

COUNTY OF KANE

**FACILITIES, DEVELOPMENT &
ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT**

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Frequently Asked Questions on the KANE COUNTY MANDATORY COMMERCIAL RECYCLING ORDINANCE

COUNTY CODE: CHAPTER 11: ARTICLE IV. RECYCLING & HAULER LICENSING ORDINANCE (RES 95-157)

What Does This Law Require?

- (1) The law states that all commercial establishments in Kane County must mandatorily recycle the two largest recyclable materials by volume in their landfill trash [11-112, (a)]. It is recommended to recycle all recyclable materials.
- (2) Owners of multi-family dwelling units must provide recycling service for the occupants of their buildings [11-111, (b) 1].
- (3) Haulers may not collect waste from any establishment that is not recycling [11-112, (b) 3]. Waste haulers must provide recycling services to all multi-residential dwelling units they serve in Kane County [11-113, (g) 1].

When Did This Law Take Effect?

January 1, 1996 for commercial establishments with 10 or more full time employees.

January 1, 1997 for all commercial establishments, regardless of size.

May 29, 1997 for owners of multi-family dwelling units.

What Are The Penalties For Non-Compliance With This Ordinance?

Any commercial establishment or owner of a multi-family dwelling unit who violates any provision of the Ordinance shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$25 or more than \$100 per day in violation. Waste haulers are also subject to fines for non-compliance.

My Building Is In a Municipality. Does This Law Cover Me?

Yes. The ordinance covers all commercial establishments and dwelling units in Kane County, whether in incorporated or unincorporated areas.

(Continued on reverse)

What Is A "Commercial Establishment"?

Any building or any part of a building wherein commerce or business is conducted, both profit and not-for-profit, including but not limited to stores, markets, offices, restaurants, shopping centers, theaters, schools, libraries, churches, government offices, and manufacturing facilities.

How Do I Know Which Materials To Recycle?

Check with your waste hauler or recycling contractor. Typical materials for commercial establishments may include cardboard, office paper, wood pallets, aluminum cans, glass bottles, plastic bottles, etc. For multi-family dwellings, the list of acceptable recyclables shall include all of those materials accepted by the single-family recycling program in the municipality in which the multi-family building is located.

Will Recycling Service Cost More?

It doesn't have to. The cost of recycling service can be offset by reduced trash service costs, by diverting materials from your trash into recycling. Work with your waste hauler or recycling contractor, to assess types and percentages of recyclable materials currently in your waste stream, and customize your dumpster and cart sizes, in combination with monitoring and adjusting the frequency of your service, in order to minimize cost and improve efficiency.

What If My Business Only Has One or No Recyclable Materials?

You may apply to the Kane County Division of Environmental Resources for a waiver.

What If My Business Leases Space, And The Property Owner Provides Garbage Service?

Whoever provides garbage service is the primary responsible party under the Ordinance. If the property owner does not provide recycling service, the owner is in violation of the Ordinance. However, tenants are also responsible for separating their recyclables and may be subject to a fine if they do not participate in the recycling program established by the property owner.

Are Businesses Required To Report Recycling Volumes To The County?

Not if they recycle with a county-licensed waste hauler. That hauler is required to report volumes to the County. However, if a commercial establishment makes recycling arrangements with a non-county-licensed firm, the establishment must provide annual written documentation to the County of the total number of tons of material recycled.

For More Information, Please Contact:

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