

## Recent Changes to Recycling

### Frequently Asked Questions by County Residents

- **Why did you change the policy that county residents can no longer use the city recycling centers?** This is not a change in policy. For years, the City of Maryville recycling centers have been designated in our ordinances that they are for city resident use only, and the centers have been signed as such. However, that signage has been ignored, and as long as there was capacity and few cost issues, it was not enforced.

The implementation of single stream recycling - allowing all recyclables to be placed in one container and eliminating the need to sort recyclables - greatly increased our recycling center usage and surpassed our ability to meet the demand.

For several months prior to the changes, the centers were becoming overrun with trash and materials. The centers were unsightly and many of our citizens voiced complaints about the problem. The capacity of the centers could not accommodate the new demand placed on them

- **Why do you assume that county residents are the problem?** We are not accusing the county residents of specifically causing problems. Because of the magnitude of trash and recyclable materials dropped off at the centers recently, we have had to change our procedures in order to be fiscally able to provide recycling for our citizens, which is who we represent and to whom we provide solid waste services.
- **I have helped support the City of Maryville over the years by shopping and working in the City even though I do not live in the City. Why can I not use the city recycling centers?** City of Maryville solid waste services are funded primarily by property taxes that are paid only by City residents and property owners. Recycling falls into this category.
- **Can I pay a fee to use centers as a county resident?** It is more of a capacity issue than a monetary issue at this time. There are a maximum number of trucks, trips and manpower that can service the recycling bins, and we are at that capacity. The only way we can do recycling at this time is to manage the amount of recyclables that the contractor has to process.
- **Why should City residents be allowed to use landfill if it sits on City property?** The landfill is owned by Maryville, Alcoa and Blount County. Maryville and Blount County contract with Alcoa to operate the landfill. It is operated by tipping fees. No tax dollars go into directly operating the landfill.
- **Why don't you just open more centers and hire more transporters to haul recyclables?** This is not fiscally responsible for our citizens. Two recycling centers and the recycler we use are sufficient for City of Maryville residents.
- **As a county resident, what is the best way to register my complaint?** Can I help change this in some way? The best option for a county resident is to contact your county commissioner. The county has set up a group to discuss this issue, and they need to know what their constituents want. The City of Maryville has offered to contribute to this group in whatever way is requested.
- **Where can county residents recycle now?**  
<http://www.keepblountbeautiful.org/RecyclingResources.html>