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## RECYCLABLE MARKET CONDITIONS UPDATE

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Over the last several weeks, the market price of most commodities has dropped significantly. This price drop has impacted corrugated cardboard and paper, which as recyclable commodities, are now worth much less (or have dropped to a negative value) than in the early Fall of 2008.

It is not known how long this downturn in market conditions will last. However, with this current flux in the market, both the Municipality and private recycling facilities have had to respond with changes in business practices. Material quality and separation of materials have become much more important in the marketing of corrugated cardboard and paper. Local private recycling facilities are indicating that as of April 1, 2009 there will likely be no market for corrugated cardboard mixed with other paper.

Commercial collection service providers are also responding to these changes. This may mean that there is a requirement for more source-separation of materials (e.g. separate bins for corrugated cardboard and paper materials) and/or that there may be an increase in cost to collect and process recyclable materials due to the fluctuating charges to deliver these items during this market downturn. Over the next few months, there is an opportunity for property owners and managers to work with their collector to assess how to respond to the evolving market conditions and institute any changes such as the collection of corrugated cardboard separate from paper.

Further updates will be provided as more information is available.

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