PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CVWMA Announces Changes to Its

Residential Recycling and Drop-off Recycling Programs

Plastic Bottles and Containers #1- #7, Waxy Cartons

Recyclers throughout the Central Virginia Waste Management Authority (CVWMA) service area have been asking for years to be able to recycle more than the #1 and #2 narrow neck plastic bottles currently accepted in its Residential Recycling (Curbside) and Drop-Off Recycling Programs. With the advancement of modern technology and new markets, CVWMA is pleased to announce that starting July 1, additional plastic bottles and containers with the number 1-7 on the bottom as well as waxy cartons will be now accepted for recycling.

"CVWMA is always looking for cost effective ways for its member local governments to be able to implement programs or to enhance existing programs to make recycling easier in the region, to reduce the amount of waste going to local landfills, and to protect and conserve natural resources. With these additional items being added to its programs, the Authority will be part of recycling programs nationwide that accept all plastic bottles and containers and the waxy cartons" says the Executive Director of the Central Virginia Waste Management Authority, Kim Hynes.

Accepted items for recycling will now include plastics #1- #7 bottles and containers, caps and lids (all free of food and residue), and waxy cartons such as milk, juice, juice boxes, and egg substitutes. No plastics bags, Styrofoam, food contaminated pizza boxes are accepted. When in doubt, visit our website at <u>www.cvwma.com</u>

CVWMA is working closely with its member localities to implement these exciting new changes being added to its existing residential recycling and drop-off programs and to educate over 1.1 million residents living within the CVWMA service area on these changes. Please look for a variety of ongoing In-Home, Away-from-Home and Online communications from the Authority as well as our member localities. In addition, the Authority operates a Customer Service Center available to answer your questions from 7:30 am – 5 pm Monday through Friday.

The Virginia Department on Environmental Quality recently affirmed the <u>CVWMA's Regional</u> <u>Recycling Rate</u> at 58.8% for Calendar Year 2015. With these additional items now being added to our signature programs starting July 1, further enhances our mission of increasing recycling. "We applaud the dedicated work that's gone into ensuring that Virginians can recycle more materials, more easily," says Keefe Harrison, Executive Director of The Recycling Partnership, a national nonprofit transforming recycling in towns all across America. "Recycling is an essential part of a thriving environment and economy and CVWMA, a former grant recipient of The Recycling Partnership, shines as an action-focused local leader."

The Recycling Partnership

The Recycling Partnership (recyclingpartnership.org) is a dynamic industry collaboration focused on systematically and measurably improving curbside recycling in the United States. Working with community and industry partners nationwide, our strength lies in our best-inclass operational and technical support, proven community outreach approaches, and highly-leveraged seed grants to communities.

"We are very excited to be able to announce these additional items that can be recycled" says Kim Hynes.

For more information, recyclers in the CVWMA service area can call the Recycling Hotline at 340-0900 or visit <u>www.cvwma.com</u>, or <u>on Facebook</u>, or on <u>Twitter</u>.

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Serving the cities of Colonial Heights, Hopewell, Petersburg and Richmond, the Town of Ashland and the counties of Charles City, Chesterfield, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, New Kent, Powhatan and Prince George

Mission: Fostering regional collaboration to provide planning, resources and education in order to reduce, reuse, recycle and manager solid waste for our 13 jurisdictions.

Vision: To being the recognized leader in regionally sustainable waste management practices that protect the environment.