Seattle Public Utilities

2012 Recycling Rate Report

July 1, 2013

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1. INTRODUCTION

The report starts out by explaining the report's scope, how the recycling rate is calculated, and recycling program planning background. The second section presents overall 2012 results, as well as results for each solid waste "sector." The third section, on waste prevention, talks about waste prevention activities that touch all sectors. Section 4 lays out recycling program actions for 2013. The report concludes with references and links for further information. Comments on the report from the Seattle Solid Waste Advisory Committee are attached, as required by Resolution 30990.

1.1 SCOPE OF THE REPORT

This is the sixth annual recycling report for the City of Seattle, as called for by the 2007 Seattle City Council Resolution 30990.

"SPU will report to Council by July 1 of each year on the previous year's progress toward recycling goals, as well as further steps to be taken to meet goals in the current and upcoming years."

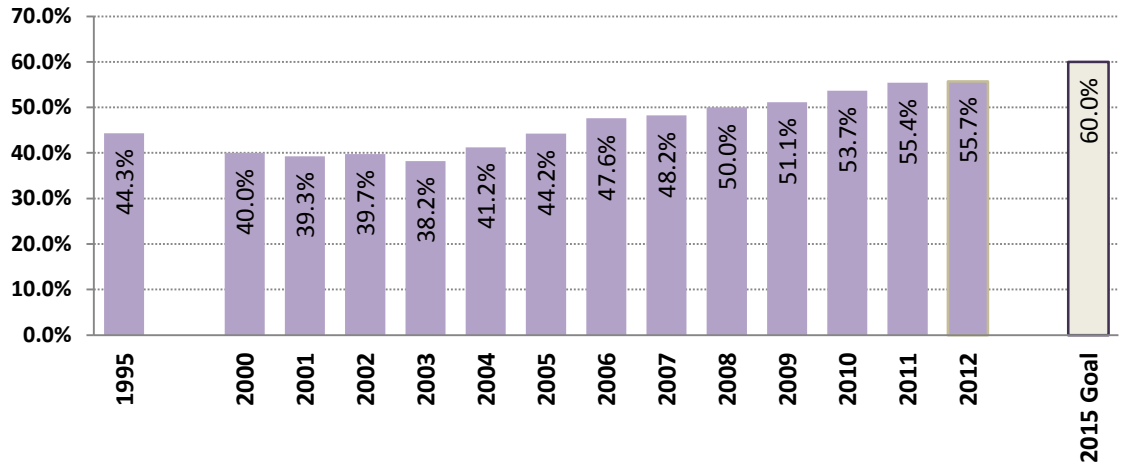
The Resolution set Seattle's goal to reach 60% recycling of municipal solid waste (MSW) by the year 2012, and 70% by 2025.

In February 2013 the city council adopted revised recycling goals by adopting "Seattle's Solid Waste Plan 2011 Revision." The revised goals for MSW are to: recycle 60% by the year 2015, and to recycle 70% by 2022. Further, for the first time Seattle set a goal to recycle 70% of construction and demolition debris by the year 2020.

Four different sectors contribute to the overall MSW rate: single family residential, multi family residential, self haul, and commercial.

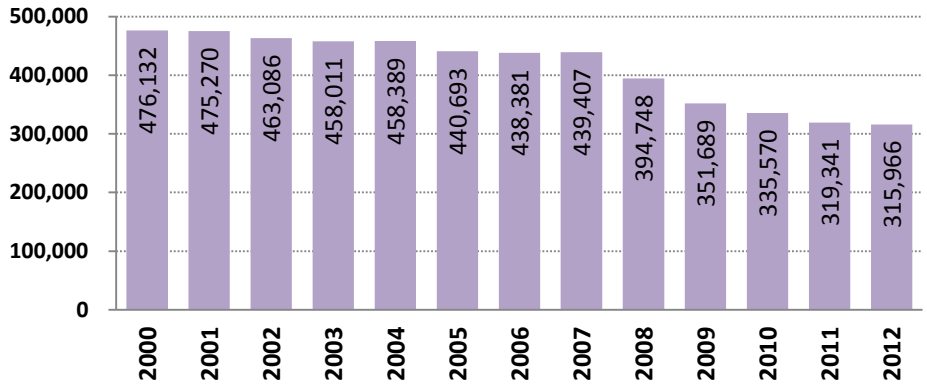
In 2012, Seattle recycled 55.7% of its MSW, an increase of 0.3 percentage points over 2011. The recycling rate has risen 17.5 percentage points since the 2003 low of 38.2%.

Figure 1 MSW Overall Recycling Rate Progress



Resolution 30990 set another goal, to reduce total MSW tons disposed by at least 1.0% each year. Tons disposed in 2012 dropped 1.1% compared to 2011. Since 2007, the average drop in tons disposed per year equals 6%.

Figure 2 MSW Tons Disposed in Landfill



1.2 About The Recycling Rate

Seattle's recycling rate is the percentage of municipal solid waste (MSW) diverted from the landfill by reuse, recycling and composting.

