

Recycling and Waste
Diversion update
2026





**CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA
SOLID WASTE MASTER PLAN:
ESTABLISHING A PATHWAY
TO ZERO WASTE**

August 2012





PROGRAMS		
RESIDENTIAL		COMMERCIAL
PHASE 1	1. Carted collection of recyclables – convert to carted curbside collection of recyclables; add materials to the program, such as rigid mixed plastics. 2. Separate yard waste collection; weekly collection of garbage (1-1-1) – implement separate yard waste collection in place of one of the garbage collection days each week (i.e., 1-1-1 collection in which garbage, yard waste, and recyclables are each collected once per week separate from each other). 3. Multi-family recycling – implement a comprehensive multi-family recycling program; residents pay for this service, which they should be receiving. 4. Comprehensive public outreach – implement a strategic, comprehensive public outreach program.	1. Lower cost recycling service – set commercial recycling collection fees that are equal to or less than waste fees (collection only, not including disposal). 2. Expanded recycling service – require collection of full range of recyclables, commingled fibers and containers (i.e., single stream). 3. Monitor commercial recycling – require contractor to provide monthly reports. 4. Green City Program – lead by example by ensuring all City facilities and public schools have effective waste reduction, reuse, recycling and EPP programs. 5. Business outreach – implement an outreach program to businesses. 6. City Ordinance – amend to require new developments to provide for recycling as required by State law. 7. Local use of glass – continue to investigate opportunities to utilize source-separated commercial glass in the Lower Keys.



SPECIAL EVENTS

1. **Amend City Ordinance** – to require special events to establish recycling programs; consider a tiered security deposit with a higher deposit for larger events.
2. **Special Event Recycling Guide** – utilize revised guide with checklist and reporting forms.
3. **Website improvements** – revise special event website to be consistent with permit application and to prominently display a link to the Special Event Recycling Guide or a dedicated Special Events Recycling Program webpage.
4. **Program branding** – use a consistent program logo and slogan to brand the recycling program.
5. **Monitoring and reporting** – track the recycling achieved at special events to evaluate the success of the program and to better assist event organizers in the future.
6. **Technical assistance** – provide direct technical assistance to event recycling coordinators or conduct workshops to provide event organizers with useful tools.
7. **Work with service providers** – work with the service providers to ensure that sufficient service and appropriately labeled recycling containers are provided.
8. **Turn-key containers, signage, and collection service** – develop a turn-key system where event organizers can obtain containers, signage, and collection service from one source, possibly the City or a City contractor.
9. **Volunteer network** – enlist volunteers willing to assist with recycling at a variety of special events.
10. **Fantasy Fest** – continue to work with Market Share Company and other Fantasy Fest event organizers to implement the specific recommendations outlined for the Duval Street Fair and Parade and other Fantasy Fest events.



PUBLIC AREAS

1. **Clear and branded labeling** – improve labels on the recycling cans to ensure they clearly state and depict the types of recyclables that can be placed in the can.
2. **Additional recycling cans** – place recycling cans adjacent to additional trash cans in the most highly trafficked parts of the City.
3. **Program promotion** – partner with the City Parks Department and local sports leagues to promote recycling.
4. **Monitor contamination** – work with the collection service provider and City staff to identify areas with the highest contamination and determine what additional steps, e.g., education, signage, labels, etc., could help reduce this contamination.
5. **Lower City costs** – include servicing these public containers as a no-cost service in future contracts.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) AND ELECTRONICS (E-WASTE)

1. **Regular HHW/E-waste collection events** – within 60 days, collection contractor should begin providing monthly drop-off events at an accessible location; City should monitor events and adjust frequency if warranted.
2. **Public Outreach** – advertise events through multiple media, including newspaper, radio PSAs, and the City's website; network with homeowner associations and organizations such as GLEE to advertise the events.

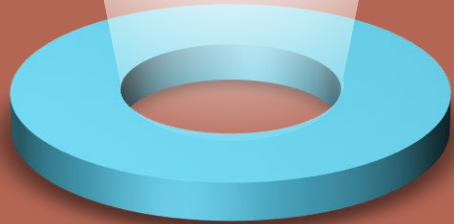
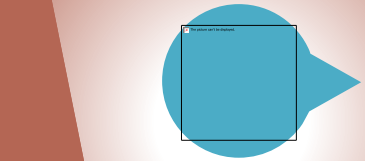
PHASE 2

1. **Pilot source separated, curbside organics composting program** – once a viable composting infrastructure is established, pilot the collection and processing of other compostables (i.e., food waste and non-recyclable paper) along with yard waste. This has the potential to divert up to another 17% of residential waste from disposal.
2. **Incentive program** – revisit Pay-As-You-Throw or other incentive program if desired recycling rates are not achieved.

