MCPS Fall Sustainability Symposium
Hosted by the
Division of
Sustainability and Compliance

#### AMERICA RECYCLES DAY

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rethink in MCPS
Presented by Division of Sustainability & Compliance Staff

Georgetown Paper Stock of Rockville Ms. Dawn Selis, Vice President

**Questions & Answers** 

sustainability@mcpsmd.org
Telephone: 240-740-3210



Recycling is one of the best ways to make our world a better place by protecting our natural environment and preserving the world for future generations. We can make a difference for a cleaner and environmentally sustainable world by taking the proper steps to reduce, reuse, recycle, and rethink.

Montgomery County Public Schools helps by reducing solid waste, increasing recycling, and reusing materials from many different waste streams.

In fact, MCPS recycles over 20 different items:

- · Printer & toner cartridges
  - · Wood pallets
    - Construction material
      - · Vegetable oil
        - Motor oil

MCPS also requests products to be made from recycled material and sustainable packaging.



When a school is set for a revitalization/expansion project, MCPS reuses or recycles almost 90% of the old building.



## The Division of Sustainability and Compliance continues to look for ways to reduce and recycle products used in our schools and facilities.



MCPS now recycles single-use batteries which contain many different recyclable materials.

It is estimated that 3 billion batteries are thrown away each year by Americans.



Schools across the nation compete annually to see who can recycle the most plastic film.

The challenge begins on America Recycling Day and ends on April 15<sup>th</sup>.



Americans use 100 billion plastic bags a year, which require 12 million barrels of oil to manufacture.

## Composting is a great way to recycle the organic waste we generate at home and at schools. Food scraps and garden waste make up more than 28 percent of what we throw away.

#### MCPS Food Scraps Composting Pilot Program



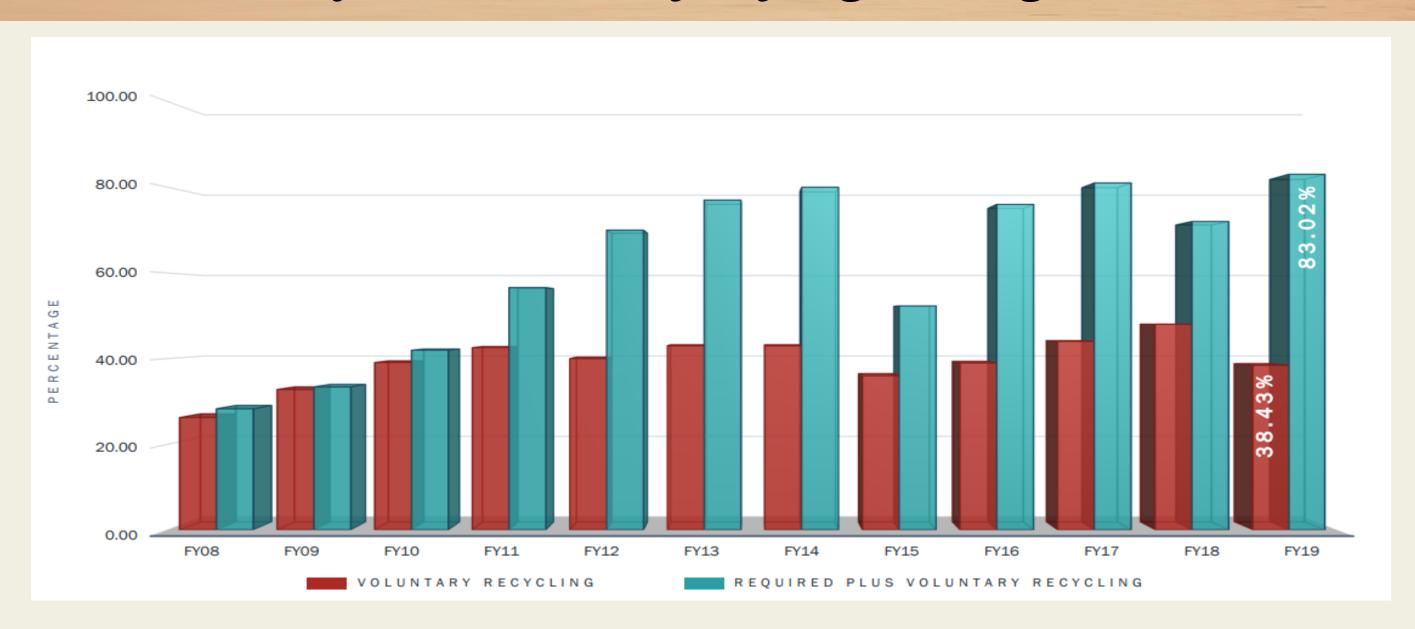
MCPS and the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection has joined forces to implement a preconsumer food scraps recycling program at the MCPS Food & Nutrition Central Facility and the Carver Educational Services Center cafeteria.

The two pilot locations captured 2,055 pounds of composting during three weeks in October. The food scraps diverted from our waste stream will be turned into a valuable fertilizer that enriches our soil and plants.

Compost can be used to remediate soils contaminated by hazardous waste in a cost-effective manner.

We have made significant strides, but we still have a ways to go!
With your commitment to recycle, we can help make MCPS a greener school system!

