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#SustainableStateNJ

# The Gold Star in Waste

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2016 NEW JERSEY SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT



# The Gold Star in Waste

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## 1. Recycling Standard:

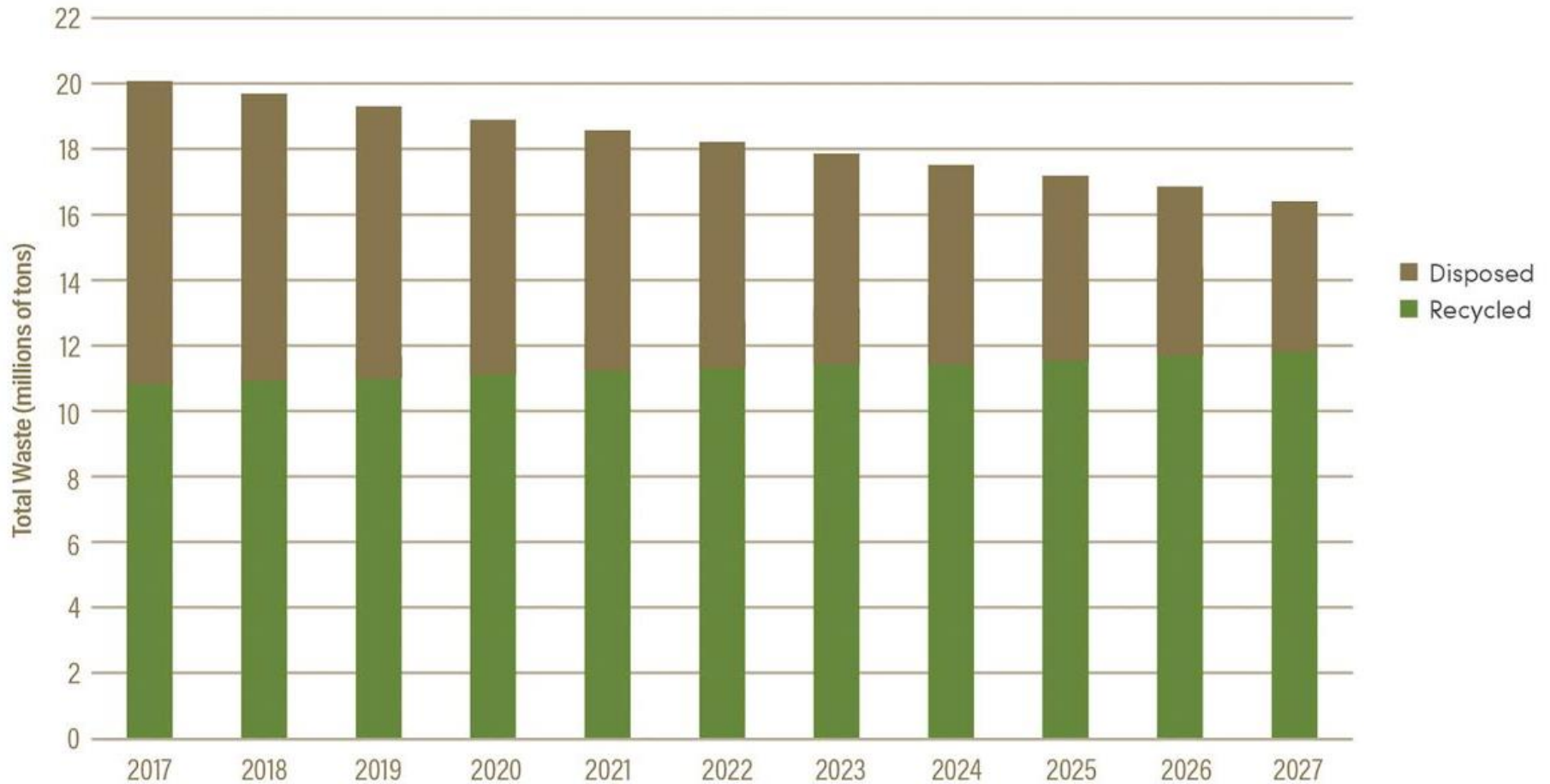
- Total Solid Waste Recycling Rate: 65% (*without leaves*)
- Municipal Solid Waste Recycling Rate: 55% (*no leaves*)

## 2. Waste Reduction Standard

- 2% Annual Reduction in Total Solid Waste Generation

# IMPACT OF GOLD STANDARD ON NJ WASTE GENERATION & RECYCLING

This chart shows the impact on the statewide waste stream if every municipality achieved the Gold Star.





