


Limited Recycling



 POPULATION	758,738
 RECYCLING RATE	20% (residential only)
 RECYCLING PROGRAMS	Some Single-Family Curbside Recycling Some Yard Waste Composting
 MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	Single-Family Residential: Municipal (Recycling: Contract) Multi-Family/Commercial: Open Market
 HIGH-ROAD ECONOMIC POLICIES	Green Purchasing Policy

Columbus is in the early-stages of building a recycling system. Although the state established a 50% recycling goal for cities, the mayor’s office has set a lower goal of reaching a 35% recycling rate by 2015. Efforts to expand recycling focus primarily on single-family residences. The city collects trash from single-family homes, while recycling collection is contracted to private companies. Currently, about 68% of single-family homes have access to recycling collection services. Commercial and multi-family trash and recycling is largely unregulated under the open-market system. In order to capture the economic and job creation potential of a sustainable recycling system, Columbus will first need to develop concrete recycling programs that are supported by strong management systems that empower the city to set environmental, job quality, and operational standards.

Sources:
 Department of Public Service: Refuse Collection Division
 Columbus Get Green 2011 Progress Report
 SWACO Solid Waste Management Plan