### Required and Voluntary Recycling Percentages



Once the paper and cardboard leaves MCPS schools, it is taken to Georgetown Paper Stock where it is to be off loaded and weighed.





#### One ton of recycled office paper saves:

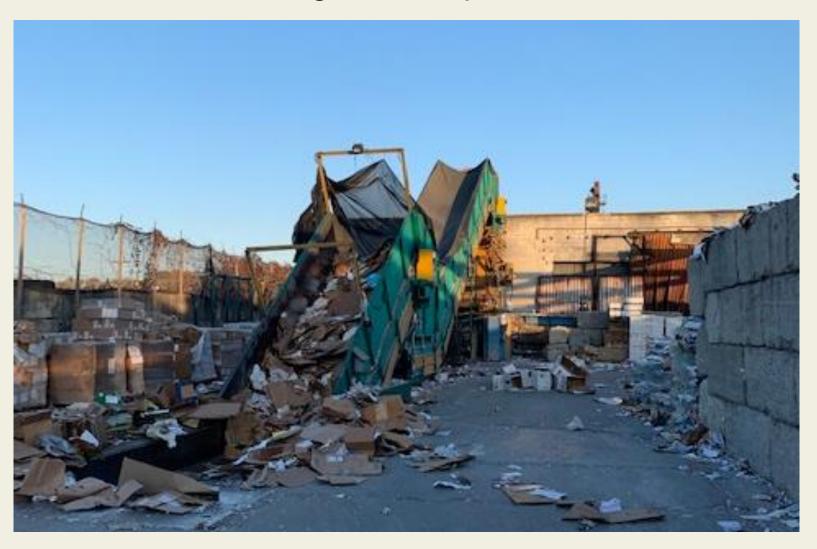
- · 4,100 Kwh of energy,
- · 9 barrels of oil,
- 54 million BTU's of energy,
- · 60 pounds of air pollutants from being released,
- · 7,000 gallons of water, and
- · 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space.

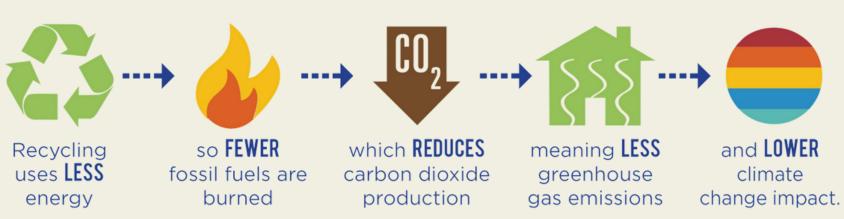
In 2019, MCPS recycled 9,386,940 pounds/4,693 tons of paper and cardboard.





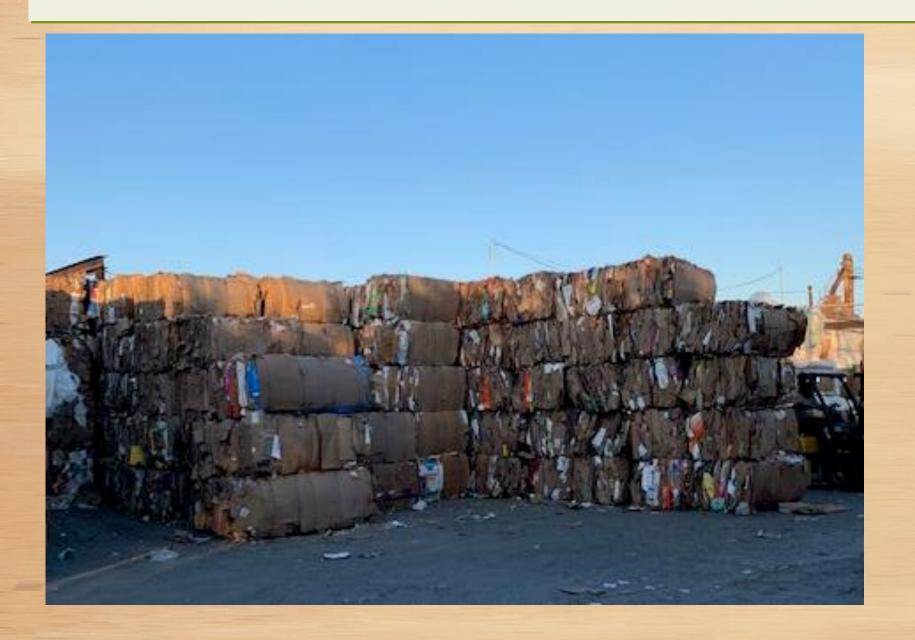
Paper and cardboard are then sorted and baled at Georgetown Paper Stock.





Bales are then loaded onto export containers or tractor trailers. Export containers go to the Port of Baltimore to be loaded into shipping containers going to India, Indonesia, and South America.

Loaded tractor trailers go to domestic mills. 50% of all cardboard is milled domestically.





Bales weight 1,000-2,000 pounds each.

All this effort will help us reach the Montgomery
County's Zero Greenhouse Gas Emissions Goal
by 2035.

# Questions and Answers

nd's Largest School District

## NTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential





# Division of Sustainability and Compliance

sustainability@mcpsmd.org