

Other Special Programs and Benefits

Networking Opportunities

Participation in the SORRT program also opens up networking opportunities, where you can interact with other County business owners, managers, employees, property managers, and collection companies to share ways to address and resolve recycling challenges and learn from others' experiences.



Partners in Recycling

SORRT created the "Partners in Recycling" program to help keep your business' recycling program successful. "Partners in Recycling" pairs volunteering businesses that have established successful recycling programs with organizations seeking assistance to improve their waste reduction, recycling, and buying recycled efforts. This assistance from mentor businesses includes:

- Helping organizations with creating, maintaining, or improving their recycling and waste reduction programs.
- Providing tips and advice on effective strategies to solve recycling concerns based on "lessons learned".
- Developing alternative concepts and approaches for recycling.
- Creating effective waste reduction, recycling, and buying recycled plans.



Cooperative Agreements

SORRT program staff can work with your business and other businesses in your immediate area to help you implement plans and develop cooperative recycling agreements that may help defray the costs of recycling and waste collection by licensed collectors.



CONTACT US FOR HELP!

The SORRT Program is ready to help your business. For additional information on SORRT services or Montgomery County's recycling regulations, please visit our Website at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling or call 3-1-1 (out-of-County: 240-777-0311), 301-251-4850 (TTY), or (240) 777-6465 (Fax).

Don't Delay. Call SORRT Today!

To learn more about business recycling, call Gabriela Monzon-Reynolds, Program Manager for Montgomery County's SORRT Program.



Montgomery County, Maryland
Division of Solid Waste Services

This information is available in an alternate format by calling Gabriela Monzon-Reynolds at 240-777-6486.



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SORRT Program Services Guide



What can SORRT do for you and your Business?

Montgomery County Executive Regulation (ER) 15-04AM requires businesses to recycle mixed paper, commingled materials (glass bottles and jars, aluminum cans and foil products, bi-metal steel/tin cans and plastic bottles and containers), scrap metal, yard trim, and Christmas trees. The Montgomery County Division of Solid Waste Services (DSWS) provides on-site technical assistance and education, but the responsibility of contracting with a collection company to collect and transport your recyclable materials to a recycling facility lies with your organization.

To assist businesses with compliance of the County's recycling requirements, DSWS created the Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons (SORRT) Program as an information network that promotes and supports business recycling. SORRT's mission is to help business and property owners, commercial property managers, employees, and recycling and refuse collection companies to comply with the County's recycling regulations, reduce waste, encourage purchasing of recycled-content products, and conserve natural resources.

Contacting the SORRT Program will give your business access to a variety of outreach and educational services, including:

- On-site consultation and technical assistance.
- Site-specific recommendations.
- Recycling and solid waste program design.
- Employee seminars, workshops, training, and special events.
- Educational and reference materials in multiple languages.
- Other special programs and networking opportunities for businesses.

On-site Consultation and Technical Assistance

Knowledgeable and professional SORRT staff are available to provide direct on-site consultations to help you develop or improve your business recycling program. During an on-site consultation, County staff will:

- Assess your current waste stream and identify points of generation.
- Provide guidance on how to recycle the required materials.
- Identify other types of materials generated that can be recycled voluntarily.



- Evaluate your current recycling and waste reduction procedures.
- Provide suggestions to implement or enhance your business recycling program.
- Help identify Montgomery County-licensed recycling collection companies.
- Identify other materials in your organization that can also be recycled.
- Identify opportunities to potentially lower waste disposal costs.

Recycling and Solid Waste Program Design

County staff can help your business design or refine your recycling program which should, at a minimum:

- Have the support of top management and all employees and vendors.
- Comply with all applicable Montgomery County recycling regulations.
- Have a plan for the collection of recyclable materials.
- Plan to reduce waste generation and plan to purchase recycled-content products.
- Communicate your recycling policies clearly to employees, tenants, customers, vendors, and janitorial services staff.
- Designate the optimal placement of recycling containers in required areas and where they will be most appropriately used by employees or customers.



Seminars, Workshops, Employee Training, and Special Events

Each year SORRT holds several half-day seminars that allow business and property owners, commercial property managers, employees, and refuse and recycling collection companies to keep current on recycling and solid waste regulations, have an opportunity to meet SORRT staff, and network with other businesses. In addition, SORRT staff is available to conduct or attend events such as seminars, workshops, and employee training classes at your business or property to:

- Educate you, your employees, tenants, vendors, and janitorial services staff on Montgomery County's recycling regulations and provide information specific to your recycling program.
- Explore ways to improve your business' recycling efforts.
- Discuss which materials are recyclable in Montgomery County.
- Provide training in Spanish and other languages.



Educational and Reference Materials

SORRT has developed a comprehensive selection of reference and educational materials in several languages including English, Spanish, and Chinese to assist business and property owners, commercial property managers, and employees in complying with the County's recycling regulations. These resources include:



- Brochures
- Program guides
- Fact sheets
- Posters
- Stickers and labels for containers
- Regulatory information handbook
- Training videos/DVDs

The Business Recycling Regulation Handbook is one helpful resource that provides step-by-step guidance for business and property owners, commercial property managers and employees on how to set up a comprehensive recycling, waste reduction, and buying recycled program.

