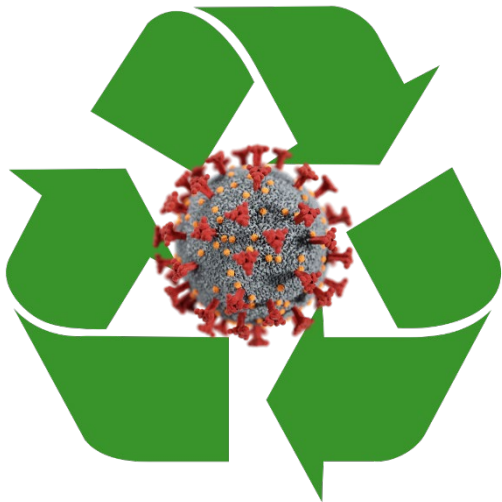


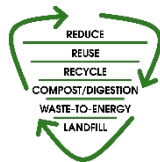
ecomaine

How the COVID-19 Pandemic Shaped Recycling & Solid Waste



Matt Grondin
Director of Communications & Public Affairs
MRRA Annual Conference
May 8, 2023

 ecomaine.org



Our mission

ecomaine provides comprehensive long-term solid waste solutions in a safe, environmentally responsible, economically sound manner, and is a leader in raising public awareness of sustainable waste management strategies.



The annual ecomaine Open House

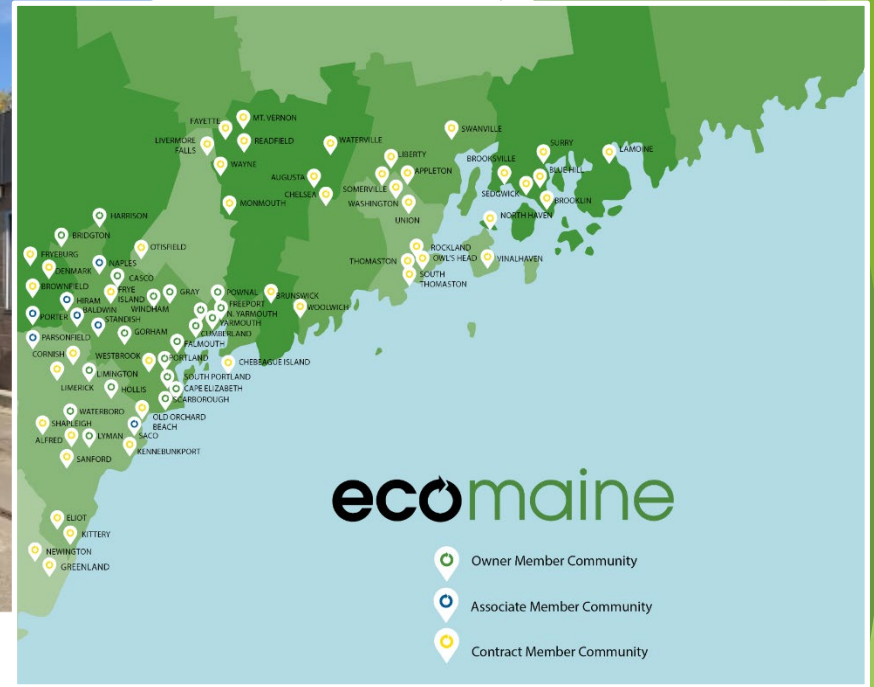
Facilities & Programs

73 Communities

~450,000 people

Facilities:

- Single-Sort Recycling
- Food Waste / Organics Recovery
- Waste-To-Energy Plant
- Landfill/Ashfill
- Environment, Health, & Safety



Programs:

- Tours & School Presentations
- School Grants & Outreach
- Earned & Paid Media
- Social & Digital Media
- Fairs and Events... And more!



BACK TO THE FUTURE

 Maine Resource Recovery Association



March 12, 2020



Waste During COVID: WHAT DO WE DO?!??



ecomaine

Thank you for taking these precautions to protect yourself from COVID-19 and other illness...



Keep 6' of distance between yourself and others



Wash your hands with soap often



Wear proper protective equipment

Regularly disinfect your workspace and surfaces



No large gatherings

And if you're sick, **STAY AT HOME**



 ecomaine.org



THE BALTIMORE SUN

Baltimore suspends recycling pickup until Nov. 1 due to staffing shortages caused by coronavirus, heat: 'We need more help'

By HALLIE MILLER BALTIMORE SUN | AUG 27, 2020 AT 5:41 PM



El Paso halts recycling pickups due to driver shortage amid virus surge



EL PASO, Texas -- Recycling pickup services in the city of El Paso will be suspended next month due to a lack of drivers amidst the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Coronavirus has Philly falling way behind on trash pickup — but it's not the only city

by Laura McCrystal, Posted: August 6, 2020



THE Nation. NEW YORK CITY

If Sanitation Workers Don't Work, Nothing Works

Meet the men and women risking illness to keep New York's streets clean.

