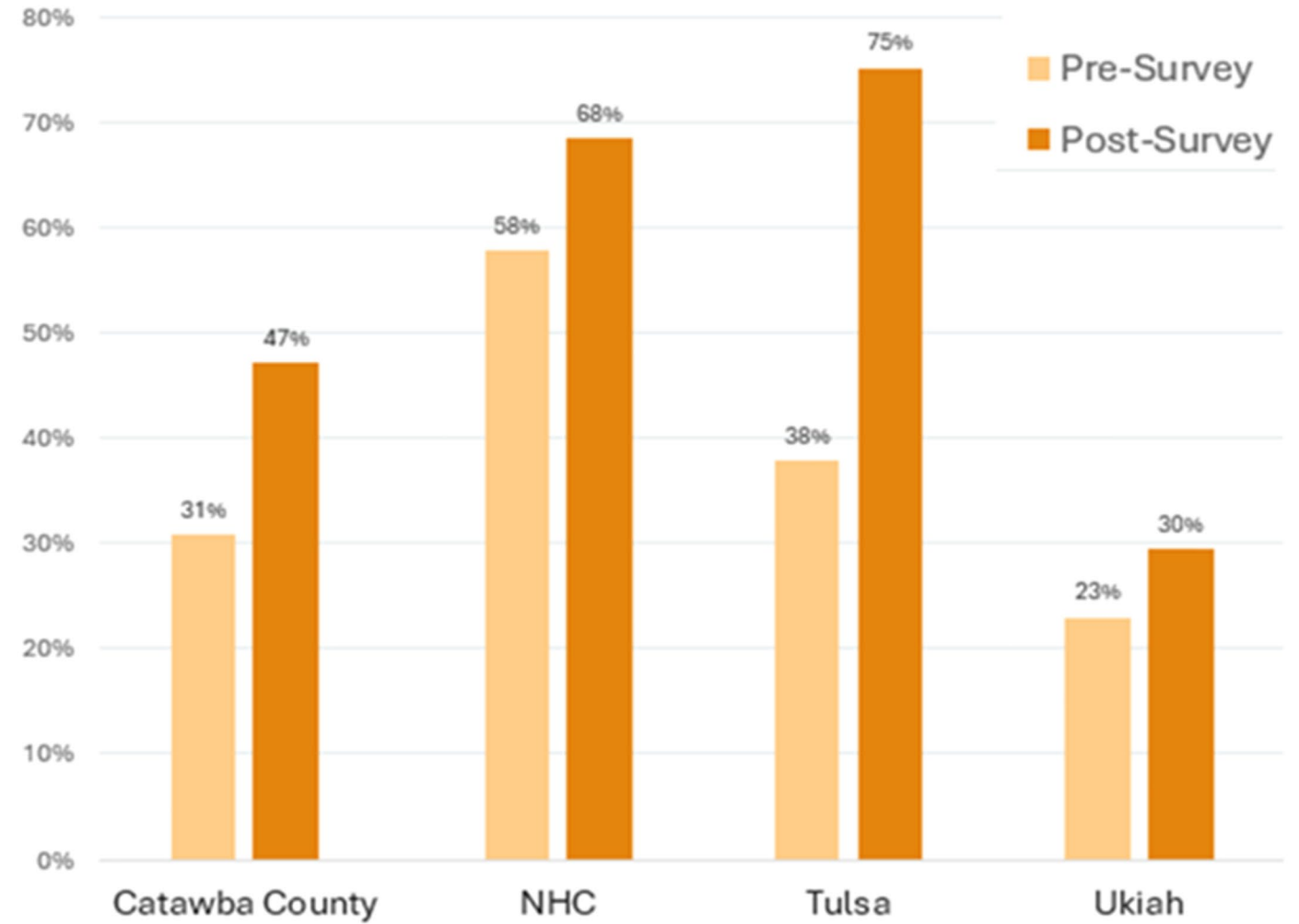
REFRESH CAMPAIGNS

- Launched 6-9 months after original campaign launch (i.e., campaign in Jan/Feb, refresh in July/August)
- Recirculate social media graphics with updated language
- Post-campaign online survey



RESIDENT AWARENESS, PRE/POST CAMPAIGN

% OF RESIDENTS WHO WOULD RECYCLE A PAPER CUP CORRECTLY



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS SUCCESS

	Chattanooga, TN	Louisville, KY	Washington, DC
	• Contamination decreased from 14% to 8% • Increase in proportion of fiber collected from 62% to 73%	• Contamination decreased from 17% to 5-8% • Fiber (cardboard, mixed paper, newspaper) increased from 61% to 65%	• Contamination decreased from 33.2% to 25.8%. • Mixed paper increased from 9.4% to 19.9%.
	• 116% increase, to recycling webpage post-launch • 46% increase in cart or bin requests	• Increased web traffic by 45% • Increased cart requests by 33% • Social media engagements increased by 234%	• 140k more views of “How to Prepare Recyclables Video” than expected. • 8.7 to 10 million impressions using Bus/Rail Ads

