Steps To Take To Add Cartons – Communities

Food and beverage cartons are recyclable! Now that more than 60 percent of U.S. households have access to carton recycling, it is more important than ever to get on board with carton recycling.

Adding cartons will help divert a growing amount of materials from the waste stream and create another source of revenue from the sale of this valuable commodity. The Carton Council is here to help add cartons to your recycling program.

Consider reaching out to the Carton Council. Our team can walk through what is needed to get a carton recycling program up and running. We have worked with local public works and/or sanitation departments to find efficient solutions for adding cartons to local recycling programs. Contact us: info@recyclecartons.com.

Here’s how to begin accepting cartons:

**Step One:** Talk to your recycling processor to see if they already accept food and beverage (aseptic and gable-top) cartons. Many already do, but you may not know it. If the processor does NOT already accept cartons, we would be more than happy to work with them directly to get them on board and have a variety of ways we can make it easy for them, including providing technical assistance. The Carton Council can even work with the facility to connect them with a broker to ensure a suitable end market for the recycled cartons.

**Step Two:** Once food and beverage cartons are accepted in your facility, the next step is crucial: making sure residents are informed. Research reveals that recycling is seen as a local issue and using a variety of local communications is most effective. The first step is to make sure cartons are included in the list of accepted materials on the city and materials recycling facility (MRF) website and any other place that talks about what can and cannot be recycled. We have resources to help educate residents and promote carton recycling, including materials and a consumer-friendly website where residents can find more information.

The best way to communicate that cartons can and should be recycled is:

- **List cartons as a separate category**, just like you would paper, plastics, glass, etc.
- **Provide examples of products cartons are used for**, including milk, juice, soup, broth, wine, etc.
- **Include images of various types of cartons**.

**Step Three:** Let us know! When a community adds cartons, we would be more than happy to promote the fact by including that community in our zip-code locator that consumers use to find out about carton recycling availability. To obtain more information and resources, please contact: info@recyclecartons.com.