

*COMING VERY SOON to LINCOLN*  
CHANGES IN CURBSIDE TRASH PICK-UP  
*"NO BIN, NO BARREL"*

**What:** Beginning July, 2009, the Town of Lincoln will pick up trash curbside only if a household also recycles.

*No recycle bin = No trash barrel pick-up.*

**Why:** In these tough economic times, recycling is more important than ever. The costs for trash collection and disposal are increasing steadily, so the more we divert out of the waste stream through recycling, the lower our town bills are for dumping at the Central Landfill. The more we recycle, the more money we save on trash disposal. By increasing the recycling rate from 19 percent of all trash in 2007 to 22 percent in 2008, the Town of Lincoln received a refund from Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation simply for boosting its participation rate above 20 percent.

**What will change?** Nothing will change for households that currently recycle. Curbside pick-up for trash and recycled materials will remain uninterrupted. But after June, 2009, the town will no longer pick up garbage from households that do not recycle.

**How will this be enforced and implemented?** For the first month, people will be issued a warning sticker if there is no recycle bin out. After August 1, 2009, trash barrels will be left full with another warning sticker.

**Will my trash be picked up only when I use both recycle bins?** No. You can set out just one bin. Paper OR Plastics/Glass. DO NOT COMBINE INTO ONE BIN.

**Do I have to fill the recycle bins every week?** No. Your trash will be picked up as long as there is something in one of your recycle bins; of course, using both bins every week is ideal.

**NEED A NEW BIN!** Call Lincoln Department of Public Works at (401) 333-8424. The cost is \$5.00 per bin.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Currently, Lincoln collects only Number 1 and 2 plastics. What do I do with my other plastic containers?** They go in the trash.

**Why can't I recycle margarine tubs and yogurt containers, even though they are #2 plastics?** Number 2 plastics are made of high-density polyethylene (HDPE) which can be "blow molded" to form bottles and "injection-molded" to form tubs. The two applications are chemically different and have different "melting points," so even though both items have the same code on the bottom, they cannot be collected in our recycling program. A good rule of thumb: if it is a bottle, and there is a # 1 or #2 stamped on the bottom, it's recyclable.

**Why do I have to flatten cardboard?** Recycling trucks are not "packers" and cannot crush cardboard boxes. Cardboard must be flattened and tied into 3 foot by 3 foot bundles so that they will fit into the truck.

**Why can't I recycle the cardboard boxes from 12-packs of soda cans?** This type of cardboard has been treated with a chemical that prevents it from disintegrating when the cans "sweat." It is difficult for the paper mills to break down the cardboard with water when they try to recycle it. Put these boxes, as well as all cardboard packaging from refrigerated or frozen foods (ice cream boxes, microwave dinners, fish sticks) in the trash.

**Why aren't pizza boxes recyclable?** If the pizza box was totally clean, it would be. The problem is that they seldom are. Grease from the pizza that is the problem. So, as a precaution we request that you throw them away.

**Can I recycle books?** Yes. If the book has a hard cover or a plastic or spiral binding, remove it and put the paper pages in the green bin. Paperback books are completely recyclable.

**How can I recycle a computer and a TV?** RIRRC accepts computers and all their accessories as well as TVs for no charge at its frequent computer-waste recycling collections.

**My propane tank is metal. Can I put it in my blue bin?** No, and don't put it in the trash either. Several stores have trade-in programs where you bring them your empty tank and they'll give you a new, full one. Or call Eco-Depot to schedule a free drop-off (942-1430 x241).

**How can I recycle my ink jet cartridges?** Some schools and charities collect used cartridges for fund-raising purposes. Try to find a local group who needs your help. Also, some office supply stores such as Staples will accept them.

**For more information:** Contact Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation at [www.rirrc.org](http://www.rirrc.org) or call (401) 942-1430.