



Maine Resource Recovery Association
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MARKETING COOPERATIVE

Schedule C – Quality Specifications - Keep for Your Records

All recycled bales must to be made in such a way that they hold together and do not break during several moves from truck to mill to warehouse to processing equipment.

Excessive moisture in bales may be cause for rejection or price reduction by mill.

All baled materials shipped except plastics, aluminum, and steel cans require a 40,000lb weight minimum. A 44,000lb maximum is also desired.

Old Newspaper-ONP-News #8 / Old Magazines-OMG

1. Material allowed in bales: Newspapers, Advertising flyers, Magazines, Catalogs, Telephone Directories with covers, Paperback Books with no covers.
2. Unacceptable materials: Headers on bales, junk mail, brown paper bags and cardboard.

Old Corrugated Cardboard (OCC) #11

1. Material allowed in bales: domestic corrugated cardboard and brown Kraft paper bags.
2. Unacceptable materials: Asian cardboard, paperboard, and Wax cardboard. **Wax boxes are cause for load rejection.**

Old Corrugated Cardboard (OCC) #12

1. This is similar to OCC #11 but no boxboard is allowed in the bales. Price is usually \$5-10 more than #11. Material allowed in bales: domestic corrugated cardboard and brown Kraft paper bags.
2. Unacceptable materials: Asian cardboard, paperboard, and Wax cardboard. **Wax boxes are cause for load rejection.**

Mixed Paper - Boxboard

1. Allowable materials:

Boxboard	Corrugated Cardboard	Grocery Bags	Tissue paper	Paper bags
Brown Envelopes	Old Newspaper	Old Magazines	Shirt boxes	Paper back
books				
Catalogs	Junk Mail	Office paper	School paper	Yellow envelopes
Cereal boxes	Dry Food boxes			

2. Unacceptable materials: freezer boxes, beverage carriers, blue print paper and waxed boxes.

High Density Polyethylene Natural (HDPE) Bottles Only

1. Accepted material: Natural #2 blow-molded bottles. Blow-molded bottles have narrow threaded necks and seams down the sides. Examples are: milk, water, and windshield washer containers, labels need not be removed.

2. Unacceptable materials: butter tubs, lids and caps, yogurt and cool whip dishes.

3. Bales should be protected from Sun exposure.

4. Buyers prefers a minimum of 30,000lb loads.

High Density Polyethylene Colored (HDPE) Bottles Only

1. Accepted material: Colored #2 blow-molded bottles. Including detergent and other household bottles with contents drained fully.

2. Unacceptable materials: butter tubs, lids and caps, yogurt and cool whip dishes.

3. Bales should be protected from Sun exposure.

4. Buyers prefers a minimum of 30,000lb loads.

PET (#1) PLASTIC BOTTLES

Although every PET processor has specific requirements, the following specs are commonly accepted by most PET markets.

Load minimum weight is 30,000lbs unless shipping with another town.

Used beverage containers (UBC)

Returnable #1 market bottles of all colors may be mixed together. Not necessary to remove bottle rings. Remove 6-pack rings.

Custom PETBottles marked #1 including: Salad dressing, mouthwash, shampoo, food products and cleaning products. No peanut butter jars.

Steel Cans – Tin Cans

This specification for steel cans vary from mill to mill, however generally cans generated in Maine and sold to steel mills in Hamilton, Ontario and Contrecoeur, Quebec follow the guidelines below.

1. Baled steel cans with paper on and rinsed out are acceptable.
2. Small quantity of aluminum cans and lids are allowed.
3. Densified (biscuit) can scrap should be stacked and banded into bundles.

Sorted Office Paper

Acceptable paper:

Photocopy paper
Computer paper
Post it notes in small quantity
Business envelopes in small quantity
Adding machine paper
Notebook paper
Mailings from advertisers no sticky paper
Calendars
Manila folders in small quantity (no plastic labels or sticky labels)

Unacceptable paper

Blueprint paper
Ream rappers – on copier paper
Pressure sensitive paper
Bumper sticker paper and backing
Peel off labels and backing
Invoice paper re: yellows and pinks
Groundwood including newspaper

Common caused of Downgrade: NCR paper (No Carbon Required, example three part invoices), Envelopes, manila folders, newsprint, wetstrength, brown paper, UV coating.

Single Sort

This specification for this material is very general however just about everything listed above can be put together.

Current markets are in Southern Maine and out of State
MRRRA will arrange hauling and a revenue sharing program.

Rigid Plastic Bale Specification

Acceptable Plastic Components In Bales: Everything should float

Pricing varies \$50-100/ton

- Plastic buckets *with* metal handles
- Plastic milk/soda crates
- Plastic laundry baskets
- Plastic landscape trays
- Plastic totes - any size (*with metal*)
- Plastic drums (*any size*)
- Plastic pesticide containers
- Plastic playhouses
- Plastic toys (very few)
- Plastic pet carriers
- Plastic pallets (no wood)
- Plastic coolers
- Plastic shelving
- Plastic closet organizers
- Plastic dish drainers
- Plastic flower pots (*no soil*)
- Plastic traffic signs
- Empty garbage cans (*any size*)
- 5 gallon water bottles
- Kitty litter pails
- Plastic Tool box
- Plastic paint tray

Rigid Plastic Bale Specification non acceptable material

Non Acceptable Components

- PVC Pipe/Tubing, Vinyl Siding
- PVC and PET blister pack
- Computer housings
- Automotive plastic – bumpers, bed liners, etc
- Plastic Film (Grocery bags & Stretch film)
- Glass; Metal; Wood; Paper; Clothes, Styrofoam
- Poly-Coated Paper (Orange juice & milk cartons)
- Flexible Water Hoses, Hazardous material, Medical waste
- **Narrow-neck liquid containers - Used small-mouth container**
 - ◆ Small plastic containers (Yogurt cups, PET/HDPE Bottles, etc.)
 - ◆ Oil/Chemical containers (HDPE-Fractional Melt)

Plastics 1-7

1. Accepted material: Any plastic numbered 1-7, bottles etc including butter tubs, lids and caps, yogurt and cool whip dishes, 5 gallon pails and kitty litter containers. Pricing varies but can be \$50-100/ton.
2. Bottles should be drained and protected from Sun exposure.
3. Unacceptable materials: Styrofoam, paper, metal, glass, trash, bags, No Bags allowed in bales.

Plastic 3-7 / Rigid Plastics combined

When storage space is an issue, MRRA's buyers generally will allow both Plastic 3-7 and Rigid to be baled together. Pricing can be \$50-100/ton.

This will affect the price but when the market is down for the Plastic 3-7, having the Rigids in the bales seem to make movement easier.

Plastics 1 and 3-7

1. Accepted material: Any plastic numbered 1-7, bottles etc including butter tubs, lids and caps, yogurt and cool whip dishes, 5 gallon pails and kitty litter containers. Pricing is usually the lowest of the plastic grades and varies from \$0 - \$60/ton.
2. This spec is similar to the 1-7 grade but normally it pays much less because the #2 bottles are removed. It can also be combined with the Rigids to make movement easier.
2. Bottles should be drained and protected from Sun exposure.
3. Unacceptable materials: Styrofoam, paper, metal, glass, trash, bags, No Bags allowed in bales.