

Enterprise  
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# Single-Stream Recycling Is On Its Way

## THE RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Now that the single-stream recycling plan was approved by the February Town Meeting, the Department of Public Works (DPW) and Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) are moving ahead on finalizing the rollout of the new system.

Between June and August, two 95/96-gallon wheeled carts, depending on the vendor selected, will be delivered to each household, one for trash and one for recycling. Residents can start to use them as soon as they receive them.

The town-owned carts will have an RFID/bar code tag to show assignment to each specific household. The cost is covered by the ISWM enterprise fund, not tax dollars.

Not only can all the recyclables currently accepted be commingled, but items can be added as well. The details on what to recycle, how to prepare the items, when to put the carts out, and any changes will be publicized by meetings, news articles, mailings and displays.

The town has also designated a place on its webpage for recycling information under Quick Links,



titled Recycling in Bourne. It can be accessed directly at [www.town-of-bourne.com/recycling-committee/pages/recycling-in-bourne](http://www.town-of-bourne.com/recycling-committee/pages/recycling-in-bourne).

There are some changes in curbside recycling due to recyclables currently being sent to a materials recycling facility (MRF) instead of being separated, baled and marketed by ISWM to different buyers.

ISWM can now do single-stream recycling at the curb, putting all recyclable items in one bin or in several of the smaller, traditional curbside bins. In addition to the metals, glass, paper and #1 and #2 plastic

bottles with necks now collected, residents can now add chipboard or cereal boxes. However, there are a few changes necessitated by using the MRF: shredded paper is not allowed (as compost or thrown in the trash). Caps should be left on the plastic bottles. Cans or plastic bottles should not be crushed, and lids should be left attached to metal cans.

These changes will help prevent damage to the MRF equipment and will help the automatic sorting go more smoothly.

The residential recycling center at the ISWM is still available to receive recyclables but changes will be made. The large roll-off containers at the recycling center will soon be reconfigured to accept single-stream recyclables. There will also be separate glass and cardboard roll-offs. Glass is used on-site for construction projects; separated cardboard by itself has more market value. ISWM is looking at options for shredded paper, including having an on-site contractor for a separate shredding event.