



PRESS RELEASE

City of Akron 166 S. High Street Akron, Ohio 44308

(330)-375-2345 Fax:(330)- 375-2468

Web: www.akronohio.gov

For Immediate Release

Contact: Stephanie York, Director of Communications
syork@akronohio.gov or 330-375-2345 (w) / 330-289-1467 (c)

New Downtown Commercial Recycling Pilot Program to Start in April
DAP and downtown businesses team up with the City to increase recycling efforts.

March 26, 2012 (Akron, Ohio) - The City of Akron is partnering with Downtown Akron Partnership (DAP), and many downtown businesses to increase recycling efforts in the downtown footprint. The City has invested in 154-30 gallon “pop bottle” shaped recycling containers, 50-50 gallon “dome-shaped” style recycling containers, and 20-300 gallon recycling containers. All of the containers were paid for from a grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

The 30 and 50 gallon containers will be utilized in the downtown area, including Lock 3, Lock 4, along parade routes, and at special event sites. The 300 gallon containers will be used for commercial customers.

Initially, six areas currently using DAP's square cardboard recycling dumpsters will be upgraded to the 300 gallon plastic recycling containers. Akron will provide the 300 gallon containers at DAP locations for free. City crews will provide the collection service, and Greenstar Recycling will sort and recycle the materials at their recycling facility. Making this change will eliminate the need for DAP to pay for the existing cardboard dumpsters and their service.

“DAP is delighted to partner with the City to promote sustainable practices in the Downtown neighborhood. DAP's cardboard recycling program served as a great forerunner to forward-thinking recycling initiatives and we are thrilled by the City's efforts to make recycling of cardboard – and now mixed recyclables – a common and accessible practice downtown.”

“It's really a win-win-win situation. The downtown businesses do not have to pay to provide receptacles and recycling services for their employees and customers; the community will have a cleaner, greener downtown area that is regularly serviced; and many more products that would normally end up in local landfills will now be recycled and reused,” noted Mayor Don Plusquellic. “I am very excited that we can provide these services not just in our public arenas, but that we can open it up to also service our downtown businesses and customers.”

The six locations receiving the first 300 gallon plastic containers will be:

1. Maiden Lane Alley
2. Paul Williams Street
3. Canal Square Apartments
4. Crave/Musica
5. Canal Park Stadium
6. North Side Lofts

The City will also locate the 300 gallon containers in the Cascade Parking Garage, the Akron Center Parking Garage, the High/Market Garage, the State Street Garage, the ABIA, and the Opportunity Parking Garage. All businesses that use these parking facilities are able to, and are encouraged to, participate in this new recycling program. In fact, if it becomes necessary due to the amount of recyclables collected, the City will provide additional containers at these locations.

“We will provide as many containers as the business owners require to keep up with their recycling needs,” said Rob Harris, Superintendent of Akron’s Trash and Recycling Divisions.

“We are very excited that we can save these businesses money by providing these recycling services.”

Additionally, none of the materials placed in the containers have to be pre-sorted, meaning the public can dispose of anything recyclable into the provided receptacles. Greenstar will take care of all of the sorting at its facility.

End