Seattle's MSW includes:

- Organics managed onsite by Seattle residents (yard debris and food scraps)
- All garbage, organics, and recyclables that businesses and residents set out for collection
- All garbage, organics, and recyclables hauled to the city's recycling and disposal stations for reuse, recycling or composting

Seattle's 60% goal combines separate goals for each of the four primary MSW sectors: single family residential, multi family residential, self haul, and commercial. The specific recycling goals for each sector are different since waste stream materials, opportunities to recycle, and likelihood of participation vary between the sectors.

The MSW recycling goal excludes construction and demolition (C&D) material. C&D disposed and recycled tons are counted separately in the C&D stream, and Seattle now has a separate recycling goal for C&D.

The MSW goal also excludes other special wastes. Moderate Risk Waste (MRW) includes household hazardous waste (HHW) like garden pesticides, and small quantity generator waste (SQGW) like solvents used at a small business. The Local Hazardous Waste Management Program (LHWMP) manages Seattle's moderate risk waste. The LHWMP is a joint program supported and implemented by Seattle, King County, Public Health - Seattle & King County, and the Sound Cities Association. The Seattle Municipal Code prohibits disposal of HHW and SQGW in the garbage.

Further, the recycling goal does not include other special categories of waste such as: biomedical wastes, biosolids, asbestos, petroleum contaminated soils, and Dangerous Waste (generally industrial), which state regulations exclude from MSW.

1.3 Action Planning Background

In 1998, the Seattle City Council adopted Seattle's Solid Waste Plan *On the Path to Sustainability*. It set a policy framework for the city focused on sustainability and stewardship, and established the goal of eliminating the maximum possible amount of waste as a guiding principle. It also identified programmatic goals and programs to achieve these goals. The 2004 Plan Amendment renewed Seattle's commitment to these policies and goals. The Seattle City Council adopted the 2011 Revision to the Plan in February 2013, which and the Plan was approved by Washington Department of Ecology in June 2013.

2. RECYCLING RATES

This section first presents recycling rates for MSW: overall, single and multifamily residential, self haul, and commercial. Following the MSW sectors, the section goes on to present the results for construction and demolition debris (C&D), which is tracked separately from MSW, and to discuss public space and parks outdoor open space recycling.

2.1 Overall MSW Recycling Performance

In 2012, Seattle's MSW recycling increased from 55.4% to 55.7%, an increase of 0.3 percentage points. This marks the 9th straight year of continuous recycling rate growth since 2003.

Note: The 2011 numbers for the single and multi-family sectors are slightly revised compared to last year's report for 2011, from adjustments to the calculations for food waste and yard waste.

Table 1 Recycling Rates All MSW Sectors 2000-2012

	Residential					
Year	**Single Family**	**Multi Family**	Res Total	**Self Haul**	**Commercial**	**Overall**
2000	58.0%	17.8%	47.8%	17.2%	41.6%	40.0%
2001	57.0%	22.0%	48.5%	17.8%	39.6%	39.3%
2002	57.5%	21.5%	48.3%	18.1%	40.7%	39.7%
2003	57.5%	22.2%	48.4%	18.1%	37.3%	38.2%
2004	58.9%	22.2%	49.4%	18.8%	42.5%	41.2%
2005	61.4%	25.2%	52.1%	19.2%	46.6%	44.2%
2006	64.0%	26.3%	54.3%	18.8%	51.7%	47.6%
2007	64.8%	27.6%	55.1%	19.2%	52.5%	48.2%
2008	65.4%	28.3%	55.9%	18.4%	54.7%	50.0%
2009	68.7%	27.0%	58.4%	16.7%	54.9%	51.1%
2010	70.3%	29.6%	60.3%	13.5%	58.9%	53.7%
2011	70.5%	28.7%	60.2%	13.1%	61.4%	55.4%
2012	71.1%	32.2%	61.0%	12.5%	61.4%	55.7%
2015 Goal	75.4%	42.5%	66.9%	32.9%	63.4%	60.0%

Overall, Seattle generated 2,192 fewer total MSW tons in 2012 than in 2011. Recycling grew by 1,183 tons. These changes led to reduced disposal, which dropped by 3,375 tons.

