

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT

Nancy Drumheller, Public Affairs Manager

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Central Virginia Waste Management Authority

2100 West Laburnum Avenue, Suite 105, Richmond, Virginia 23227

(804) 359-8413 ♦ fax (804) 359-8421 ♦ www.cvwma.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Congratulations Central Virginia! CVWMA's Regional Recycling Rate @ 59% for CY 2017

Thanks to the efforts and commitment to recycling by central Virginia citizens and businesses the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VA DEQ) has notified Central Virginia Waste Management Authority (CVWMA) that its [regional recycling rate](#) has once again **exceeded 55 percent!** This means that an estimated 59% of the waste generated in our region for Calendar Year (CY) 2017 was recycled and kept out of area landfills.

CVWMA, a cooperative government agency that coordinates recycling and other waste management programs with thirteen area local governments, compiles the annual regional recycling rate and submits the information to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. State law requires that the region recycle at least 25 percent of their waste each year.

Nearly 81,529 tons of paper-related material (newspaper, office paper and cardboard) was recycled in 2017. Yard waste and wood waste which are chipped into compost or mulch comprise another 206,672 tons recycled. Metals, textiles, glass and plastic are also measured for the report. Auto bodies, appliances, and assorted other metal items made up the nearly 106,001 tons of metal that were recycled in 2017. Clothing donations to organizations such as Goodwill and the Salvation Army contribute to the textiles total of about 8,659 tons.

The trash generation figure is an estimate based on national research. The Environmental Protection Agency (Franklin Associates) estimates that citizens create an average of 4.44 pounds of trash per person per day.

The recycling rate is computed by dividing the amount recycled in the region by the amount of trash generated. The amount recycled is gathered from local and national businesses providing recycling to the area. **The total amount recycled and not land filled for the region in CY 2017 was 517, 285 tons.**

CVWMA recycling programs include residential (curbside) collection and drop-off centers; yard waste, electronics, appliances, batteries, HHW and tires to name a few. Residential (Curbside) recycling collects approximately 36,000 tons annually; drop-off recycling, about 5,600 tons. That is a lot of paper, bottles, cartons, and cans!

The regional rate has remained above 55 percent for the past several years, making central Virginia one of the highest recycling regions in the state. Variations in the rate are attributed to the number of businesses who provide information to CVWMA. Contributions are voluntary.

For more information on CVWMA programs, visit www.cvwma.com; [CVWMA on Facebook](#); [CVWMA on Twitter](#); and [CVWMA on Instagram](#).

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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.