

The State of Recycling & How Customers Can Help

EPA WasteWise Spring Forum

May 10, 2018



Casella Company Overview:

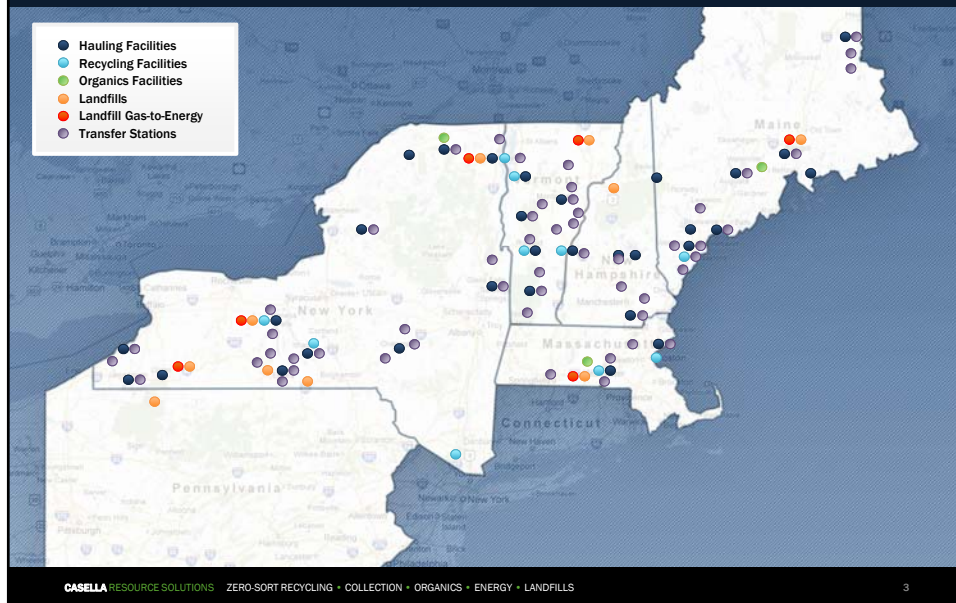
- Founded in 1975 with one truck
- We now have 1,900 employees serving over 170,000 customers
- Traded on NASDAQ as CWST
- Over \$500M in annual revenue
- Operating in MA, ME, NH, NY, PA, and VT
- Vertically integrated collection, transfer, recycling, and disposal operations
- **Recovering over 1 million tons per year!**
Includes more than 600,000 tons of recyclables and 400,000 tons of organics for beneficial use



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Our Facilities



Background

Big Changes

- New Chinese policies have reduced imports of recycled commodities, to cut waste entering their borders via recycling streams
- The Northeast's largest glass processor shut its doors in March
- Product mix is shifting and contamination is rising

Impacts

- In the Northeast, the value of the single stream mix dropped over 70% from early 2017 to early 2018.
- Mixed paper, glass, and residue make up over 60% of the recycling mix received at U.S. MRFs. These materials have zero value currently and are often managed at a cost.

Back to Basics... What's Acceptable?

CARDBOARD/PAPER



Corrugated Cardboard
(Wavy center layer)



Boxboard
(Dry-food boxes, paper bags, egg cartons, rolls)



Junk Mail, Periodicals & Office Paper
(Catalogs, envelopes, soft cover books)

PLASTIC



Plastic Containers
(#1-#7, 5-gallon pails)

METAL



Metal & Food Cans
(Aluminum, tin, foil)

GLASS



Glass Bottles
(Food jars, beverage)

Back to Basics... What's NOT Acceptable?



NO Plastic Bags or Bagged Recycling
(Take clean plastic bags to your local retailer for recycling)



NO Coated Paper Items
(Items with a plastic lining such as waxed coffee or milk cups & waxed paper plates)



NO Disposable Items
(Dynaflex™ napkins, paper towels, tissues, plastic utensils, dirty recycling, regular tape, condiment packets, straws, stirrers & coffee pods)



NO Ceramics, Pots, Pans or Baking Glass
(Slightly used items can be donated)



NO Toys, Hangers, Clothes or Shoes
(Slightly used items can be donated)



NO Waste or Wood
(Rocks, twine, diapers, food, pet & yard waste)



NO Plastic Wrap, Films or Tarps
(Food bags or wrappers, plastic or shrink wrap & tarps)



NO Electronics, Batteries or Bulbs
(Find alternative recycling)



NO Hazardous Materials
(Find safe and secure disposal near you)



NO Rubber or Scrap Metal
(Find alternative recycling)



NO Medical Waste
(Find safe and secure disposal near you)

Back to Basics... What's NOT Acceptable?

NO Plastic Bags or Bagged Recycling
(Take clean plastic bags to your local retailer for recycling)

NO Coated Paper Items
(Items with a plastic lining such as waxed coffee or soda cups & waxed paper plates)

NO Disposable Items
(Disposable paper towels, napkins, plastic cans, dirty recycling, newspapers, condom packets, etc.)

NO Toys, Handbags, or Stuffed Animals
(Identify use)

NO Plastic Wrap, Films or Tarps
(Food bags or wrappers, plastic or other wrap & tarps)

NO Electronics, Batteries or Bulbs
(Find alternative recycling)

NO Hazardous Materials
(Find safe and secure disposal near you)

NO Rubber or Scrap Metal
(Find alternative recycling)

NO Medical Waste
(Find safe and secure disposal near you)

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Back to Basics... The Worst Contaminants

The worst contaminants put employees' safety at risk, damage the sorting equipment, shut down the plant, degrade outbound quality, or all of the above.

1. Plastic bags and other film plastics
2. Scrap metal and e-waste (including fuel canisters and batteries)
3. Clothing and other textiles
4. "Tanglers" such as cords, ropes, hoses
5. Food and beverages



Back to Basics... Bottom Line

“Wish-Cycling” has always been unhelpful and is now harmful.

We all need to recognize and treat recycling as a form of manufacturing.



Best Practices for Businesses & Institutions

- Start fresh. Roll out **updated signage**, labeling, and bin placement
- **Retrain everyone** – stress that there can be no tolerance for contamination
- **Recruit custodians** to help identify sorting mistakes, problem areas
- Look at procurement – **buy things that are recyclable and/or have high recycled content**, encourage reusable
- Remind employees that **these guidelines and practices apply at home too**

Thank you!

To learn more, please visit:

casella.com



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