Waste During COVID: WHAT DID WE DO?!??



ecomaine COVID-19 Contractor and Vendor Requirements

Directions: This form is to be filled out **prior to your start of work or visit at ecomaine**. If you should leave the job to go to another job site and then return to ecomaine, you will need to fill out a new COVID-19 form attesting to your most current health status.

This unprecedented request is the result of evolving medical information concerning the transmissibility of the COVID-19 virus. **This affirmation applies to every worker or visitor who comes onsite to any ecomaine facility: Recycling, Waste-to-Energy Plant and Landfill.**

ecomaine requires all workers and visitors coming on-site to have a direct ecomaine contact person to whom you will report. That contact person is responsible for ensuring a COVID-19 health attestation form is filled out and returned back to the Health and Safety Management Team. Part I presents a list of required questions regarding your health status while Part II presents a list of hygiene and social distancing recommendations from the federal and Maine Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

Part I – COVID-19 Health Survey and Attestation

Please answer every question below by checking a box:

Yes NO Have you traveled on a plane or used mass transit (train, subway, bus) within the last 14 days?

Yes NO Are you currently feeling well? If no, please list the specifics.

Yes NO Have you experienced an elevated fever within the last few days? If yes, what was the date of your last high fever?

Write the time in the appropriate designated column next to the individual you were within social distancing space. [Reference JSA No. 20200317-001]

For any encounter that is 10 seconds or longer, unless directly coughed on or sneezed on.

Name →	Today's Date →		
	6'	6'	6'
Shift Spvr Office:	Control Room Operator	Warehouse:	
Matt Hebert	Mike Verrill	Peter Goucher	
Dave Charest	Mike Heuter	Brian Roland	
Brian Del Camp	Tom Knight	Comp. Workers	
Via Pillsbury	Rick Robison	Tony DiPietraonasio	
WC (electrical) S	Relief Operators:		
Jonathan Miller	Joe Rodrigues		
Tony Dickson	Patrick Ball		
Coarad Woodman	Utility Operator	Comenag	Write-In
Admin Staff	Don Profano	Name	6'
Matt Bawn	Roy Wood		
Vanessa Berry	Riley Archer		
Lissa Bittermann			
Mark Dolloff	Crane Operators:		
Matt Groatin	Roland Coburn		
Don Hebert	Andrew White		
Anne Hewes	Nate Key		
Wei Heang	Dick King		
Cal Joiner	Truck Drivers:		
Leas Ives	Phil Thomas		
Mark Maritato	Scott Anderson		
Lynn Michalis	Jim Villous		
Scott Miller	Glen Dyer		
Deaise Meagan	Scale Boss:		
Kelly Rickett	Jessica Hay		
Kevin Roche	Matthew Dibaise		
Kevin Trptek	Tipping Ball Attendants		
Katrina Venhuizen	Matthew Roy		
Jenna Sweeney	David Reack		
	Mechanics:		
	Kevin Morrison		
	Check Davis		
Recycling:			
Kathryn Oak	Bob Egan		
Henderson, Steve	Ed Costarino		
Rickard Vincent	David Combs		
Goran Dobric	Ed Carson		
Wayne Beller	Rick Baker		
Jeremy Freeman	Julian Sellers		
Charles Radler	Lamination Operators:		
Shabden Krasuliac	Scott Ames		
Jarrah Ruday	Scott Greenleaf		
Meagan Herbarr			
Landfill:	Labors:		
Colvin, Art	Christopher Smith		
Rybski, Shawa	Tim Gilboe		
Cothard, Brandon	Excavators		
Nate Gerrish	Norman Johnson		
		Supervisor Initials	

**Time is to be considered daily total. Indicate seconds with "S" and Minutes with "M"*



ecomaine COVID-19 TRASH TIP

DO bag your trash

DON'T bag your recycling

If you drop off your trash or recycling, limit it to **one person, once a week**

Now is not the time for spring cleaning and bulky waste! Let workers stay safely focused on regular trash & recycling.

Thank you!



Waste During COVID: *WHAT DID WE DO?!??*

Waste management is **ESSENTIAL!**

Kudos to you for taking these proactive steps. This is quite exemplary.
What outbreaks like this really reveal is what we mean by 'essential' in our workforce.

You and your colleagues are essential.

If your workforce is depleted or out, the implications could ripple across Maine society.
So, thank you.



-- Dr. Nirav D. Shah
(Former) Director, Maine CDC

During COVID: Where'd the *STUFF* Come From?



During COVID: Where'd the *STUFF* Go?



MONEY
Demand for toilet paper is rising, and paper industry could thrive



Bloomberg Business
As Recycling Dwindles, Supply Chains Are Buckling

Never have recycled goods been more integral to the economy. Coronavirus is making them scarce.