Table 2 Tons MSW Overall 2000-2012

Tons of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)

Year	Generated	Disposed	Recycled	Recycle Rate
2000	793,842	476,132	317,710	40.0%
2001	782,809	475,270	307,539	39.3%
2002	768,346	463,086	305,260	39.7%
2003	741,094	458,011	283,083	38.2%
2004	780,044	458,389	321,655	41.2%
2005	790,457	440,693	349,763	44.2%
2006	836,499	438,381	398,118	47.6%
2007	848,759	439,407	409,352	48.2%
2008	789,608	394,748	394,860	50.0%
2009	719,424	351,689	367,735	51.1%
2010	724,468	335,570	388,898	53.7%
2011	715,996	319,341	396,655	55.4%
2012	713,803	315,966	397,837	55.7%

2.2 TOTAL MSW DISPOSED

This section addresses Resolution 30990 (2007) goals for total MSW waste disposed (landfilled). Specifically:

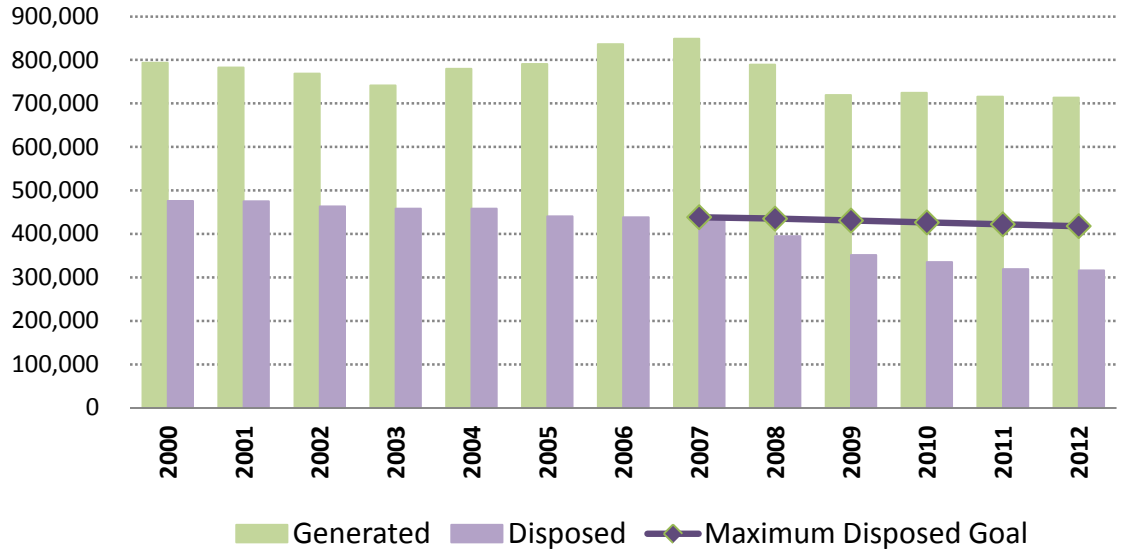
- The city will not dispose of any more total solid waste in future years than went to the landfill in 2006 (438,000 tons MSW), and;
- For the next five years, the city will reduce the amount of solid waste disposed by at least 1% per year (2008-2012).

Seattle disposed 3,375 fewer tons in 2012 compared to 2011, a 1.1% decrease. Compared to 2007 (when generation peaked), disposed tons are down 28%, or 123,441 annual tons.

Table 3 MSW Tons Change – Overall Generated & Disposed

MSW Tons Change from Prior Year				
Year	Generated	Percent Change	Disposed	Percent Change
2000	793,842	NA	476,132	NA
2001	782,809	-1.4%	475,270	-0.2%
2002	768,346	-1.8%	463,086	-2.6%
2003	741,094	-3.5%	458,011	-1.1%
2004	780,044	5.3%	458,389	0.1%
2005	790,457	1.3%	440,693	-3.9%
2006	836,499	5.8%	438,381	-0.5%
2007	848,759	1.5%	439,407	0.2%
2008	789,608	-7.0%	394,748	-10.2%
2009	719,424	-8.9%	351,689	-10.9%
2010	724,468	0.7%	335,570	-4.6%
2011	715,996	-1.2%	319,341	-4.8%
2012	713,803	-0.3%	315,966	-1.1%

Figure 3 MSW Tons Disposed Compared to Goal



We anticipate that further growth in our recycling and waste reduction programs will reduce MSW tons disposed. However, this effect can be muddled by factors in the overall economy that also drive MSW tons generated. We suspect that a good share of the sizable drop seen since 2007 is due to the economic downturn. For example, an analysis looking at the decline in commercial tons between 2004 and 2009 indicated that about half the decline in tons disposed was due to factors related to the economy and about half due to new recycling programs.

2.3 RESIDENTIAL: SINGLE FAMILY RECYCLING PERFORMANCE

The single family sector includes households on "can" (or cart) garbage service (as opposed to dumpsters). These are mostly single family, and duplex to 4-plex households. They set out garbage (disposal), recycling and organics (yard and food) for collection at the curb. They also compost some food and yard waste at their homes.

Note: The 2011 numbers for the single family sector are slightly revised compared to last year's report for 2011, from adjustments to the calculations for food waste and yard waste

In 2012, the single family sector again surpassed prior achievement by reaching a new **highest ever recycling rate**. Recycling increased 0.6 percentage points to 71.1%.

2012 also saw a 0.8% decrease in total generated tons. Recycled tons increased by 42 (0.0%), and disposed tons decreased by 1,873 (-2.9%).