# The Gold Star in Waste cont.

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## 3. Education and Enforcement Standard

- Source reduction to lower the generation of waste,
- Improve quality of recycling stream (absence of non-recyclable materials), and,
- Promote alternatives to and safe disposal of household hazardous waste.

## 4. Hazardous Waste Standard

- Implement prescriptive actions dealing with collection of common hazardous materials,
- Municipal collections may include such hazardous materials as: used motor oil, consumer electronics, paint, and/or batteries,
- A strong effort on prescription drug safety and disposal will be among the mandated actions.

# THE RULES: GOLD STAR IN WASTE

## 1) DOCUMENTED RECYCLING RATE

To attain the Gold Star in Waste, a municipality must document an annual recycling rate that averages over a three-year (renewable) period at least:

- **65% of Total Solid Waste** (exclusive of leaves) **or**
- **55% of Municipal Solid Waste** (exclusive of leaves).

## 2) WASTE GENERATION REDUCTION

- The amount of total solid waste generated must decrease at the rate of **2%** or more per year, averaged over three years (6%).
- This rate shall be calculated on the basis of the total number of residents and the total number of people employed in a municipality.
- Every three years, a further reduction of 6% Total Solid Waste must be demonstrated in order to renew Gold Star status.

## 3) HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE REDUCTION AND SAFE DISPOSAL ACTIONS

- Municipalities will be required to implement prescriptive actions dealing with collection of common hazardous materials. These actions will be released as more rigorous and/or comprehensive versions of existing Sustainable Jersey actions in January 2017.
- Municipal collections may include such hazardous materials as: used motor oil, consumer electronics, paint, and/or batteries.
- A strong effort on prescription drug safety and disposal will be among the mandated actions.

## 4) COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Municipalities will be required to implement a robust education and/or enforcement campaign on recycling and waste reduction. The campaign must address:

- source reduction to lower the generation of waste,
- the quality of recycling stream (absence of non-recyclable materials), and
- alternatives to and safe disposal of household hazardous waste.



# New Resources: Getting to Gold

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- Municipalities can't achieve Gold alone
- Sustainable Jersey has resources to help
- Sustainable Jersey, alone, does not have enough resources
- Achieving Gold will be a collective effort among resources organizations, public and private; state, county, federal.



# Waste Gold Implementation

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- **Documented Recycling Rate:**

SJ will publish a list of eligible towns using annual State Recycling Tonnage Grants and Disposal Facility Reports.

- **Waste Generation Reduction:**

Towns must commit when applying for the Gold Star to reduce generation by at least 2% per year for 3 years (6% total) and another 6% to renew Gold Star status.

- **Education and Enforcement:**

SJ to modify the existing education & enforcement Action for re-release prior to January 2017. Towns must also commit to a robust E & E Program to highlight waste reduction, cleaning up the Class A recycling stream and Household Hazardous Waste management.





# Waste Gold Implementation

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- **Household Hazardous Waste Standard**

Additional guidance on HHW removal at the municipal level will be released by SJ before January of 2017.

Collection may focus on such materials as used motor oil, consumer electronics, paint and/or batteries. Prescription drug safety and collection also a focus area.

Efforts will be coordinated with the Association of New Jersey Household Hazardous Waste Management Officials to complement existing County collection programs.





# Strategies for Getting to Gold

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## IMPACTS FROM WASTE REDUCTION STRATEGIES

WASTE REDUCTION STRATEGIES	IMPACT ON ANNUAL WASTE REDUCTION
Pay-As-You-Throw Program	14-27%
Cut It and Leave It Program (Grass)	3 - 5%
Waste Reduction Education & Enforcement	1-10%
Backyard Composting	1-5%
Materials Reuse Program	1-5%
Reusable Bag Education Program	0.60%

## IMPACTS FROM RECYCLING STRATEGIES

RECYCLING STRATEGIES	ESTIMATED ANNUAL INCREASE IN RECYCLING RATE
Pay-As-You-Throw Program	30-60%
Food Waste	8%- 25%
Recycling Education & Enforcement	1-20%
Non-Mandated Materials Recycling	5-15%
Construction and demolition	4-11%
Commercial & Institutional Recycling	4-10%