

# Small Business Recycling in Butler County



## Information on how small businesses can (and should!) recycle in Butler County

**Butler County Department of Recycling & Waste Management**

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### **Workplace Recycling**

Do any of these comments sound familiar? "We don't have any storage space." "Our business is too small to recycle." "We have pallets and other less common materials to recycle, but we don't generate enough for a recycler to pick up on a regular basis."

If your company is a small business, don't let these types of challenges discourage you from finding a recycling solution. There are a number of options you might not be aware of. Plus, chances are your business is located in a municipality that requires you to recycle.

It may seem that your business generates little waste or that recycling a small amount would benefit no one - but there are quite a few of you in Butler County - and as a group you do make a big impact. For example, research has indicated that, nationwide, offices with fewer than 50 employees generate nearly 40% of discarded printing and writing (P&W) paper. Yet only 30% of small businesses have P&W paper collection programs.

Also, the cost for collecting from recycling collection containers is generally less expensive than garbage collection containers. By diverting items to a recycling bin, you could save money.

### **How Do I Get Started?**

Reducing your waste is the first and most important thing you can do to manage waste at your place of business. For instance, if you can double-side copies or use ceramic mugs instead of disposable cups, you will have less to throw away. This can result in a savings in your garbage collection costs.

Contact your waste hauler. Depending on how much waste you produce and how much you can recycle, you might be able to downsize your garbage container or schedule fewer pickups. You could see a net savings even if you have to pay for recycling service.

There are various methods by which you can recycle.

1. You can pay your hauler to pick up directly from your business—call your hauler to discuss your options and to set up collection.
2. It might be more economical to drive your recyclables to a recycling collection site. Call the Dept. of Recycling & Waste





**Board of Butler County  
Commissioners**

Leslie A. Osche, Chairman  
Kimberly D. Geyer, Vice-Chairman  
Kevin E. Boozel, M.S., Secretary

Mgt. to get this information.

3. "Partner" on an existing recycling program. Is there a nearby business who is already recycling that you could work with and share costs?

4. Band together. Get several nearby businesses to recycle with you in order to save space, increase recycling volume and share costs. You will need to determine where the bin(s) will be located, how costs will be shared and how each business will transport their recyclables to the shared bin(s).

Make sure your ENTIRE staff and management is on-board with this project and has a list of what is being recycled. Determine who will collect recyclables and place them in the recycling bin outside for the hauler to pick up (or transport to a shared collection site).

Last, make absolutely sure that the amount of recyclables picked up from your business or group of businesses is reported (forms are provided) at the end of each year to your municipality and the Butler County Dept. of Recycling & Waste Management. Amounts are totaled County-wide and used to assess how well the county is doing with its overall recycling program. Just ask your hauler for this information—broken down by type of recyclable and weight. Or, you can just ask for a total weight of all recyclables collected for the year.

***THANK YOU FOR DOING YOUR PART!***

*Keep on Reducing, Reusing and Recycling*



**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE INTERNET OR BY PHONE:**

Search on the internet for the term "small business recycling"

Call the Butler County Department of Recycling and Waste Management at (724) 284-5305

Call the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection at (814) 332-6945 (our Meadville regional office)