

# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS



## RECYCLING FACILITY EXPANSION

Republic Services re-opening of its retrofitted Lorain County Resource Recovery Facility demonstrates our advancements for the region's sustainability efforts.

The Lorain County Resource Recovery Facility receives and sorts increasing volumes of commercial and residential materials from five counties in the Northeast Ohio region, with a large portion of customers in Cuyahoga County. The redesigned facility can now process up to 150,000 tons of recyclables per year, nearly triple the previous capacity.

All technology in the facility has been updated. The CP Group custom engineered, manufactured and installed conveyors, separation screens, magnets, optical sorters and balers designed to convey, separate and recover the residential material picked up in the surrounding counties. In addition, a 12,000 square foot expansion has added more warehouse space.

The Lorain County Resource Recovery Facility, which opened in 1992, now accepts more types of recyclables, most notably all plastics marked with numbers 1-7. Paper products (newspaper, junk mail, magazines), cardboard, glass, aluminum and steel are also accepted. The new system produces less than 10 percent residual waste, keeping more waste out the landfill.

The \$15 million investment brings with it an upgrade to more efficient and cleaner sorting processes and a safer environment for workers.

This is one of several local efforts by Republic to advance environmental standards, including its waste-to-energy program at the nearby Lorain County Landfill. The process at the landfill involves the collection of methane, which is used to produce electricity for the Lorain County Gas Power Station. The results from the waste-to-energy program are equivalent to reducing annual greenhouse emissions of 207,062 passenger vehicles. Nationally these processes supply 321 megawatts of electricity annually, which is enough power to supply the electric needs of almost 190,000 homes.



***Our recycling center is pictured to the left while our local landfill-gas-to-energy facility in conjunction with EDI is pictured above.***

**We're now recycling cartons! Please see page two for more details.**



# WE'RE NOW RECYCLING CARTONS

**As a valued customer, we are pleased to announce that we are accepting cartons in our residential recycling curbside and drop-off programs.**

This move is possible due to a national initiative by the Carton Council and Republic Services to increase recycling of cartons in communities across the country. The Carton Council, composed of four leading carton manufacturers—Elopak, Evergreen Packaging, SIG Combibloc, and Tetra Pak, have joined forces to ensure cartons are recovered through local recycling programs.

## **What is a carton?**

Cartons are a type of packaging for food and beverage products you can purchase at the store. They are easy to recognize and are available in two types—shelf-stable and refrigerated.

## **What are cartons made from?**

Cartons are mainly made from paper in the form of paperboard, as well as thin layers of polyethylene (plastic) and/or aluminum. Shelf-stable cartons contain on average 74% paper, 22% polyethylene and 4% aluminum. Refrigerated cartons contain about 80% paper and 20% polyethylene.

## **Are cartons recyclable?**

Yes! Cartons are recyclable. In fact, the paper fiber contained in cartons is extremely valuable and useful to make new products.

## **Where can I recycle cartons?**

To learn if your community accepts cartons for recycling, please visit [RecycleCartons.com](http://RecycleCartons.com) or check with your local recycling program.

## **How do I recycle cartons?**

Simply place the cartons in your recycle bin. If your recycling program collects materials as “singlestream,” you may place your cartons in your bin with all the other recyclables. If your recycling program collects materials as “dual-stream” (paper items together and plastic, metal and glass together), please place cartons with your plastic, metal and glass containers.

**Wait, you just said cartons are made mainly from paper. Don't I want to put them with other paper recyclables?**

Good question. The answer is no. Once cartons arrive at your local recycling facility, they will be sorted separately from the rest of the materials. To make this work at the facility, it is easier to modify how containers are sorted than paper. In the end, as long as all cartons are sorted and baled together, the material will then be recycled.

**Do I need to remove the cap or straw when recycling my cartons?**

Yes, please remove caps and straws.



**Do I need to rinse my cartons?**

There are no requirements to rinse your cartons.

For more information, please contact us at **1-800-433-1309**.