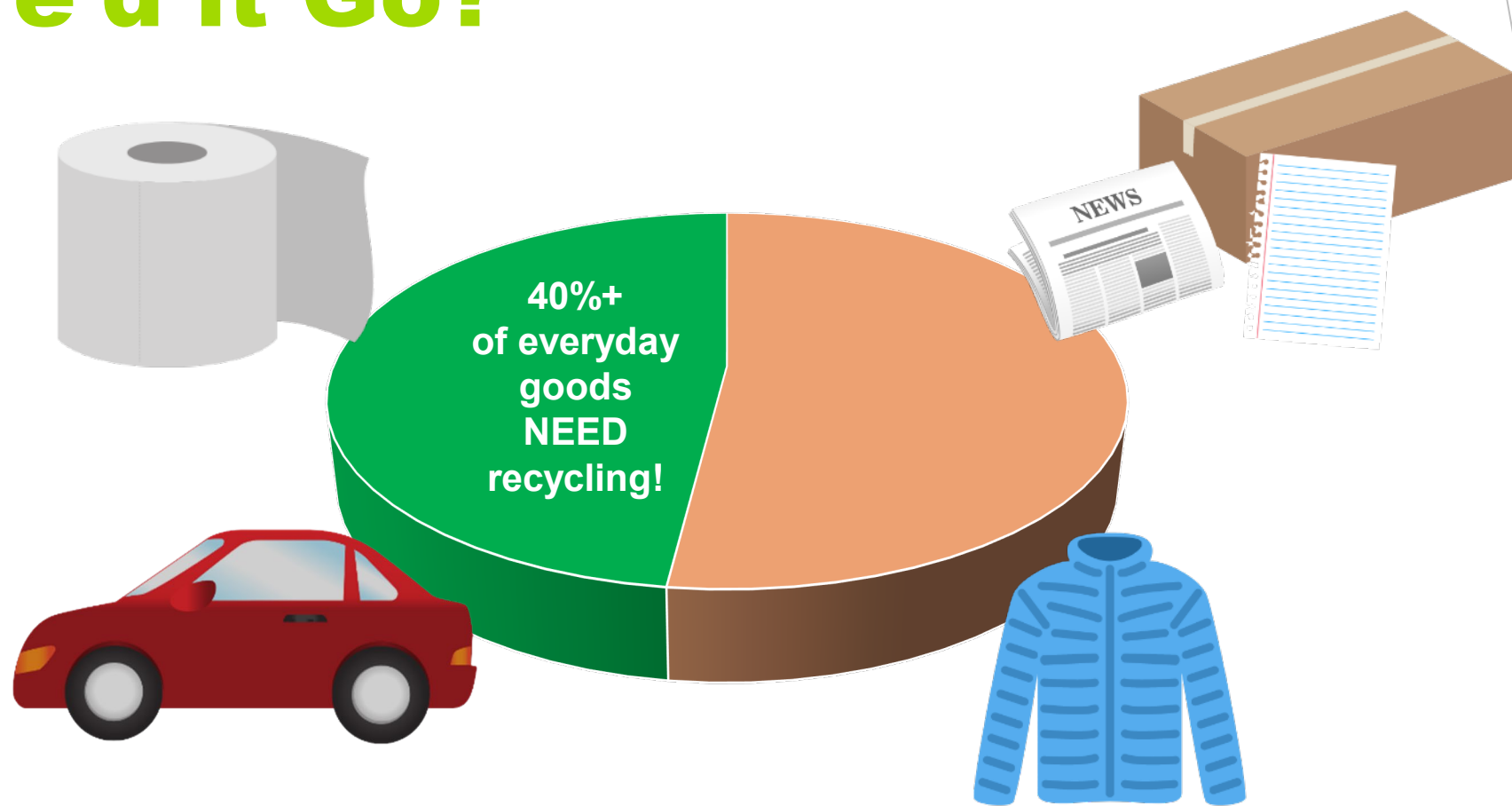
Recycled plastic turned into face shields and hands-free door handles to fight coronavirus

CNN BUSINESS Markets Tech Media Success Perspectives Videos LIVE TV Edition

Toilet paper makers: 'What we are dealing with here is uncharted'

By Parija Kavilanz, CNN Business
Updated 11:58 AM ET, Thu March 19, 2020

During COVID: Where'd it Go?



“Post” COVID: Where’s it Going Now?