RECYCLEFSP.ORG



**VISIT RECYCLEFSP.ORG
FOR MORE INFO**

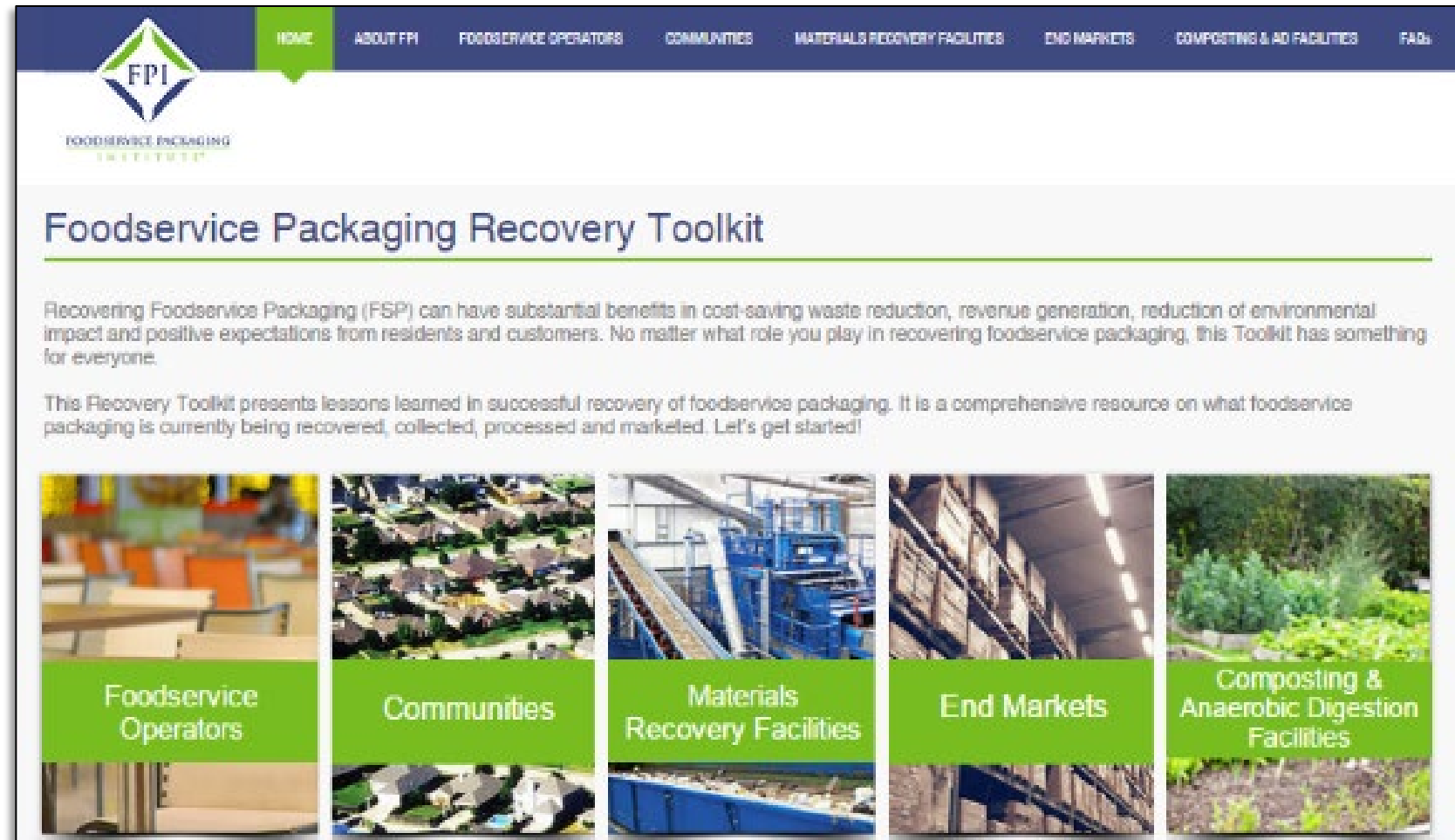
CONTACT:

MAGGIE OROZCO

MOROZCO@RECYCLE.COM

MATT TODD

MTODD@RECYCLE.COM



The screenshot shows the FPI website with a dark blue header containing the FPI logo and navigation links: HOME, ABOUT FPI, FOODSERVICE OPERATORS, COMMUNITIES, MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITIES, END MARKETS, COMPOSTING & AD FACILITIES, and FAQs. The main content area is titled 'Foodservice Packaging Recovery Toolkit' and includes an introductory paragraph about the benefits of recovering foodservice packaging (FSP) and a paragraph stating that the toolkit presents lessons learned from successful recovery efforts. Below the text is a grid of five images with green labels: 'Foodservice Operators' (showing stacked cardboard boxes), 'Communities' (showing a suburban neighborhood), 'Materials Recovery Facilities' (showing industrial machinery), 'End Markets' (showing a warehouse with stacked boxes), and 'Composting & Anaerobic Digestion Facilities' (showing a garden bed).

Foodservice Packaging Institute

Foodservice Packaging Recovery Toolkit

Recovering Foodservice Packaging (FSP) can have substantial benefits in cost-saving waste reduction, revenue generation, reduction of environmental impact and positive expectations from residents and customers. No matter what role you play in recovering foodservice packaging, this Toolkit has something for everyone.

This Recovery Toolkit presents lessons learned in successful recovery of foodservice packaging. It is a comprehensive resource on what foodservice packaging is currently being recovered, collected, processed and marketed. Let's get started!

Foodservice Operators

Communities

Materials Recovery Facilities

End Markets

Composting & Anaerobic Digestion Facilities