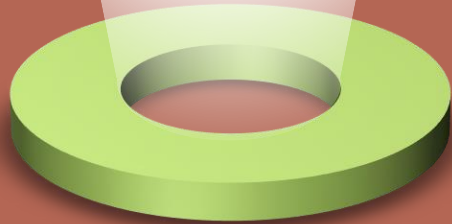
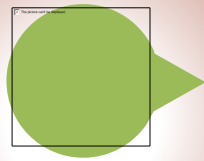
1. **Toolkit and education** – develop materials to assist businesses with establishing waste diversion programs.
2. **Technical assistance** – provide hands-on assistance to businesses.
3. **Incentive program** – promote the Green Business Partnership program.
4. **Business group networking** – partner with business groups to encourage recycling.
5. **Organics program** – establish a commercial organics program.

	RESIDENTIAL	COMMERCIAL
PHASE 3	1. Enforcement of mandatory recycling – if other efforts have not sufficiently increased residential waste diversion, consider enforcing mandatory residential recycling program. 2. Monitor innovative diversion opportunities, such as mixed waste or wet/dry processing – if such a facility is established in Southeast Florida, evaluate feasibility of delivering City waste; this option does not need to wait until Phase 3.	1. Mandatory commercial recycling – if other efforts have not sufficiently increased commercial recycling waste diversion, consider establishing a mandatory program. 2. Monitor innovative diversion opportunities, such as mixed waste or wet/dry processing – see residential recommendation. 3. Monitor opportunities to partner with Monroe County – s

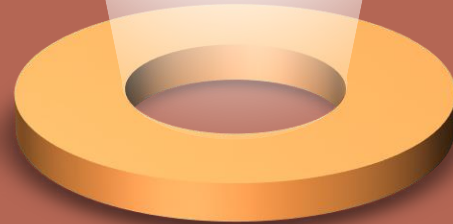
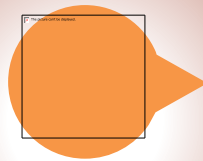
Recycling... beyond the blue bin



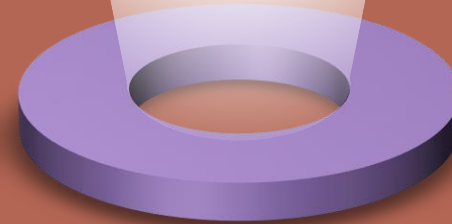
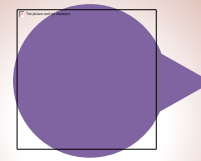
Blue Bin



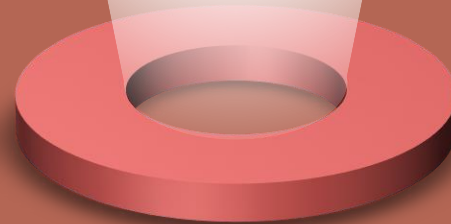
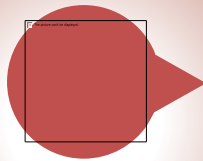
Yard Waste



