



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### City Encourages Residents to Double Recycling Output

**WHEELING, W.Va.** – The City of Wheeling, with support from City Council, has set a goal of doubling its recycling output by the end of the 2017 calendar year. Wheeling currently collects 19 tons of residential recyclables for every 1,500 tons of trash each month.

An increase in recycling—which would lead to an automatic decrease in trash—has the power to decrease landfill expenses and directly save taxpayer money. At the current rate of collection, the city’s landfill fees are about \$34,000 per month.

“We are launching a campaign to encourage residents to take advantage of the City’s recycling program,” shared Allison Skibo, Marketing and Community Relations Specialist. “Part of the campaign involves educating the community about the City’s process as well as sharing our monthly collection statistics so we can track our progress together.”

The City accepts newspapers, magazines, office paper, and metal cans from residential customers and takes the collected materials to a recycling center in Belmont County, Ohio. Mayor Glenn Elliott recently announced plans to create an ad hoc committee on recycling, organized by Councilman Brian Wilson, to consider options for improving and expanding the City’s program. One of the committee’s tasks would be to explore expanding the list of accepted materials to also include cardboard and plastics to further assist in raising recycling output.

Wheeling first rolled out a citywide recycling program in October 1993, and all households within city limits were issued a blue or red recycling bin for biweekly curbside pickup. Residents that need a bin can purchase one for \$13.60 by calling the City’s Finance Department (304-234-3653) or by visiting Suite 109 in the City-County Building. New residents can sign up for recycling service when they set up their account with the Water Department (304-234-3762). After purchasing a bin, there is no additional fee for recycling pickup.

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