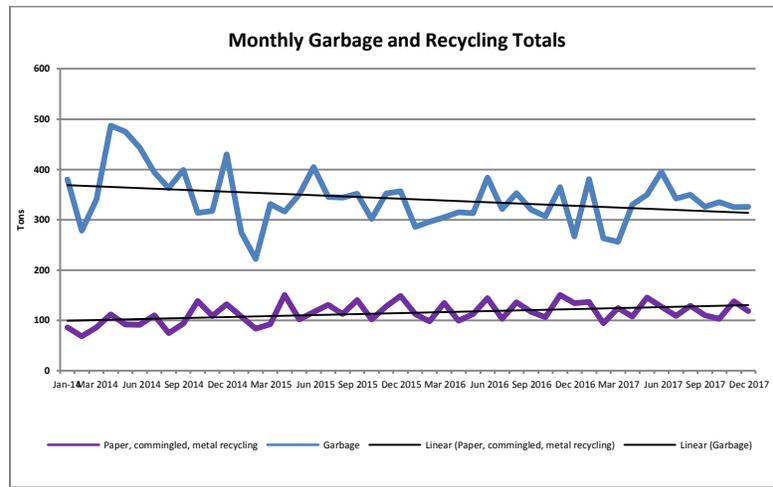


# ANNUAL REPORT RECYCLING AND GARBAGE

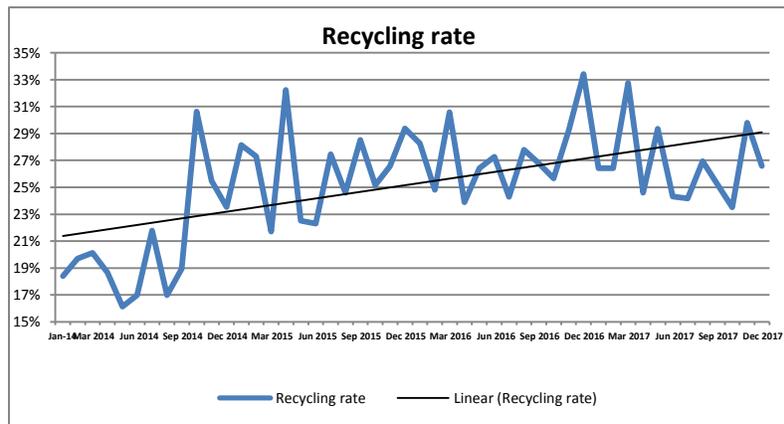
## 1. Market conditions and Borough Performance Residential recycling

In early 2017 the market for recyclable material was recovering from poor conditions and the early months showed a substantial increase in the price per ton received for paper and cardboard and a lower but solid increase for commingled. Driven by this and growth in tonnage the revenue in the first six months was 25% greater than that for the same period for 2016 (\$40,759 in 2016 and \$52,584 in 2017). The picture in the second half of the year was not so good. The price for paper started to drop and whilst the overall tonnage collected from residents grew, it did not grow as fast as in previous years, with only a 1% increase seen over the previous years. Correspondingly having made good progress in reducing the amount of garbage collected from residents in 2016, this tonnage increased slightly again in 2017. Chart 1 shows a plot of monthly recycling and garbage tonnage along with a linear trend line which illustrates these points.

**Chart 1**



Another good measure of performance is the recycling rate which is the percentage of all household waste that is recycled. So for example if 10 tons of solid waste and recycling are collected from a location in one year and 3 tons of that waste is recycled the recycling rate is 30%. The State of New Jersey requires all municipalities to recycle 60% of all solid waste. From the chart below it can be seen that Franklin Lakes is moving in the right direction but the Borough has some way to go to reach the state target.



The total curbside tonnage collected curbside and the revenue generated from marketing of these materials for 2017 for paper, commingled and metal recycling is shown in the Table below

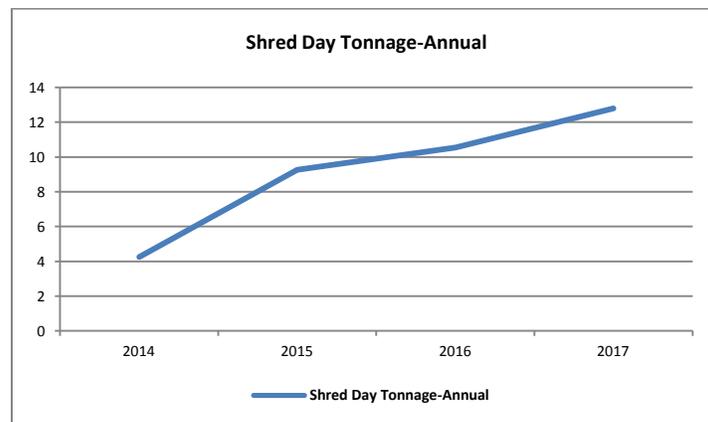
	Tonnage (tons)	Revenue/Cost (\$'s)
Recycling	1483	91,470.21
Solid Waste	3977	256,517.57

In 2018 the activities described in the following sections will support the increase in recycling tonnage and decrease in garbage collection which should positively impact the Borough's costs.