Figure 4 Recycling Rate – Single Family

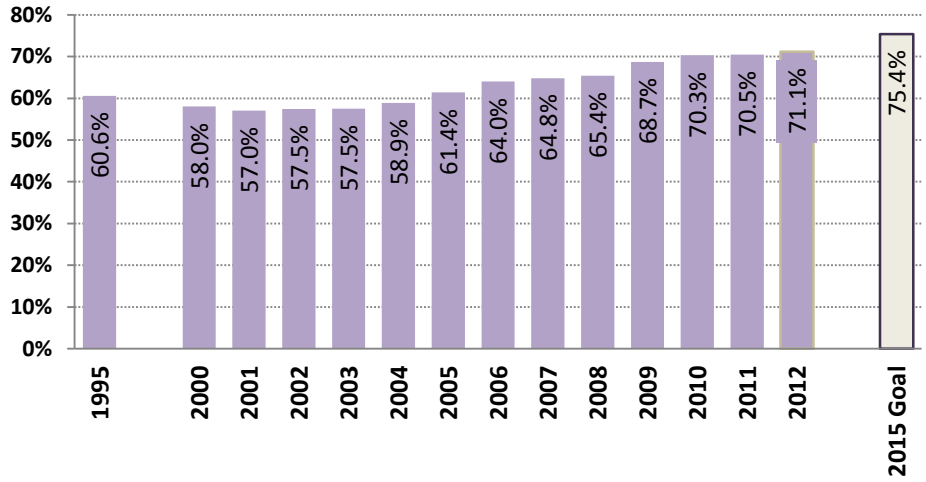


Table 4 Tons Single Family 2000-2012

Tons - Single Family				
Year	Generated	Disposed	Recycled	Recycle Rate
2000	208,468	87,499	120,969	58.0%
2001	211,982	91,072	120,910	57.0%
2002	206,474	87,834	118,640	57.5%
2003	205,748	87,426	118,322	57.5%
2004	209,132	86,029	123,103	58.9%
2005	208,675	80,478	128,197	61.4%
2006	216,946	78,078	138,868	64.0%
2007	220,128	77,494	142,634	64.8%
2008	213,889	73,961	139,928	65.4%
2009	215,015	67,229	147,786	68.7%
2010	216,484	64,309	152,175	70.3%
2011	212,861	62,779	150,082	70.5%
2012	211,030	60,906	150,124	71.1%

The single family sector needs a 4.3% rise in its recycling rate to achieve its 2015 goal. In terms of 2012 tons, 8,993 more tons would have needed to be recycled.

Program Highlights – Single Family

- Continuing from 2011, another $100,000 in grants awarded to neighborhoods and businesses through Waste Management and CleanScapes' Neighborhood Recycling Rewards programs
- Television, internet and transit residential composting advertising campaign viewed by more than 1 million residents
- 30,000 compostable kitchen compost bags provided to residents via partnership with Glad
- As done in 2011, more than 1,000 kitchen compost containers, 2,000 reusable bags and 3,000 recycling fliers were distributed at 30 community events
- Seattle residents purchased more than 1,000 discounted kitchen compost containers during Compost Days, a partnership with Cedar Grove Composting.
- 10,000 kitchen compost containers distributed at Safeco Field in partnership with BASF, EcoSafe and the Seattle Mariners

2.4 Residential: Multi Family Recycling Performance

The multi family sector includes apartment and condominium buildings. These buildings contain five or more units and generally use dumpsters instead of tote carts for garbage. Material collected includes garbage, recycling, and food and yard waste.

In 2012, recycling in the multi family sector reversed 2011's drop by rising 3.5 percentage points to a level of 32.2%. With this achievement the multi family sector joins the single family sector in achieving its highest ever recycling rate. In 2011 multi-family total generation decreased, then generation increased 4,387 tons (6.3%) in 2012. Disposed tons increased by 504 tons (1%) and recycling increased by 3,883 tons (19.3%) in 2012.

