

Where Do Hanover Township's Recyclables Go?

In Hanover Township, all recyclables are collected by J. P. Mascaro & Sons and transported to Todd Heller, LLC/Greenstar North America (TH) in Northampton. TH is a privately owned, regional material recovery facility (MRF) where recyclables are sorted on a conveyor system and baled and processed for remanufacturing into new products. TH sells the processed recyclables to mills and manufacturers who make new glass, aluminum and steel containers.

The following is what happens:

GLASS:

TH sorts glass by color and removes contaminants. TH processes color sorted glass into the size and specifications required by the container manufacturers. TH also makes glass beads used in reflective highway painting and crushes glass into sand for fiberglass manufacturing. Mixed color broken glass is crushed and processed for paving and drainage applications.

PLASTICS:

The plastics are sent to processors who clean and flake or pelletize the plastic for manufacturing into things such as fiber used in clothing and carpeting as well as plastic lumber, furniture and other rigid plastic items. Very few plastics are recyclable and most plastics are generally recycled into non-recyclable items.

ALUMINUM:

Aluminum cans are the most recycled item in our country. Approximately 49% of all the cans consumed get recycled, mostly into new cars.

STEEL CANS:

Steel cans are recycled into steel. The steel industry has been recycling for over 100 years. Using at least 25% recycled steel is the best way to make new steel.

NEWSPAPER, MIXED PAPER AND CARDBOARD:

TH sorts the paper from the cardboard with a sophisticated set of screens and conveyors. The newspaper is sold to mills who manufacture a variety of products including newsprint, insulation and paperboard. The corrugated cardboard is also manufactured into new cardboard containers and other products.

Information Courtesy of Betsy Levin, Todd Heller