ecomaine RECYCLING WORKS FOR ME



ecomaine RECYCLING WORKS FOR ME



ecomaine RECYCLING WORKS FOR ME

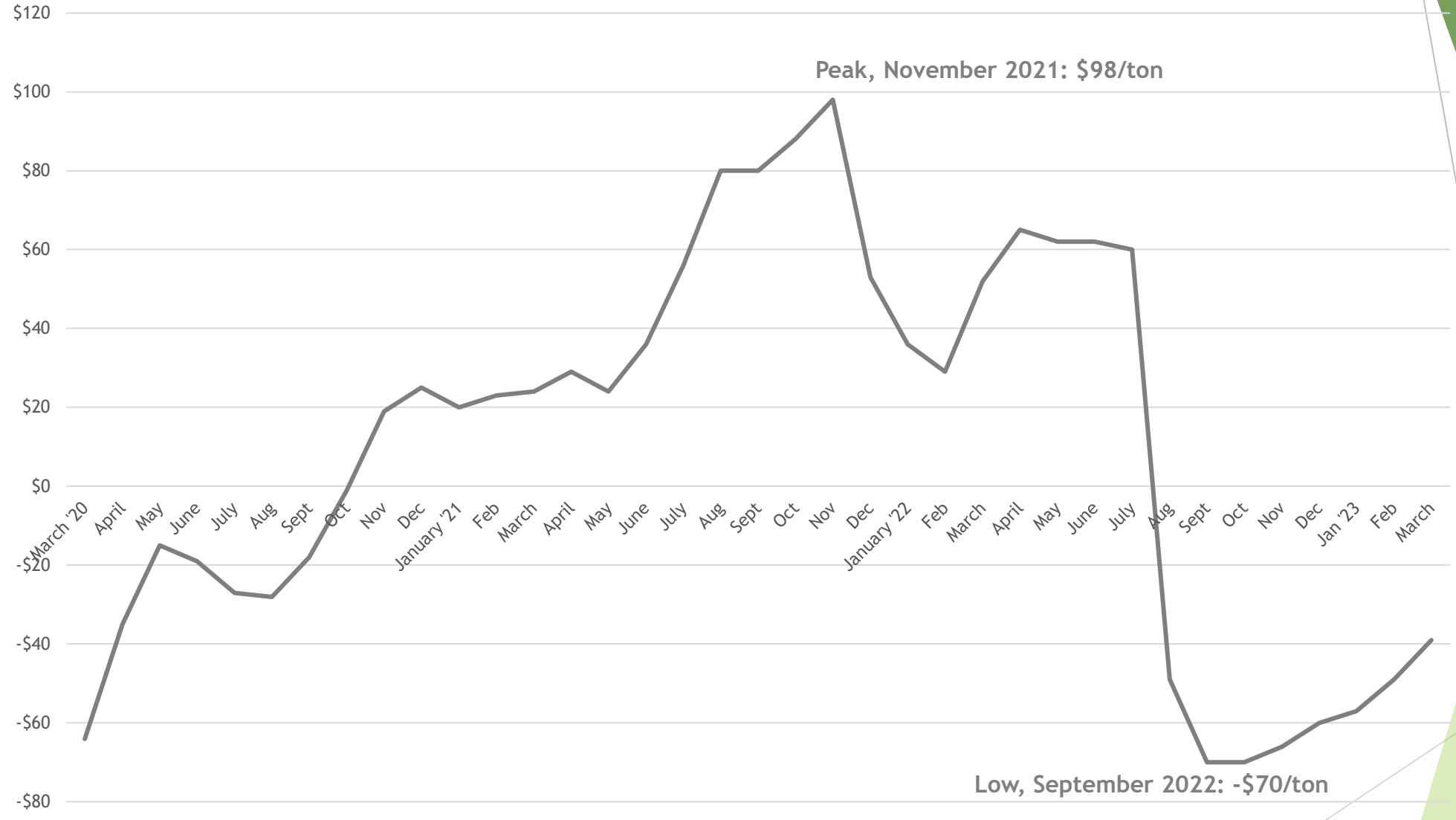


