

Help text definitions for words found throughout Solid Waste & Recycling Annual reports

1. **Agricultural Organics**: Livestock, manure and agricultural food waste
2. **Aluminum Metals**: Aluminum is a lightweight and malleable metal. Aluminum cans and other packaging are a major source of aluminum, along with furniture and appliances.
3. **Anaerobic Digestion/Codigestion**: Breaking down material via bacteria in the absence of oxygen. This process generates biogas and nutrient-rich matter. Codigestion refers to the simultaneous anaerobic digestion of food waste and other organic material in one digester.
4. **Combustion with Energy Recovery**: confined and controlled burning of materials with energy recovery, which not only decreases the volume of solid waste destined for landfills, but also recovers energy from the waste burning process.
5. **Composting**: The decomposition of organic materials by aerobic microorganisms to create compost.
6. **Corrugated Boxes**: Boxes made up of a few layers of paper material rather than a single sheet. The three layers of corrugated material include an inside liner, an outside liner, and a medium that goes between the two, which is fluted. Corrugated boxes include most paper-based shipping boxes.
7. **Electronics**: Electronics include products such as TVs, DVD players, cameras, cellphones, stereo systems, and computer equipment.
8. **Ferrous Metals**: Ferrous metals are metals that include iron, such as steel and cast iron. Most ferrous metals are magnetic. Ferrous metals are used in appliances, furniture, and tires. Containers and packaging are other sources of ferrous metals in the solid waste stream.
9. **Food**: Any substance—whether processed, semi-processed, or raw—that is intended for human consumption. “Food” includes drink, and any substance that has been used in the manufacture, preparation, or treatment of food. “Food” also includes material that has spoiled and is therefore no longer fit for human consumption. It does not include cosmetics, tobacco, or substances used only as drugs. It does not include processing agents used along the food supply chain, for example, water to clean or cook raw materials in factories or at home.
10. **Glass**: Glass materials are primarily in the form of containers such as beer and soft drink bottles, wine and liquor bottles, bottles and jars for food and other products.
11. **Industrial, Construction or Demolition Debris**: Non-hazardous materials from manufacturing or other industrial sources, including incineration residues and sludges, or construction and demolition debris. Does not include used oil.
12. **Landfilling**: Solid waste that is disposed of by storing in a landfill.
13. **Lead-Acid Batteries**: Batteries that contain lead-acid. Primary sources of lead-acid batteries are automobiles, boats, and other transportation vehicles.
14. **Leather Materials**: Sources for leather include clothing and footwear, and other miscellaneous products such as gaskets on appliances, and furniture.
15. **Lithium-Ion Batteries**: Batteries composed of lithium-ion. Lithium-ion battery sources include hybrid electric vehicles, energy storage systems, and various electronics such as laptops, appliances, and tablets.

16. Municipal Solid Waste: Household solid waste, and non-hazardous waste from institutions and businesses.
17. Nonferrous Metals: Nonferrous metals are metals that do not contain iron, such as lead, copper, and zinc.
18. Paper and Paperboard: Materials made of paper and paperboard materials such as containers, packaging, office papers, newspapers, tissue paper, and paper plates and cups. Does not include corrugated boxes.
19. Plastic Materials: Plastic materials such as polyethylene terephthalate (PET), high-density polyethylene (HDPE), low-density polyethylene (LDPE), polyvinyl chloride (PVC), polystyrene (PS), and polypropylene (PP). Examples include plastic packaging, bottles, and other plastic containers. Plastics can also be found in appliances, cups, utensils and other products.
20. Recycling: The recovery of useful materials from the solid waste stream along with the transformation of the materials to make new products and reduce the amount of virgin raw materials needed to meet consumer demands. **For this report, recovery of useful materials should be counted toward materials recycled.** For example, source-separated and baled plastic materials sold to a manufacturer who will use the material to produce a new product should be included in the tons of “Total Plastic Materials Recycled in the reporting period”.
21. Reporting Period: The previous calendar year. For example, if filling out the report in 2023, the reporting period is January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022.
22. Rubber Materials: The predominant source of rubber is rubber from automobiles tires. Other sources can include footwear and miscellaneous products.
23. Solid Waste Stream: Discarded material from public, industrial and commercial sources. Does not include hazardous waste or used oil.
24. Textile Materials: Textiles include clothing, furniture, carpets, footwear, and other items such as sheets and towels.
25. Wood Materials: Sources of wood include furniture, cabinets, wood, and other miscellaneous products.
26. Yard Trimmings: Yard trimmings include grass, leaves, tree, and bush trimmings.