Figure 5 Recycling Rate – Multi Family

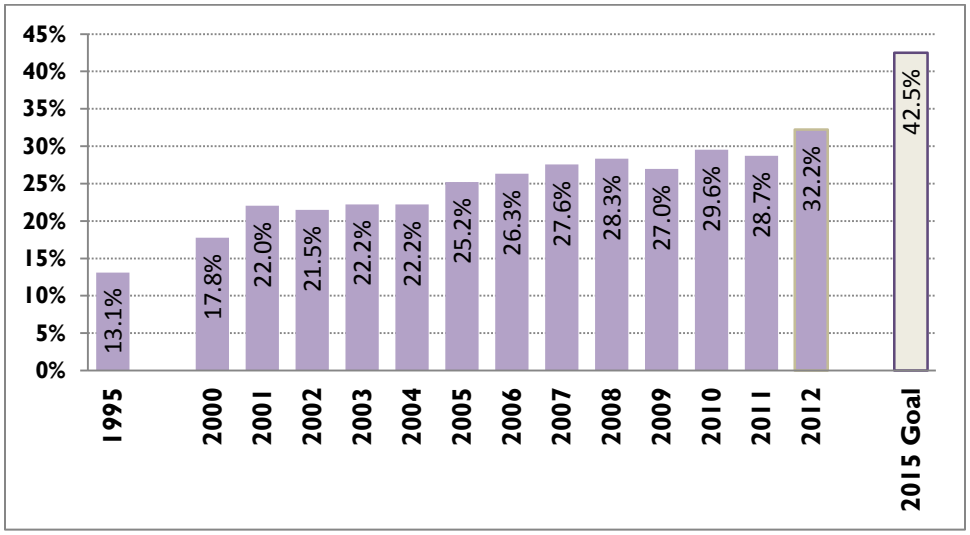


Table 5 Tons Multi Family 2000-2012

Tons - Multi Family				
Year	Generated	Disposed	Recycled	Recycle Rate
2000	70,944	58,333	12,611	17.8%
2001	68,611	53,487	15,124	22.0%
2002	70,144	55,076	15,068	21.5%
2003	72,149	56,106	16,043	22.2%
2004	72,640	56,498	16,142	22.2%
2005	72,325	54,080	18,245	25.2%
2006	75,545	55,643	19,903	26.3%
2007	77,108	55,847	21,261	27.6%
2008	74,223	53,199	21,024	28.3%
2009	70,524	51,497	19,028	27.0%
2010	70,675	49,788	20,887	29.6%
2011	70,145	49,993	20,152	28.7%
2012	74,532	50,497	24,035	32.2%

The multi family sector needs a 10.3% rise in its recycling rate to achieve its 2015 goal. In terms of 2012 tons, 7,641 more tons would have needed to be recycled.

Program Highlights – Multi Family

- Food waste service requirement expanded to all apartments as of September 2011. Full roll-out completed January 2012.
- More than 4,700 multi family properties signed up for food waste collection
- Delivered 7,500 free kitchen compost containers to multi-family properties
- Signed up 200 new Friends of Recycling and Composting (FORC) volunteers (1,183 total FORCS 2010-2012)
- Trained 180 FORCs in four trainings

2.5 SELF HAUL

The self haul sector includes material brought (or "self hauled") by residents, businesses and governmental agencies to the two city-owned recycling and disposal (transfer) stations. It does not include the material transferred by Seattle's contracted collection haulers.

Recycling in the self haul sector includes organics (food and yard waste, clean wood), appliances and metals, and other recyclable material.

In 2012, the self haul sector recycling rate fell 0.6 percentage points compared to 2011, continuing the trend in annual decreases since 2007. At the same time, total generation dropped 1,208 tons (-1.5%) compared to 2011. Disposed tons dropped by 559 tons (-0.8%), and recycling dropped 649 tons (-6.0%). Since 2007, total generation has dropped 39.2%.

Looking deeper into the numbers offers some possible explanations for self haul recycling decreases.

- Commercial businesses and large institution (for example, Seattle Housing Authority, University of Washington) bring the bulk of material self hauled to the transfer stations. If they have pure loads of recyclables, they can usually take them directly to processors. That recycling is credited to the residential or commercial sectors, not self haul
- Since 2007, self haul yard waste (organics) has dropped by 53.7% (from 14,247 tons to 6,593 tons). This drop is likely due to three factors. First, because of the recession there may be less demand for landscape and yard care services. Second, residents and landscapers may be taking advantage of competing yard waste drop-off locations in or near Seattle. Third, homeowners may be making greater use of their food and yard waste curbside collection service. In 2009 it became mandatory for all single family customers to sign up for food and yard waste collection. At the same time, food and yard waste collection increased from every other week to weekly service.
- Compared to 2007, recycling (not including organics) decreased by 68.7% (from 11,200 tons to 3,501 tons), whereas self haul garbage tons decreased by 34.2%. Since the bulk of drop-off recycling is metals, mostly appliances, the decrease in appliance tons may be a result of less purchasing in general, as well as the overall drop in economic activity.

- Self haul trips to the stations also continued to decrease--by 3.2% or 7,196 fewer trips in 2012 compared to 2011.

