



2019

ANNUAL RECYCLING REPORT

PREPARED BY

**KENT COUNTY
RECYCLING &
EDUCATION CENTER**



**KENT COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS**



MARKET TRENDS

MARKETS

Early 2019 brought continued shifts in global market trends and demand for recycled materials. Kent County DPW maintained, strengthened and expanded markets for recyclables using processors in the Midwest and Canada.

As global markets continue to contract, domestic investment in recycling capacity is expected to grow to enable more market opportunity and long-term stabilization of recycling activities.

Kent County Recycling & Education Center **does not** dispose of recyclables in a landfill.





2019 BY THE TON





RELIABLE RECYCLING

VALUE OF RECYCLING

In 2019, for the first time, the cost to recycle was more than waste disposal in Kent County. Though landfilling remains cheaper, the economic benefits of recycling include jobs, natural resource conservation, energy savings, domestic sourcing of materials and prevention of plastic pollution. Local companies rely on recycled feedstock for manufacturing and a global shortage of recycled #1 plastic is projected to cause ripples in the manufacturing supply chain.

98.4%
average facility runtime

100%
access for haulers

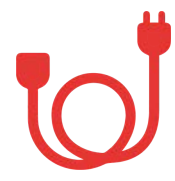
COST OF RECYCLING

Kent County charges haulers **\$65/ton** for in-county generated recyclables & **\$70/ton** for out-of-county generated recyclables.

The cost to process a ton of recyclables is **\$142**. Kent County subsidizes \$37 of the tipping fee to help keep rates lower for residents.

2019 marks the first time the consumer-facing cost of recycling was higher than the cost of disposal in Kent County.

ONGOING OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES:



TANGLERS
holiday lights,
hangers, clothes



HAZARDS
propane tanks,
medical IV bags



BAGGED MATERIAL