

## City offers more recycling data

**By Pam Haynes**  
**Jun 18, 2009**

HIGH POINT - Area residents are aware that they can't throw away plastic bottles beginning Oct. 1, but some still have one question.

What's the best way to recycle when the water bottle ban goes into effect?

Recycling options depend on where a resident lives and if the High Point City Council approves a change that will give residents within city limits a 95-gallon recycling bin, according to Richard McMillan, assistant director of public services for High Point.

Those who live inside of city limits can place recyclables in a recycling bin at the end of their driveways to be emptied each week. Eighteen-gallon recycling bins can be obtained by calling the public works department, but McMillan said there are none available at the moment.

Until the bins are available, recyclables can be separated in other ways.

"If someone has extra recyclables to put out, they can put them in a clear, plastic bag. The crew will recognize those bags and will pick them up now," he said.

If the City Council passes a recommendation in next year's proposed budget, the 95-gallon recycling carts would replace the 18-gallon recycling bins. The carts would be emptied twice a month by the city instead of every week.

For residents outside the city limits, a drop-off service is available at the High Point Materials Recovery Facility, located at 5875 Riverdale Drive.

There is no charge for materials that are sorted properly. In some cases, McMillan said residents will be compensated for clean, uniform materials that easily can be reused.

"For example, if a business brings us a load of mixed paper and we verify that there is nothing else mixed in, we may consider paying someone for that," he said.

If the materials are mixed and must be sorted, a \$20 fee may be charged.

McMillan said residents should start recycling now before the water bottle ban kicks in.

"For every pound of material people use, it is cheaper to recycle that material and put it back into service than to generate raw materials. It's easy once people get into the habit of recycling," he said.



**SONNY HEDGECOCK | HPE**

***Bobbie and Ken Huggins put cardboard into a recycling bin behind the Jamestown Town Hall dropoff site. The bin they are using is for cardboard, newspaper and office paper. The bin next to that one is for glass, plastic and aluminum. The Hugginses just moved to Jamestown from Rochester, N.Y.***

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, recycling efforts have doubled in the past 40 years. Thirty-three percent of recyclables were recovered in 2007 compared to 6 percent in 1960.

© 2009 by *The High Point Enterprise*. All rights reserved.