

1 **SECTION XII - RECYCLING PLAN ELEMENT**

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4 The Mandatory Statewide Source Separation and Recycling Act of 1987, as amended, requires
5 a recycling component in municipal master plans. It is implemented through the State Solid
6 Waste Management Plan, updated in 2006.

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8 The Township enacted recycling ordinances in 1985, 1988 and 1991. The 1985 ordinance
9 established a recycling program for newspapers. The 1988 ordinance added aluminum can and
10 glass recycling programs. In 1991, an ordinance established franchising recycling collection.
11 Since then, collection of recyclables is performed by contractors pursuant to that ordinance.
12 Certain recyclable plastics were administratively added to the collection program.

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14 In 2005, the Township collected a total of 35,151 tons of residential and commercial sourced
15 recyclable materials. Those recyclables included asphalt/concrete/brick debris, leaves, brush and
16 tree parts, corrugated cardboard, petroleum contaminated soil, and (most significantly) glass,
17 plastic, newspaper and other paper products.

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19 In 2007, the Township negotiated a new recycling contract that includes the following:

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21 Paper products include all paper commonly referred to as “newsprint,” magazines,
22 periodicals, telephone books and paperback books, as well as corrugated and ordinary
23 cardboard, paper envelopes and correspondence.

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25 Cans must be made of aluminum only, or of steel or steel/tin only, to be eligible for
26 Township recycling. All other items made of or with aluminum or other metals are
27 ineligible.

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29 Glass items must be bottles, jugs or other vessels made entirely and exclusively of glass.

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31 Plastic containers must bear recycling classification numbers “1” through “7”. Common
32 examples are plastic beverage or detergent bottles.

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34 Recyclable cans, glass items, plastic and expanded polystyrene (Styrofoam) materials
35 may be commingled for pick-up.

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39 **Recommendation:** To be consistent with current Township practices, the
40 recycling ordinance should be amended to include modified
41 definitions of materials.

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43 **Recommendation:** To be consistent with current Township practices, the
44 recycling ordinance also should be amended to include
45 specifications for curbside pickup as follows:
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1 Curbside collection of commingled recyclable cans, glass
2 items, plastic and polystyrene (Styrofoam) materials, and a
3 separate collection of paper products, are performed on
4 alternate weeks.

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6 Bulky items such as household furniture, box springs,
7 mattresses, carpets, toys, and appliances containing Freon,
8 are collected curbside on the last scheduled garbage
9 collection day of the month.

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11 Curbside pickup of large scrap metal items such as
12 washers, dryers, metal desks, and auto parts is scheduled
13 for the last Wednesday of the month. It can be arranged for
14 by telephone call to the Township’s contracted collector

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16 Curbside pick-up of automobile tires is scheduled by
17 telephoning the Township’s contracted collector.
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20 **Non-residential Buildings and Facilities**

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22 Township Code § 170-71.E. requires that every preliminary site plan include, “where applicable
23 to the proposed use or construction” , “A recycling plan that will make provisions for the
24 collection and disposition of recyclable materials as required by Chapter 232, Recycling, of the
25 Code of the Township of Livingston.” Chapter 232 expressly applies only to “persons who
26 occupy residences”. Restaurants, retailers, manufacturers, and other non-residential uses are also
27 generators of recyclable waste.
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30 **Recommendation:** The recycling ordinance should be amended to extend the
31 recycling requirements to non-residential uses.
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34 **Seasonal Leaf Collection**

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36 As part of its stormwater management requirements, the State has promulgated new regulations
37 prohibiting the presence of seasonal deposited leaves at the curb for more than seven days.
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39 From September 1 through December 1 leaves must be separated from all other solid waste
40 generated at residential premises. If not kept for composting or mulching, they are left in bulk in
41 the roadway at curbside for pickup by Township Public Works Department personnel; except
42 that on County and State roads they must be placed in paper bags for pickup. Appropriate paper
43 bags are provided without charge, but the supply is not always sufficient and homeowners may
44 have to buy additional ones. Further provisions are in Section XIII – Stormwater Management
45 Plan Element.
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1 **Hazardous Wastes**

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3 In both Spring and Fall, Essex County establishes a temporary one-day site at which county
4 residents can drop off household hazardous wastes. In 2004, 2005 and 2006, the County also
5 held separate one-day drop-off programs for computers and monitors.

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7 However, the electronic age has generated unprecedented growth in the number and variety of
8 types of electronic equipment in homes and businesses. Many contain highly toxic materials or
9 components that pose a threat to the environment if the equipment is not properly disposed of
10 when no longer useful.

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12 Early in 2007, the Township, in coordination with Essex County, established a new one-day
13 annual recycling program for computers, monitors, keyboards, accessories, electronic games,
14 televisions, cell phones, other personal communication devices, CDs, rechargeable batteries, and
15 other electronics that present environmental contamination risks.

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18 **Recommendation:** A permanent drop-off site for non-acid batteries should be
19 established.

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22 **Recommendation:** The Township should review its recycling programs
23 annually and make any adjustments necessary to meet
24 changing conditions.

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26 **Recommendation:** The Township should continue coordination of electronic
27 equipment recycling with Essex County.

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