ecomaine RECYCLING WORKS FOR ME

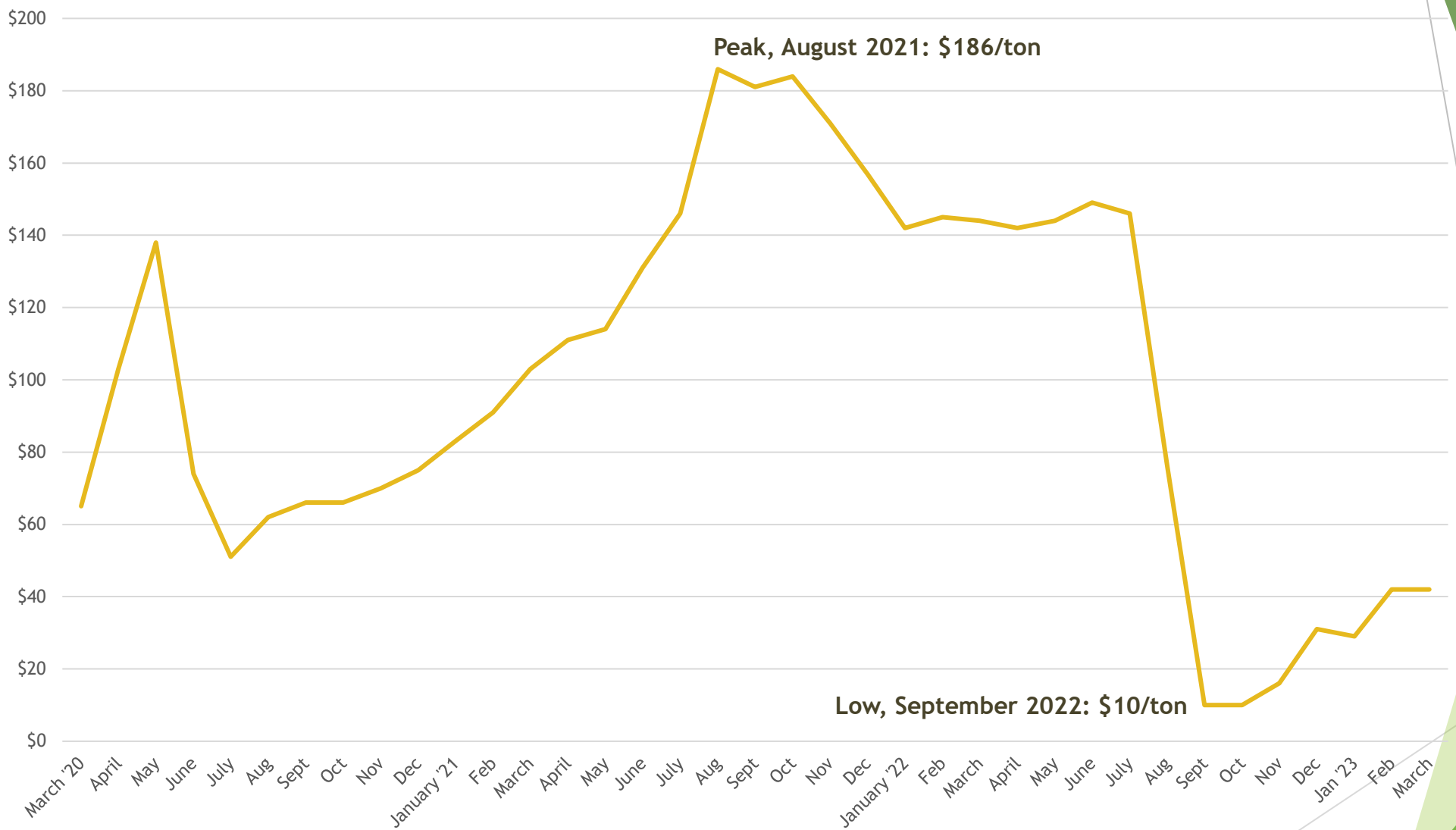


Recycling continues to provide