Figure 6 Recycling Rate – Self Haul

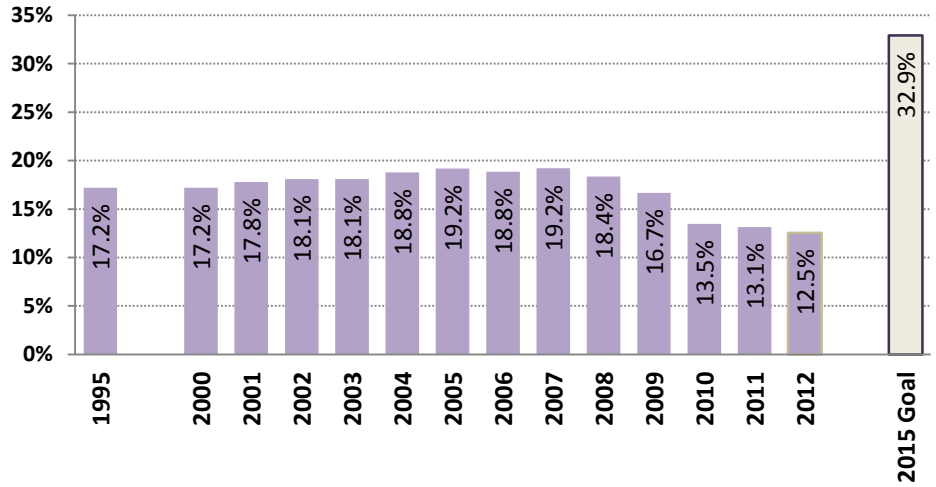


Table 6 Tons Self Haul 2000-2012

Tons - Self Haul				
Year	Generated	Disposed	Recycled	Recycle Rate
2000	123,024	101,883	21,141	17.2%
2001	124,453	102,305	22,148	17.8%
2002	125,710	102,981	22,729	18.1%
2003	123,597	101,232	22,365	18.1%
2004	122,819	99,750	23,069	18.8%
2005	124,364	100,499	23,865	19.2%
2006	127,444	103,429	24,015	18.8%
2007	132,545	107,098	25,447	19.2%
2008	111,229	90,814	20,415	18.4%
2009	97,893	81,565	16,328	16.7%
2010	91,618	79,293	12,325	13.5%
2011	81,776	71,033	10,743	13.1%
2012	80,568	70,474	10,094	12.5%

The self haul sector needs a 20.4% rise in its recycling rate to achieve its 2015 goal. In terms of 2012 tons, 16,433 more tons would have needed to be recycled.

Program Highlights – Self Haul

SPU does not expect to see significant self haul recycling rate increases until the station rebuilds are complete. SPU completed the first phase of the South Transfer Station 2nd quarter 2013.

The replacement of both stations is expected to be complete by 2016. Separated recycling and reuse drop-off areas ahead of the scale will provide easier access for self haul customers. However, separate recycling drop off at the south facility won't be in place until the completion of South's Phase 2, expected in 2018 The expanded floor space inside the new South Transfer will allow experimenting with post-dumping sorting of high-grade construction and demolition loads.

2.6 COMMERCIAL

The commercial sector includes garbage, recyclables and compostable materials collected from commercial businesses.

The commercial sector's recycling rate stayed steady at 61.4%, the same rate as 2011. This sector's recycling rate is up 24.1 percentage points since hitting a low in 2003.

Total commercial generation reversed the increase seen in 2011, by decreasing 3,540 tons in 2012. Recycled tons dropped by 2,093 tons and disposal dropped 1,447 tons. Compared to 2007, total generated tons are down by 17.0%

Figure 7 Recycling Rate – Commercial

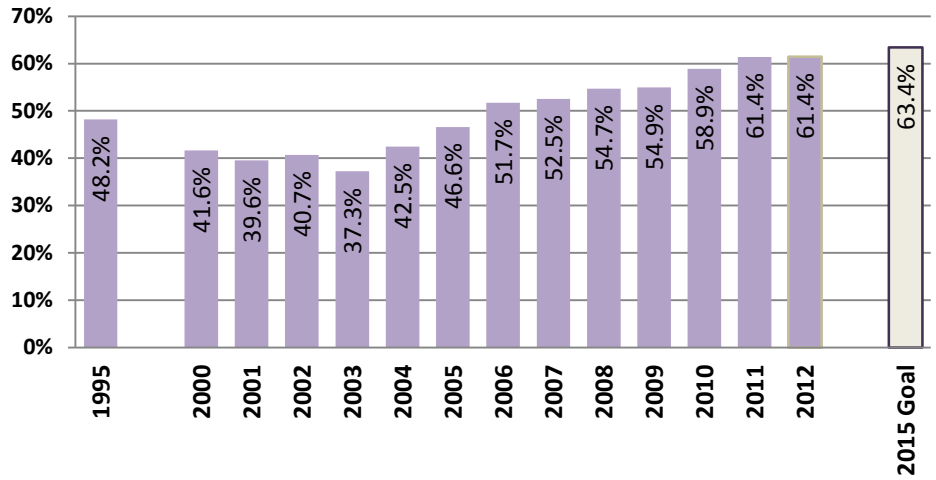


Table 7 Tons Commercial 2000-2012

Tons - Commercial				
Year	Generated	Disposed	Recycled	Recycle Rate
2000	391,406	228,417	162,989	41.6%
2001	377,927	228,405	149,522	39.6%
2002	366,224	217,195	149,029	40.7%
2003	339,844	213,247	126,597	37.3%
2004	375,739	216,112	159,627	42.5%
2005	385,093	205,637	179,456	46.6%
2006	416,564	201,231	215,333	51.7%
2007	418,979	198,968	220,011	52.5%
2008	390,267	176,774	213,493	54.7%
2009	335,992	151,398	184,593	54.9%
2010	345,692	142,180	203,511	58.9%
2011	351,214	135,536	215,678	61.4%
2012	347,673	134,089	213,584	61.4%

The commercial sector needs a 2.0% rise in its recycling rate to achieve its 2015 goal. In terms of 2012 tons, 6,841 more tons would have needed to be recycled.

