AF&PA Comments on Methods for Reducing Consumer Packaging that Generates Solid Waste

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Hartford, CT
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About AF&PA

• Advances a sustainable pulp, paper, packaging and wood products manufacturing industry

• Fact-based public policy and marketplace advocacy
The Paper Industry in Connecticut

- Over 3,600 employees, 61 facilities
- $270 million in annual payroll
- $39 million in estimated state and local taxes paid
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Paper-based Packaging Products
Papermaking Process

1. Raw Materials
2. The Paper Mill produces paper by combining wood pulp and recovered paper
3. Paper and paper-based packaging can be recycled
4. Recyclable paper comes from homes, schools, and businesses
5. Recyclable paper is collected and delivered to Recycling Center
6. Recovered paper is sorted, cleaned, and processed at Recycling Center
7. Recovered paper is transported from the Recycling Center to the Paper Mill
Paperboard Packaging

1) Bleached Paperboard
2) Recycled Paperboard
3) Bleached Paperboard – Liquid Packaging
Corrugated (Cardboard) Containers
Paper Bags – Grocery and Retail
Multiwall Paper Shipping Sacks
Paper Recovery
U.S. Paper Recovery Rate 1990-2016

Source: AF&PA
Increasing Paper Recovery

- AF&PA promotes a free marketplace for collection and utilization for all products
- Raising awareness about the importance of recycling
- Creating public/private partnerships
- Providing tools and resources
- Promoting of proven best practices
Recovered Fiber Contamination

- “Wishful Recycling”
- Fiber is at risk of contamination from liquids, glass and other waste materials
- Support separation of dry recyclable material from wet or organic solid waste
AF&PA Action Plan: Partnerships

- The Recycling Partnership
- Foodservice Packaging Institute
- Paper Shipping Sack Manufacturers’ Association
- The Responsible Package
- Recycling Industry Trade Associations
  - Northeast Recycling Council
Recommendations

• Marketplace drives paper recovery and utilization
• Avoid mandates and arbitrary rules
• Allow industry to continue successful, voluntary recycling programs
• Support Public-Private Partnerships
Thank You

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