



Monmouthshire Community Recycling Ltd

**Unit 18 Severnbridge Ind Est, Symondscliffe Way, CALDICOT NP26 5PW
Tel (01291) 430550 Fax (01291) 431517 www.monrecycling.co.uk**

MCR RECYCLING PROCESS

All materials handled by MCR are sorted at the point of collection. Kerbside collected materials are currently sorted into as many as 15 different 'streams' on the truck – all of those below except cardboard, which is only taken from commercial customers. Commercial collections use sacks or wheelybins of individual materials, and the same principle of separating at source, the only mixing is of paper and cardboard sometimes (with separation at the depot if necessary), and of all colours of glass.

At the MCR depot the materials are checked for contamination, and bulked in bays or containers, and some are baled. They are then sent on to the various different reprocessors in loads of up to 25 tonnes of each material, where they are either recycled directly into new products (eg glass bottles), or are put through a further process (eg sorting, baling, granulating) to make them useable for manufacturers. With the exception of batteries, all materials MCR handles have a value when they leave the depot. Reprocessing adds further value, and this is reflected in the low cost of MCR's service – second lowest cost in Wales according to Welsh Assembly Government data.

Outlets change from time to time, and in some cases individual loads will be sold to the reprocessor with most capacity or the best deal at the time. Waste transfer documentation and evidence of licencing or exemptions is always required, and written statements required from any third parties involved in export. In all cases MCR is selling a product rather than disposing of a mixed waste material.

The following list covers all materials handled by MCR in 2007-08, the recorded weights, recycling routes and where further information can be found. Any material that is found to be not recyclable is put in a single wheelybin at the MCR depot which is emptied weekly. At the reprocessors any remaining contamination is removed and disposed of safely as part of the recycling process (eg paper labels on bottles, ink on paper).



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MCR MATERIALS DESTINATIONS 2007-08

1. PAPER (1992 tonnes)

Newspaper, magazines, catalogues, junk mail, phone directories, office paper
Recycled at Shotton Paper Mill, North Wales into reels of paper which are turned into newspapers and magazines at UK printers
www.upm-kymmene.com

2. MIXED GLASS (680 tonnes)

Mixed colour jars and bottles

This is mostly from pubs and hotels, where colour separation is not feasible. It is sent to ECT in Bath or Recresco in Avonmouth, where some is recycled in the UK into decorative glass pellets, the rest is recycled in Spain or Portugal into wine bottles.

3. GREEN GLASS (434 tonnes)

Recycled into bottles and jars at O-I Glass in Harlow, Essex

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/em/fr/-/1/hi/uk/6238105.stm> see Barnet

4. CLEAR GLASS (436 tonnes)

Same route as Green Glass

5. BROWN GLASS (118 tonnes)

Same route as Green Glass

6. STEEL AND ALUMINIUM CANS (246 tonnes)

Food and drinks cans and aerosols

Sorted, shredded and baled at AMG, Llanelli, South Wales, then sold on as steel (mostly for use in construction industry) and aluminium (for manufacture into cans, car parts etc). During early 2007 MCR was running its own sorting line and some loads of steel were sent to Corus in Port Talbot, South Wales, via Sims in Newport, and aluminium to Novelis in Warrington via local metal merchants, for similar uses.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/em/fr/-/1/hi/uk/6238105.stm> see Barnet

7. TEXTILES (59 tonnes)

Clothes and shoes

Sorted at Wilcox in West Midlands into reusable textiles for sale in UK charity shops and to African, Asian and European markets, and recycling into wiper clothes, roofing felt etc.

www.jmpwilcox.co.uk

8. PLASTIC BOTTLES

Plastic bottles and rigid food packaging

Sorted and baled in South Wales, then sent to UK recyclers such as Eurokey in Leicestershire and J & A Young in Derbyshire, who clean and granulate the plastic for sale to manufacturers in the UK and abroad. Some is turned back into food and drink



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packaging, some into toys and household items, some is used in the construction industry.

www.jayplas.com

9. POLYTHENE

Plastic carrier bags

Sorted and baled in South Wales, then sent to UK recyclers as with plastic bottles. Most of the granules produced are then sold on to UK manufacturers of pallet wrap.

www.eurokeyrecycling.com

10. ALUMINIUM FOIL (4 tonnes)

Kitchen foil, pie cases, milk bottle tops, easter egg wrapping etc

Sorted and baled at MCR depot, sent to Novelis in Warrington via local metal merchants, recycled into ingots, then used for manufacture of window frames, door handles, car engine components etc

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/em/fr/-/1/hi/uk/6238105.stm> see Barnet

11. YELLOW PAGES (11 tonnes)

Sent to Holmen Paper in Kent, then to a paper mill in Sweden, where it is often made back into more Yellow Pages

www.holmenpaper.com

12. CARDBOARD DRINKS CARTONS ('TETRAPAKS')

Mostly paper by weight, but with aluminium foil and polythene lining – sorted and baled at MCR depot, then exported to Europe via UK regional bulking facilities. Pulped and recycled into paper products, aluminium ingots and paraffin. Some of the mixed material is used in furniture manufacture.

www.tetrapakrecycling.co.uk

13. BATTERIES

Household batteries from button batteries to D type

Sent to G&P Batteries in Derbyshire, and recycled into chemicals, metals, and plastics – the chemicals are returned to battery manufacture, and ingots of lead, nickel and cadmium are used in new batteries or other industrial uses, and the plastic sent to plastic reprocessors.

www.g-pbatt.co.uk

14. MOBILE PHONES

Sent to Computer Aid International in London, who sort and send individual materials on to Reclaim IT in Berkshire, where all data is deleted, SIM cards removed and they are sent to the developing world where they are reused in areas where landlines are rare. Money raised is used to fund computer donations to the developing world.

www.reclaim-it.com

www.computeraid.org/rit.htm

15. PRINTER CARTRIDGES

Laser and inkjet cartridges



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Same initial route as mobile phones, they are cleaned, repaired and refilled for UK resale. Money raised is used to fund computer donations to the developing world.

16. CARDBOARD (52 tonnes)

Light and corrugated cardboard

Sent to SCA in South Wales then to UK board mills for recycling into boxes and cartons

www.scarecycling.co.uk

David Roman

May 2008