## **2. Customer Service**

### **Shred Day**

In addition to the efficient collection of residential curbside garbage and recycling the Borough offers residents a confidential document shredding service on a twice yearly basis. This was continued in 2017 with two dates, April 20 and October 21. The tonnage collected for each of these events was 6.5 and 6.9 tons respectively. This is a great result but is the maximum that the Shred truck can hold. In future we may need to impose limits or conduct ID checks to ensure it is only Franklin Lakes residents that use the service.



### **Planet Aid**

The textile and book bins were introduced to the Recycling center at the DPW in late 2015. Their purpose was primarily as a service to residents and there has been a lot of positive feedback from residents using the service. There has been an additional financial benefit in that the tonnage collected in these bins doubled from 15 to 30 tons 2016 to 2017 generating revenue of \$2,170 in 2017 compared with \$1,429 in 2016. (Note: 2016 cash has not doubled because of greater proportion of revenue came from books that have a lower per ton price). Taking into account the savings on the books and textiles not going into the landfill of \$1,871 gives a value to the Borough of \$4,041 which compares to \$2,376 in 2016.

### **Bid spec**

In 2017 the contract to market Recyclables was up for renewal and a detailed bid spec was written and posted. There were four respondents and the most responsible and responsive bid came from Waste Management. The price that they will pay is significantly less than in the previous contract because of market conditions. This means revenues from recycling will decrease in 2018.

### **Responding to residents request for service**

Servicing the needs of residents by responding to requests for information, complaints about missed pickups and liaising with Gaeta form a considerable proportion of the work of a recycling coordinator. As per the objectives for this position efforts will be made to more accurately monitor these calls to provide better feedback to Gaeta and improve service levels.

### **3. Resident Education**

**Annual Newsletter**- This publication is one of the most useful communication tools for disseminating important recycling messages to residents because it is delivered to every household. In the 2018 letter all the usual information about garbage, recycling and yard waste schedules, what can and cannot be left or recycled at the curbside or the recycling center and Bergen County events was included. This year's newsletter also reminded residents how to dispose of items that may be re-usable through charitable organizations and the need to keep hazardous items out of the waste stream.

To encourage residents to increase their efforts to recycle an article was included on the financial benefits of increasing recycling rates describing the increase in revenue from recycling and decrease in costs from landfill tipping. It also showed how much further the town has to go to reach the state mandated recycling rate.

An additional article on the environmental problems caused by plastic bags was also included to support the ongoing efforts of the Environmental Commission to reduce the usage of plastic bags in the Borough.

**Franklin Lakes Festival**-The EC booth at the 2017 Franklin Lakes Festival focused on energy but there were some recycling materials available

**Film festival** –One of the films focused on the environmental damage of electronic waste which provided a vehicle to encourage residents to recycle their electronics through recycling companies rather than putting them in the trash and not trading up to the newest electronic gadget simply because they are available.

**E-blasts**-Several paragraphs were included in the Borough's weekly e-blasts in 2017. In addition to schedule change updates, the content of these encouraged residents to increase recycling as much as possible and highlighted the textile and book bins in the recycling center. Additionally they were reminded of the need to bring electronic devices to the e-waste container and remove all personal information before they do.

### **2018**

All of these programs will continue to achieve the stated goal of at least one communication on the topic of recycling per month.

### **4. Compliance Program**

It is reasonable to assume that the decrease in tonnage of garbage being taken to the landfill in 2015 and 2016 is in part attributable to the compliance program. The program has not been as stringently implemented in 2017 and this has led to a small increase in the amount of garbage taken to the landfill. 2018 will provide an opportunity to re-launch the program which will lead to cost savings for the Borough.

## **5. Statutory Requirements**

The 2016 Tonnage Grant Application was completed without the need for a mailing to all businesses and still yielded a small increase tonnage over the previous year.

Data for the last four years are as follows:

Year	Tonnage
2013	4136
2014	4824
2015	5987
2016	6016

Additionally the DEP now require e-waste tonnage reporting and this was completed in a timely fashion and will be continued as required by the NJDEP on a twice yearly

## **6. Budget**

There is no budget for Recycling; however there are funds from the tonnage grants. For all of 2016 and the first three quarters of 2017 the majority of this grant was used to pay for e-waste removal. With the introduction of new statutes to place the onus on manufacturers to take back old electronics this cost has been eliminated which will release funds for other projects. One of these that will be researched in 2018 is the installation of a gate to the recycling center which would prevent illegal dumping.