feedstock for manufacturing

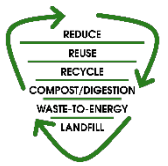
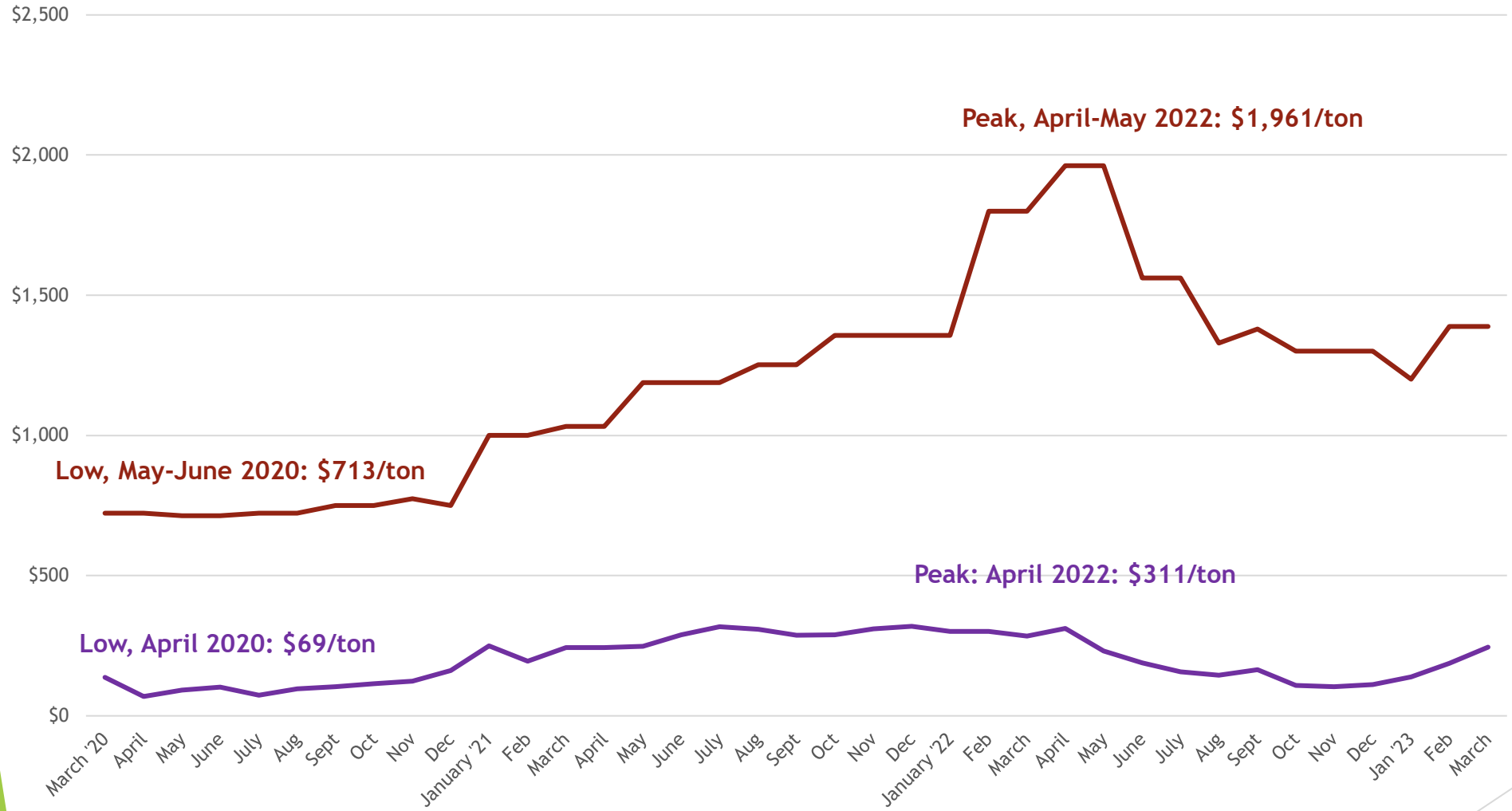
Mixed Paper