Program Highlights – Commercial

- Launched Golden Dumpster Awards green business recognition program in collaboration with CleanScapes and BOMA
- More than 150 businesses signed up for food waste collection, diverting 3,000 more tons from the landfill
- In collaboration with King County, SPU is working to increase recycling of carpet and mattresses and for each a few collection depots or processors have begun operation. Some of the gains in recycling these products also occur in residential programs.

2.7 Construction and Demolition Debris (C&D)

The C&D sector is comprised of C&D materials (sometimes called "CDL") – construction, demolition, and land clearing debris) which are not mixed with MSW. These materials are collected by a firm under contract with the city for C&D, or are self hauled to private facilities. Smaller amounts of C&D materials mixed with MSW, and delivered to the SPU's transfer stations, are counted as MSW and not included in the measure of C&D recycling and disposal. In general, C&D generation correlates closely with economic and building activity cycles.

The hierarchy of C&D materials that SPU tracks includes:

Recycling. Wastes separated for recycling or reuse.

Beneficial Use – not recycled or reused, but used for some other purpose like industrial boiler fuel. Counted as disposal in the recycling rate, and counted as diverted in the diversion rate.

Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) and Industrial Waste Stabilizer (IWS) – Counted as disposal in the recycling rate. ADC covers the active face of a landfill instead of soil. IWS provides structure in specialized landfills.

Disposal – material permanently placed in a landfill.

In addition to the recycling rate, for C&D we calculate the "**diversion**" rate, the sum of recycling and beneficial use.

Obtaining timely C&D recycling data continues to be a challenge. For the third year in a row, this report contains revised numbers for the prior year – in this case 2011. The revisions come from updated data from late recycler reports and interviews with individual processors located outside Seattle who are not required to report

In 2012, the C&D recycling rate decreased 3.7 percentage points. The C&D diversion rate for the same period also decreased accordingly, although beneficial use increased 1.1 percentage points.

Figure 8 C&D Recycling and Diversion Rate

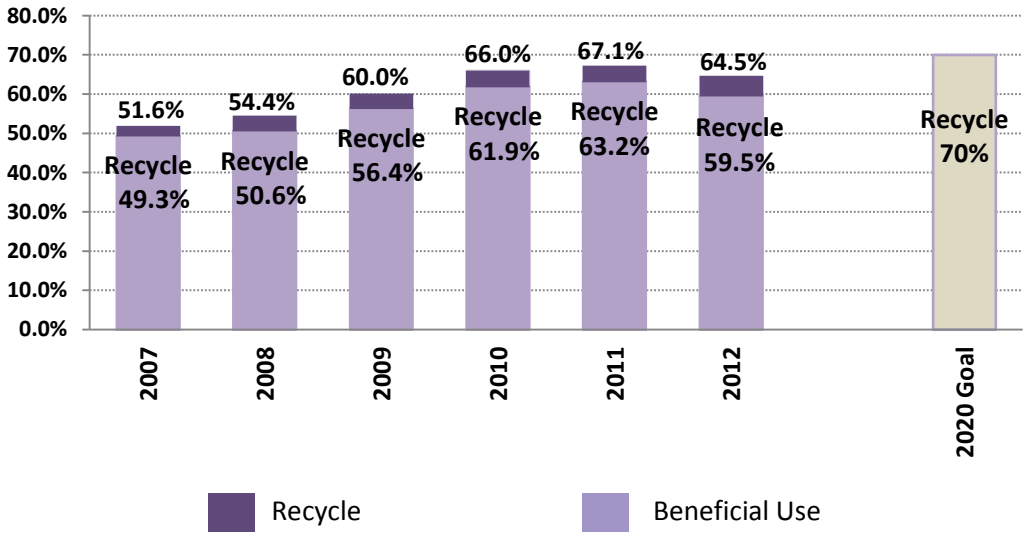


Table 8 Tons Construction & Demolition Debris 2007-2012

Year	Total Generated	Disposed*	Recycled	Beneficial Use	Recycle Rate	Diversion Rate
2007	415,801	201,156	204,907	9,738	49.3%	51.6%
2008	397,052	181,241	200,851	14,961	50.6%	54.4%
2009	288,551	115,446	162,742	10,362	56.4%	60.0%
2010	288,957	97,241	178,794	11,864	61.9%	66.0%
2011	359,390	118,216	227,049	14,125	63.2%	67.1%
2012	376,328	129,383	224,060	18,519	59.9%	64.5%

*Includes ADC and IWS
Note: 2011 numbers are updated compared to last year's report.

