Trustees’ Letter of Introduction

Dear Resident,

We are pleased to announce that Bath Township has partnered with the firm of Simple Recycling to provide a new recycling program for residents. While Bath Township has long maintained a weekly recycling program through the designated waste hauler, this new program with Simple Recycling demonstrates our commitment of being responsible stewards of the environment.

Over the past several weeks, Bath Township officials have been working with representatives from Simple Recycling to implement a textiles recycling program. Soon, you’ll be receiving information about Simple Recycling and will also receive two green plastic bags. Recyclable textiles are to be placed in the bags and then located curbside, ready for pick up on your normal waste collection day. We have taken into consideration our community’s current waste hauling practices and hope to have similar success with the textile recycling program being implemented.

For us to maintain a strong textiles recycling program, we need your cooperation. With an estimated 70 pounds of discarded textiles each of us produces on an annual basis, the opportunity to partner with Simple Recycling and prevent this waste from going to a landfill was a responsible option. The program also offers the township a direct incentive of one cent per pound of collected textiles. We will keep you informed of our progress with the program and continue to provide tips and information to you.

Thanks in advance for your cooperation and participation in this new recycling program. We appreciate everyone’s patience in making this program a success and welcome any input you may have on the program in the upcoming months.

Thank you.

Becky Corbett
Trusted

Elaine Goddich
Trusted

James Nelson
Trusted

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Postcard #2

Bath Township residents can **recycle unwanted clothing & more with free, curbside pick-up**

on your regular recycling collection day (using bags labeled “Simple Recycling”)

This program is in addition to your current recycling program. Your recycling cart/bin collection will remain the same.

Items that are acceptable for recycling collection:
- Bedding (comforters, sheets, pillow cases, blankets)
- Belts & Ties
- Books
- Boots
- Bras
- Children's Clothing
- Coats & Jackets
- Curtains/Drapes
- Dresses
- Fashion Accessories
- Halloween costumes
- Handbags & Purses
- Hats
- Jeans
- Jerseys (sports)
- Kitchenware
- Linens
- Men's Clothing
- Napkins (cloth)
- Pajamas
- Pants
- Pet beds & clothing
- Pillows
- Scarves
- Shirts
- Shorts
- Skirts
- Shoes & Slippers (in pairs)
- Socks (single or in pairs)
- Stuffed animals
- Suits
- Sweaters
- Sweatpants
- Sweatshirts
- Table linens
- Ties
- Tools
- Towels
- Toys
- T-shirts
- Undergarments
- Women's Clothing
Bath Township and Simple Recycling offer a simple, easy and free service to recycle your clothing, shoes, accessories and other items such as kitchenware, tools, toys, homegoods and books. Here’s how...

**Step 1**
Place clothing, shoes and small household items that you no longer need in the bag provided or other waterproof bag with a tag or large label reading “SIMPLE RECYCLING.”

**Step 2**
Leave the bag(s) labeled “SIMPLE RECYCLING” curbside – separated from your traditional recycling bags – on the same day you would leave your other recyclable materials out for collection.

**Step 3**
Simple Recycling will collect the bags and recycle the items for reuse!

866.835.5068

in cooperation with [simplerecycling.com](http://simplerecycling.com)
Clothing Recycling
Now Available!

Clothing & Textile Recycling!

Brought to you by:

Bath Township

Please recycle clothing and accessories using your Simple Recycling bags & labels on the same day as your regular recycling pick-up schedule.

This program is in addition to your current recycling program. Your recycling cart/bin collection will remain the same.
RECYCLE CLOTHING & TEXTILES
plus small household items

5425 Naiman Pkwy
Solon, OH 44139

A FREE WEEKLY PICK-UP service
NO ENROLLMENT necessary

866.835.5068

in cooperation with simplerecycling.com
The Life Cycle of Secondhand Clothing

What happens to your recycled used clothing?

Once a resident determines that their clothing, shoes, handbags, or household textiles have reached the end of their useful life, materials are collected by Simple Recycling and collected clothing is sorted and graded for condition.

10-20%  
Top quality materials are sold to local thrift stores where they create access to low cost clothing and jobs for local residents.

80%  
The vast majority of clothing collected is not resaleable in the U.S. so it is further sorted for international export or broken down for raw materials.

45%  
Reused and Repurposed  
Majority is exported as secondhand clothing.

30%  
Recycled and Converted  
Reclaimed wiping rags are used in various ways as industrial and residential absorbents.

20%  
Recycled into Fiber  
Post-consumer fiber is used to make home insulation, carpet padding, and raw material for the automotive industry.

Only 5% ends up as waste.

Thrift industry employs nearly 100,000 workers in the U.S. with over $1 billion wages paid. In addition, private sector recyclers create an additional 15,000 to 20,000 jobs nationally.²

The textile recycling process follows the conventional recycling maxim of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

Sources:
1. EPS 2009 Federal MSW waste study; 3.8 billion lbs. recovered divided by 2010 U.S. Census Population 310 million
2. “Textile Recycling in the U.S.” Report submitted to SMART by Dr. Jana Hawley PhD, Univ. of Missouri 2009
3. EPA 2009 Federal MSW waste study.
Textiles

Fleece, flannel, corduroy, cotton, nylon, denim, wool, and linen. What can you do with these fibers when you’re finished wearing them, sleeping on them, or draping them over your windows? One way to benefit both your community and the environment is to donate used textiles to charitable organizations. Most recovered household textiles end up at these organizations, who sell or donate the majority of these products. The remainder go to either a textile recovery facility or the landfill.

Just the Facts

- An estimated 13.1 million tons of textiles were generated in 2011, or 5.2 percent of total municipal solid waste (MSW) generation.
- An estimated 13.9 percent of textiles in clothing and footwear and 17.6 percent of items such as sheets and pillowcases was recovered for export or reprocessing in 2011.
- The recovery rate for all textiles was 15.3 percent in 2011, 2.0 million tons.

Collecting Textiles

Textiles typically are not sorted at the point of collection, but keeping them clean and free from moisture is important. Once clothes get wet, stained, or mildewed, they cannot be sold for reuse. To prevent contamination, many charities offer enclosed drop-off boxes for clothing or other fabrics. Communities with curbside collection for textiles should educate donors on how to properly bag clothing.

Recycling Textiles

Textile recovery facilities separate overly worn or stained clothing into a variety of categories. Based on data from the Council for Textile Recycling, it was estimated that 1.3 million tons of textiles in clothing were recovered for recycling in 2009. Some recovered textiles become wiping and polishing cloths. Cotton can be made into rags or form a component for new high-quality paper. Knitted or woven woolens and similar materials are “pulled” into a fibrous state for reuse by the textile industry in low-grade applications, such as car insulation or seat stuffing. Other types of fabric can be reprocessed into fibers for upholstery, insulation, and even building materials. Buttons and zippers are stripped off for reuse. Very little is left over at the end of the recycling process. The remaining natural materials, such as various grades of cotton, can be composted.

More Textiles Information

The Secondary Materials and Recycled Textiles (SMART) Association (EXIT Emission) is working to increase the amount of textile waste that can be recovered while developing new uses, products and markets for products derived from preconsumer and postconsumer textile waste. The Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service has created a fact sheet on household textile and apparel recycling (PDF) (4 pp, 1.6MB, about PDF) (EXIT Emission).