



Summit for Recycling
&
Rocky Mountain Composting Symposium

Multi-family Dwelling Recycling

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Albuquerque At-a-Glance



- **562,559** – Population
- **180,830** – Single-family households
- **63,375** – MFD housing units serviced
- **\$53,936** – Median household income
- **27%** – Speak a language other than English at home



SINGLE STREAM

Goals

- To increase the convenience of recycling
 - Previously only residents of single-family homes enjoyed this convenience
- To divert recyclables from the waste stream
- To reduce properties' garbage service
 - Resulting in a lower monthly trash bill
- To reduce the amount of waste that goes to the landfill

Implementation Began 2007

- Workshops for MFD owners/managers
- Presentations to Apartment Association of NM
- Visited each MFD location
- Distributed reusable shopping bags to MFDs
- WSI Valet Service Pilot 2012 - 2014
- 6-yard Recycling Bins Available in 2015

What's in the Ordinance?

- City is exclusive collection agent
- 25+ housing units is mandatory
- Less than 25 units is voluntary
- Complexes must provide recycling info
- The monthly fee for collection:
 - Equals the residential recycling fee X number of units
 - Regardless of occupancy
 - Currently \$3.58 per unit



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Multi-family Dwelling Recycling Success Story

Rio Vista Apartments

770 Juan Tabo NE
(505) 293-5565
Mary Miranda,
Property Manager
75 Units



What types of recycling information have you provided to your tenants? A memo and flyers were delivered to our residents and we posted flyers by the carts.

How many recycling carts do you have and where do you place them? Six. We have three levels (two on each), then I set them out by the curb so they can easily be picked up.

How do you manage with move in and move out tenants? We let them know where the recycle carts are, give them the flyer and the list of what they can and can't place in there.

Have you had any issues with contamination of the recycling? I check them. I don't really dig through them, but I sometimes find trash in there. I take it out and throw it away. But for the most part, not an issue.

What are some of the pros and cons of the service that you may have experienced? Pro: Residents are very excited. I have had no complaints at all. Con: A lot of people just don't understand what is recyclable and what isn't.

Were you satisfied with this service? Why or why not? Satisfied. In fact when we first started the program, we had fewer recycle carts, and those were getting so full that I called and requested more. All the tenants were really excited about the project so it's really been working.

Is there anything we can do to improve the recycling service? We are very pleased.

Does the city provide the resources to make this program successful? Yes, I've called our rep because the residents had questions about their bottles of pills or items that they couldn't put in there. They were very helpful.

Have you witnessed a decrease in the volume of trash or overflow with the implementation of this service? Yes, we were doing trash pickups 3 times a week, and I realized we need to cut down to 2 because they don't get as full.

Have you received any feedback good or bad from your tenants? All good.

Any other comments or concerns you would like to add? Management is pleased and the residents are pleased with it. People have really embraced it. It's great. I wish that other apartments would do the same.

“Management is pleased and the residents are pleased with it.”

“People have really embraced it. It's great. I wish that other apartments would do the same.”

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“I’m just glad that we are able to participate in this and we have had such good success with it.”

Multi-family Dwelling Recycling Success Story

The Beach Apartments

2525 Tingley Dr. SW
(505) 243-4068
Nancy J. Baldwin,
Property Manager
74 Units



What types of recycling information have you provided to your tenants? “The Multifamily Dwelling Recycling” pamphlet was given to everyone. I also went to Wagreens and bought 99 cent bags to put with my move ins so they have the bags.

How many recycling carts do you have and where do you place them? Three. They are next to where the dumpster are, so they are accessible to the residents.

How do you manage with move in and move out tenants? We ask them to flatten their boxes, and then we’ll deal with them. We put them into the carts to recycle, or we’ll save them for people that need to move out and want clean boxes.

Have you had any issues with contamination of the recycling? I check them. I’ll flip the lids up to look, and if I see cracker boxes, I’ll get them out and put them into the regular dumpster. I can’t do it everyday, but I try.

What are some of the pros and cons of the service that you may have experienced? Pros: The drivers are great. Con: None

Were you satisfied with this service? Why or why not? I was excited when the city decided to implement it into the apartment communities. I have visited places where they do massive recycling, and I think that’s a wonderful thing so we don’t put so much into landfills.

Is there anything we can do to improve the recycling service? Really it’s my responsibility to get the bins out. It’s a little more difficult when they are heavy to move, but it’s not a problem.

Have you witnessed a decrease in the volume of trash or overflow with the implementation of this service? Definitely, in fact I backed off one day on pickup so that they don’t pick up on Saturday, just Monday through Friday.

Have you received any feedback good or bad from your tenants? Its all been good.

Any other comments or concerns you would like to add? I’m just glad that we are able to participate in this and I have had such good success with it.

“Pros: the drivers are great. Con: None.”

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“We give them a pamphlet that outlines everything.”

Multi-family Dwelling Recycling Success Story

Brentwood Gardens

Brentwood Gardens

6302 Harper Dr. NE
(505) 821-0818
122 Units



What types of recycling information have you provided to your tenants? We sent out a pamphlet that outlined what could be recycled and what could not.

How many recycling carts do you have and where do you place them? Five. One by each dumpster and one by the mailboxes.

How do you manage with move in and move out tenants? We give them a pamphlet that outlines everything.

Have you had any issues with contamination of the recycling? Occasionally there are some items that don't belong, which I take out and toss in the dumpster.

What are some of the pros and cons of the service that you may have experienced? The bins seem kind of small some times. We get people who don't crush their items and throw a whole box in there.

Is there any thing we can do to improve the recycling service? It would be nice if more of our residents used it, because I see a lot of paper in the dumpster.

Does the city provide the resources to make this program successful? Yes.

Have you received any feedback good or bad from your tenants? When we first started, we only had four carts. We had several people asking for another cart which we did get.

“When we first started, we only had 4 carts. We had several people asking for another cart which we did get.”

Educational Efforts

**Recycling and trash information
at your fingertips!**

You get:

- A 'What Goes Where?' search tool
- Collection reminders, including for holiday changes
- A personalized collection schedule
- And more!

Download the FREE **Recycle Coach** app



Educational Efforts



Contamination Happens

- No. 1 issue in MFD Recycling Program
- Driver calls excessive contamination into Dispatch
- Send out Code Inspector to meet with Property Manager
 - Leaves literature
 - May remove contaminants if minor
 - May schedule extra trash pickup for a fee
- If extra trash fees become excessive, Manager pulls bin



Illegal Dumping



Lessons Learned

- **No. 1 issue is contamination**
- Helps to co-locate trash and recycling bins
- Expand the recycling container sizes offered
- Update outreach materials and website
- Increase promotion, education, and outreach



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