



# *Columbia County Department of Public Works*

## *Solid Waste Department*

*401 State Street - Hudson, New York 12534*

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TO: All Municipal Clerks, Supervisors & Station Attendants  
FROM: Jolene D. Race, Director  
DATE: August 10, 2018  
RE: New Recycling Protocol

As many of you may be aware, a number of actions taken by China over the past months have begun impacting the recycling markets and state and local programs.

The new proposed standard quality limit is far more stringent than any existing international standard and unless there is an easing to some of the restrictions, market prices will likely be depressed, if markets are available at all. Our goal moving forward is to ensure the highest quality material that could be marketed by both domestic and international markets.

Columbia County like many other municipalities is working with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and our vendor Casella Recycling to assist in educating residents and looking at potential financial assistance and guidance through this crisis.

Although the US exports a significant amount of recyclables, domestic markets do exist and may expand, perhaps as a direct result of China's actions. However, these developments might take time and communications are critical to maintain public trust.

Attached is a new "recycling protocol" that we are in the process of implementing at all our transfer stations. We encourage towns/villages to pass this information on to your residents. Over the next month, as changes occur, we will be expanding our educational efforts through social media, signage and various other outlets.

Should there be questions, please direct them to our Administrative Office at 518-828-2737.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

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*Jolene D. Race – Director  
401 State Street  
Hudson, NY 12534  
(518) 828-2737  
(518) 828-2524 FAX*

**COLUMBIA COUNTY RECYCLING PROTOCOL**

**ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NEWSPAPER</li> <li>• MAGAZINES</li> <li>• CARDBOARD BOXES</li> <li>• BROWN BAGS</li> <li>• JUNK MAIL</li> <li>• CATALOGS</li> <li>• SOFT COVER BOOKS</li> <li>• ENVELOPS</li> <li>• ADVERTISEMENTS &amp; INSERTS</li> <li>• BOXBOARD &amp; PAPERBOARD             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CEREAL BOXES</li> <li>○ PASTA BOXES</li> <li>○ SHOE BOXES</li> <li>○ MIXED OFFICE PAPER</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PLASTIC BOTTLES             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Milk jugs</li> <li>○ Bleach/detergent bottles</li> <li>○ Soda/juice bottles</li> <li>○ Shampoo bottles</li> <li>○ Water bottles</li> <li>○ Cottage Cheese containers</li> <li>○ Margarine containers</li> <li>○ Yogurt containers</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aluminum cans &amp; bottles</li> <li>• Pie plates/trays/foil</li> <li>• Tin Cans             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Steel</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Glass bottles &amp; jars</li> </ul>
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**NOT ACCEPTABLE**

<p><b>NO PLASTIC BAGS OR BAGGED RECYCLABLES</b></p> <p><b>NO COATED PAPER ITEMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Waxed coffee or soda cups</li> <li>○ Waxed paper plates</li> <li>○ Items with any type of plastic coated lining</li> </ul> <p><b>NO DISPOSAL ITEMS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Styrofoam</li> <li>○ Napkins</li> <li>○ Tissues</li> <li>○ Paper Towels</li> <li>○ Plastic Utensils</li> <li>○ Dirty Recyclables</li> <li>○ Register Tape</li> <li>○ Condiment packets</li> <li>○ Straws, Stirrers, Coffee Pods</li> </ul>	<p><b>NO TOYS, CLOTHING OR HANGERS</b></p> <p><b>NO WOOD WASTE OR WASTE (bodily or food)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rope</li> <li>• Twine</li> <li>• Diapers</li> <li>• Food</li> <li>• Pet Waste</li> <li>• Yard Waste</li> </ul> <p><b>NO PLASTIC WRAP, FILM, TARPS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food bags</li> <li>• Wrappers</li> <li>• Plastic or shrink wrap</li> </ul> <p><b>NO HAZARDOUS MATERIAL</b></p> <p>Fire Extinguishers Propane Tanks Paint cans Held a toxic substance</p>	<p><b>NO RUBBER OR SCRAP METAL</b></p> <p><b>NO MEDICAL WASTE</b></p> <p><b>NO CERAMICS, POTS, PANS or BAKING DISHES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NO window glass</li> <li>• Mirrors</li> </ul> <p><b>NO ELECTRONIC ITEMS, BATTERIES, BULBS</b></p> <p><b>NO APPLIANCES</b></p> <p><b>NO RIGID PLASTIC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laundry baskets</li> <li>• Large Buckets</li> <li>• Plastic Chairs</li> </ul>
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