Compost

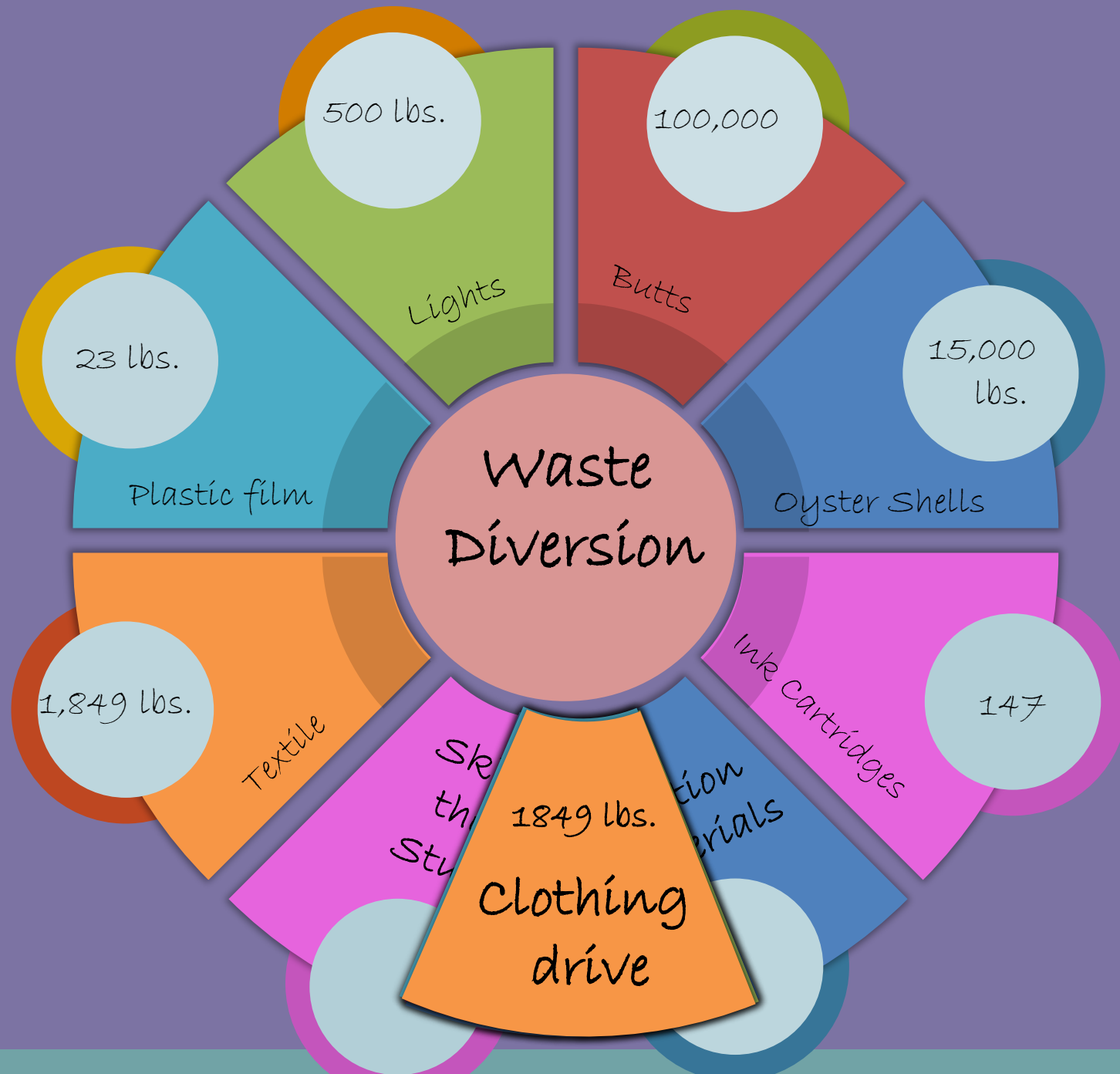


Scrap Metal



Miscellaneous

= WASTE DIVERSION



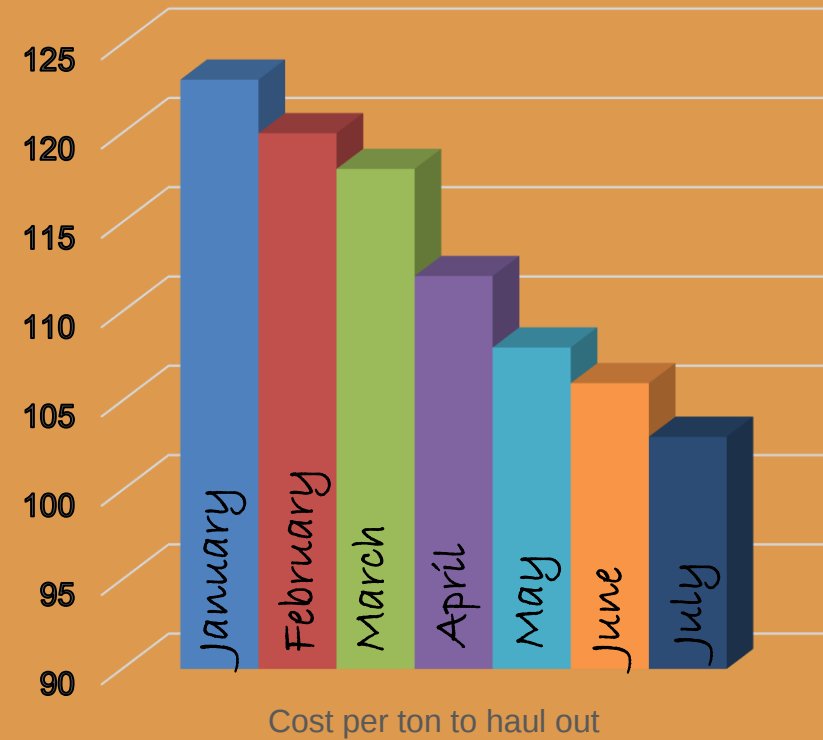
22%

of what we haul out is
recyclable

14.9%

average contamination rate

Reduction from base price of \$155



Purchase wisely

Reduce your use

Reuse what you can

