

News Release



June 19, 2019
Release Number: 4334

Charleston County - Recycling Operations

Charleston County Environmental Management is temporarily diverting recyclables to the Bees Ferry Landfill due to machine breakdown at the Romney Street Material Recovery Facility (MRF). Replacements parts are expected to arrive today, Wednesday June 19 and installation is scheduled for tomorrow, June 20. The goal is to resume processing next week.

Current Situation – Romney Street

In late February, Charleston County completed a retrofit of the old processing equipment and constructed of 10,000 square foot building on site to cover the recyclables. During the last few months, curbside contamination combined with the age of the equipment has caused failures, leading to delays in processing material. Recyclables are currently being stored on site but space is limited.

Path forward

A new state of the art facility is scheduled for completion in the summer of 2020. Charleston County will make every effort to recycle as much material as possible but staff expects challenges along the way. We ask residents to help us by limiting curbside contamination and make efforts to reduce and reuse as much as possible.

Contamination

Contamination is defined as material placed in carts that cannot be process in the county's recycling system. Textiles, like clothing, wrap around machines and stress the equipment. Food waste, plastic bags and other non-recyclables are continuing to negatively affect operations.

For more information on materials accepted in Charleston County's recycling program and Tips to Recycle Right, visit <https://www.charlestoncounty.org/departments/environmental-management/files/HowtoRecycleRight.pdf>.

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- Visit our website: www.charlestoncounty.org



- Prepared by the Public Information Office -