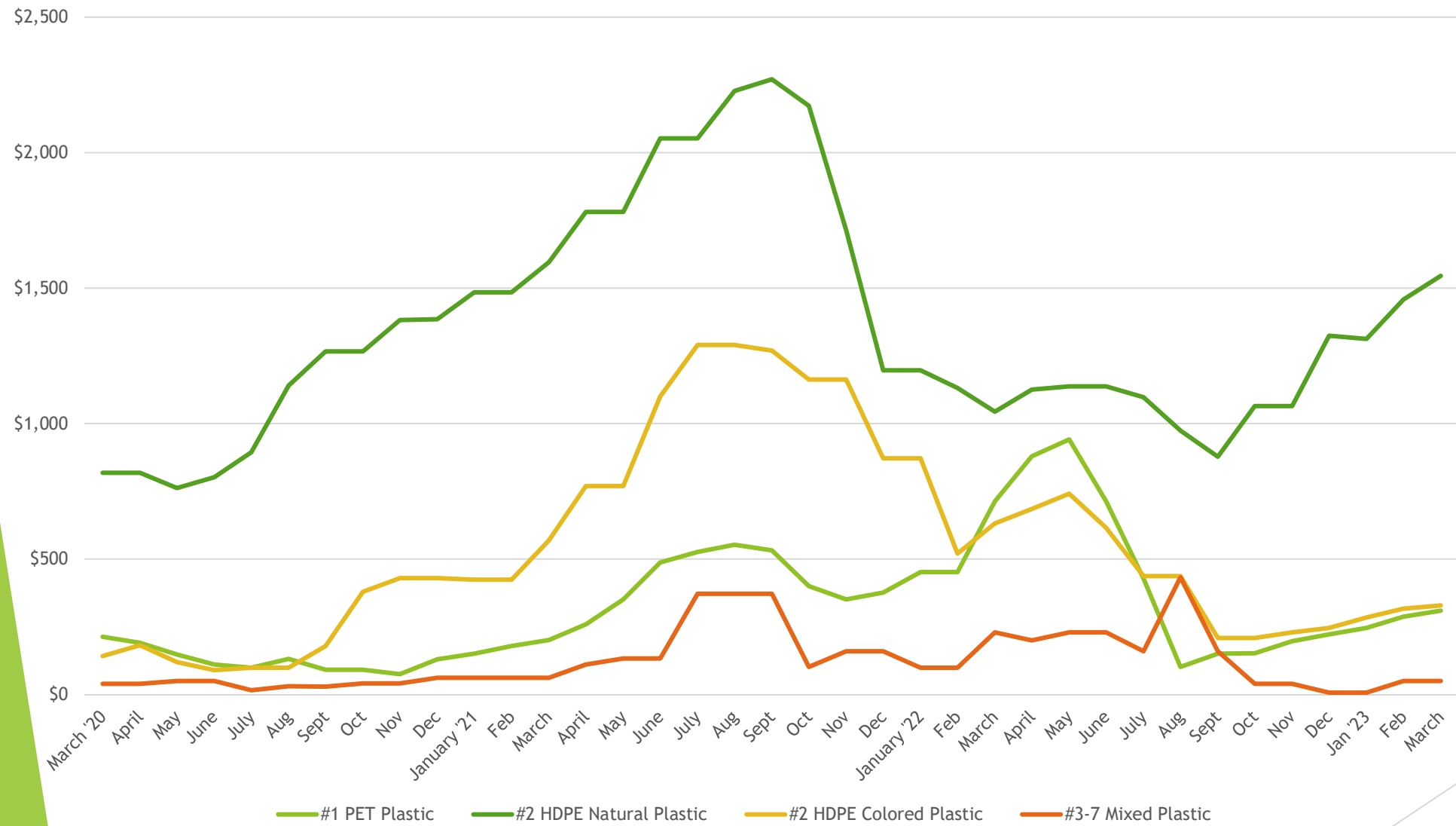
Cardboard



Metals



Plastic



#1 PET Plastic
 Peak: May 2022, \$942/ton
 Low: November 2020, \$42/ton

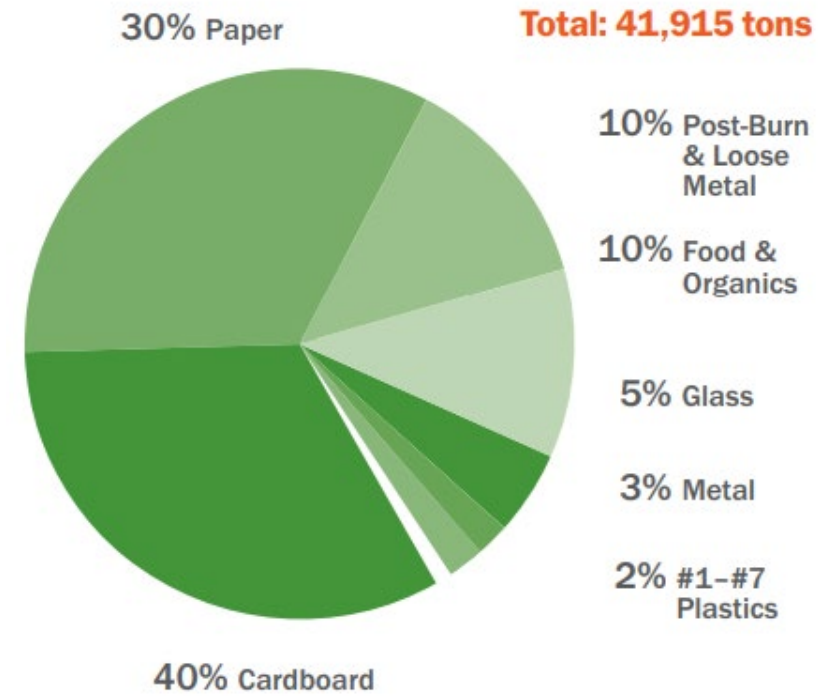
#2 HDPE Natural
 Peak: September 2021, \$2,270/ton
 Low: May 2020, \$762/ton