Program Highlights – C&D

- Effective January 1, 2012, new disposal ban on asphalt paving, bricks and concrete (ABC) in job site containers and at private and public transfer stations. Active enforcement begins 2013.
- SPU educated contractors about the ABC ban in 2012
- In 2012 SPU laid the groundwork for future C&D recycling initiatives, including
    - Bans on additional materials to be phased in over next 2-3 years
    - Processing facility certification
    - Reporting by Seattle building permit holders

2.8 Public Space Recycling & Parks Outdoor Open Space Recycling

In 2012, the Department of Parks and Recreation continued with recycling collection cans in open spaces in parks citywide. Collection cans are strategically sited based on lessons learned during a 2008 pilot project. Targeted materials include aluminum cans, and plastic and glass beverage containers.

State law requires recycling at large events. SPU is working with event promoters to ensure that their food vendors comply with the regulation that single-use food ware and packaging are either compostable or recyclable and collected for proper processing.

The public place recycling program pairs street side litter cans with beverage container recycling cans in commercial areas throughout the city. About half of all street side litter cans are paired with a recycling can.

3. WASTE PREVENTION

SPU's waste prevention programs work to reduce waste volumes from households and businesses. They also seek to reduce toxics in goods purchased by people, institutions and businesses. Wherever possible, SPU seeks to quantify results, and takes credit in the MSW recycling rate.

Program Highlights – Waste Prevention

- By the end of 2012, more than 75,000 residents and businesses opted out of more than 430,000 individual phone directory deliveries, saving more than 400 tons of paper. At the same time, the near-complete withdrawal of one yellow pages publisher from the Seattle market, reduced deliveries by another 600,000 books, pushing the total annual paper savings above 1,000 tons. That level of prevention is expected to continue under an agreement with the Local Search Association to recognize Seattle's now discontinued opt-out program.
- 2012 was 1st year of Seattle's ban on lightweight, single-use carryout bags. Resulted in almost complete disappearance annually of 290,000 plastic bags, the 2007 estimated use
- To date, 11 restaurants cited for using EPS (Styrofoam®) food service containers, banned from use in 2009
- School Recycling and Waste Reduction Grants:
    - SPU continued providing grant support to 13 schools, and awarded new grants to 17 schools. Altogether, the grants support 9,000 students at 19 public and 11 private schools to divert approximately 200 tons of food waste from the garbage. 3 schools focused on improving existing food waste and recycling programs; the remaining 27 schools started new food waste collection programs
- Washington Green Schools saw 9 schools accomplish certification, 15 schools joined raising the total to 62, conducted a Seattle Summit with wide participation, and conducted teacher training
- Master Gardener-Composter program and Hotline continued, with grant-supported increase in grass-cycling promotion
- As member of NW Product Stewardship Council, supported product stewardship legislation for leftover architectural paint and rechargeable batteries

4. RECYCLING & WASTE REDUCTION ACTIVITIES FOR 2013

The following lists 2013 waste reduction and recycling activities that are underway or planned.

Table 9 Recycling Activities 2013

Work Item	Deliverable or Planned Outcome
1. Food Plus	Amend ordinance to clarify that compostable food ware is required.
2. Self haul and bulky item pickup	Plan changes in self haul and bulky item pickup to match C&D bans with attention to new mattress recycling programs.
3. Grass cycling promotion	$90k largest in years
4. Product stewardship analysis and support for legislative liaisons	Possible battery bill. Successful paint bill less likely
5. New organics processing contracts	Contracts signed 2Q13
6. Collection contracts changes	Amendments to support possibility of future One Less Truck program signed 4Q13

Work Item	Deliverable or Planned Outcome
7. One Less Truck	Final report completed 2Q13
8. Residential food diversion promotion	6,000 additional tons diverted by 4Q13
9. Business food diversion promotion	3,000 additional tons diverted by 4Q13
10. Construction & Demolition Debris (C&D) ban outreach	New materials and outreach completed by 4Q13
11. C&D diversion reports	Department of Planning & Development project reporting system completed 4Q13
12. C&D facility certification	Director's Rule completed and initial list published by 4Q13
13. C&D diversion at stations	Pilot at South Transfer Station Q4

Given the small increase in the recycling rate between 2011 and 2012, SPU will be reassessing its range of recycling and waste prevention program investments in July 2013—for the rest of 2013 and into 2014. We may shift funding and staff resources to program areas more likely to support achieving our goal to achieve 60% recycling by 2015.

5. CONCLUSION

We congratulate all the households in Seattle's single- and multi-family sectors for their recycling gains. These are remarkable achievements and demonstrate Seattle's commitment to environmentally responsible solid waste management.

Please see Seattle's Solid Waste Plan for more background on recycling planning. More detailed sector and historical information may be found on SPU's web site at Solid Waste Reports--Seattle Public Utilities, including:

- Prior annual recycling reports
- Composition studies by sector/garbage/recycling
- Quarterly and yearly tons for garbage, recycling, organics, C&D
- Recycling market and Seattle recycling value
- Surveys

Recycling continues to be a sound investment by the city as well as a key part of our climate action strategy.