#2 HDPE Colored
 Peak: July 2021, \$1,290/ton
 Low: June 2020, \$91/ton

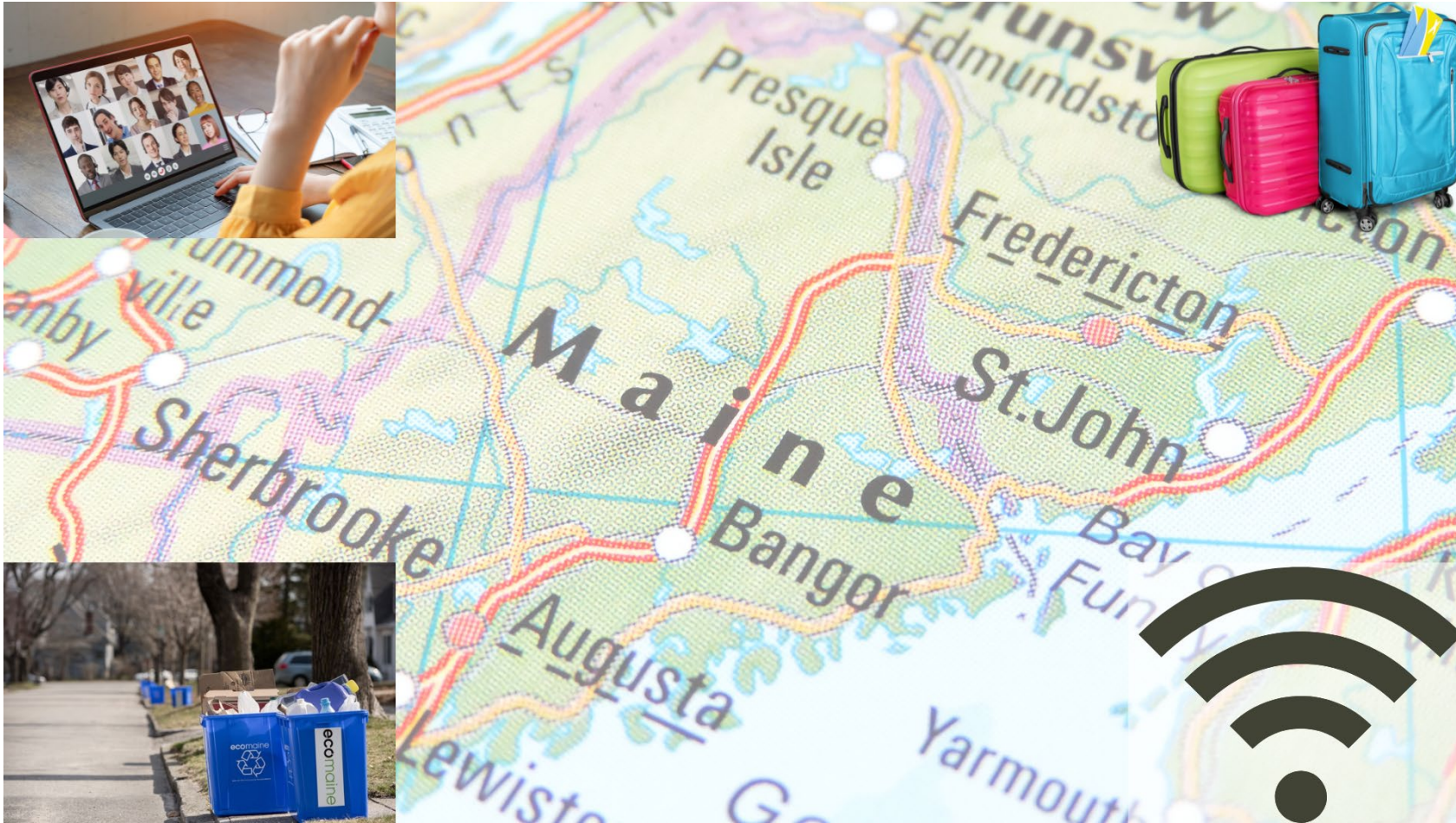
#3-7 Plastic
 Peak: August 2022, \$433/ton
 Low: December 2022, \$8/ton



“Post” COVID: What’s Happened as a Result?



“Post” COVID: What’s Happened as a Result?



“Post” COVID: What’s Happened as a Result?



“Post” COVID: What’s Happened as a Result?



“Post” COVID: What’s Next?



Many of these trends will continue

Economic concerns?

Cyclical markets will be cyclical markets

Domestic investment

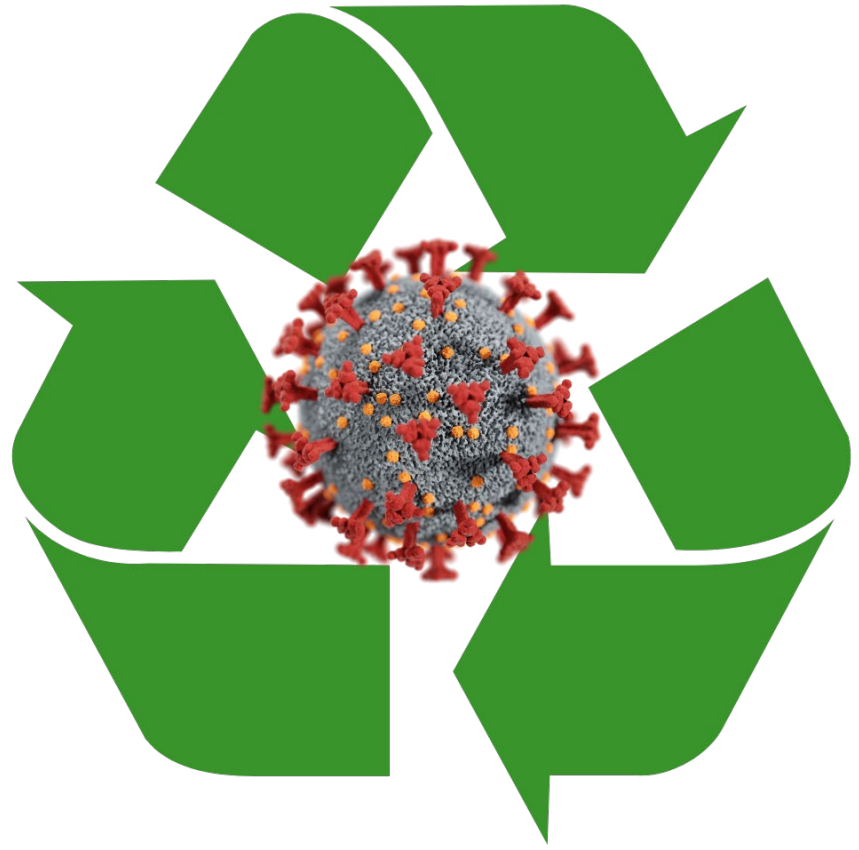
Recycling moves to next generation MRFs

Automation

Policy attention in lots of areas



Thank you!



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