

# Welcome to the Philadelphia Material Recovery Facility



They say that one man's trash is another's treasure. At Waste Management, we believe this is true. Waste is no longer something to be disposed of – it's a valuable resource that can find a second life as a new product or a renewable energy source – helping us sustain natural resources for the next generation.

Waste Management is North America's largest residential recycler, recovering and processing over eight and a half million tons of plastic, paper and metal each year. By the year 2020, our goal is to nearly triple the amount of recyclable materials we manage – to more than 20 million tons a year. To help achieve this goal, we are investing in single-stream recycling technology and facilities. Single-stream systems makes recycling easier and more efficient by allowing residential and commercial customers to deposit recyclable paper, plastic, glass, steel and aluminum materials into a single container for collection. The materials are separated at the recycling facility using advanced technology. This process allows materials that were historically discarded, such as film and rigid plastics, to reach secondary markets for re-purposing into new materials.

In December 2010, our newest facility, the Philadelphia Material Recovery Facility (MRF), located in Northeast Philadelphia, began operations. This \$20 million, 60,000 square foot single-stream facility can sort and process more than 20,000 tons of recyclables a month, and exemplifies Waste Management's

commitment to the economy, the environment and the community. The facility employs more than 80 people, many from the communities of Tacony and Holmesburg. When fully staffed, employment will reach over 90.

Waste Management's investment in the property includes a focus on sustainability — a characteristic woven into every aspect of this facility. The Philadelphia Material Recovery Facility was constructed on this Brownfield site using 47% recycled content and 42% regional materials. Its sustainable building and design techniques meet the LEED Silver certification standards as established by the US Green Building Council. Among the features are a green roof, an energy efficient design and advanced stormwater management systems.

Ultimately, sustainability is about being a good neighbor and building partnerships with The local community. A job fair hosted at the Dissiton Recreation Center for the Tacony Civic and Holmesburg Civic Associations helped fill many positions available at the facility; visitors to the job fair also learned more about other opportunities available in our company.

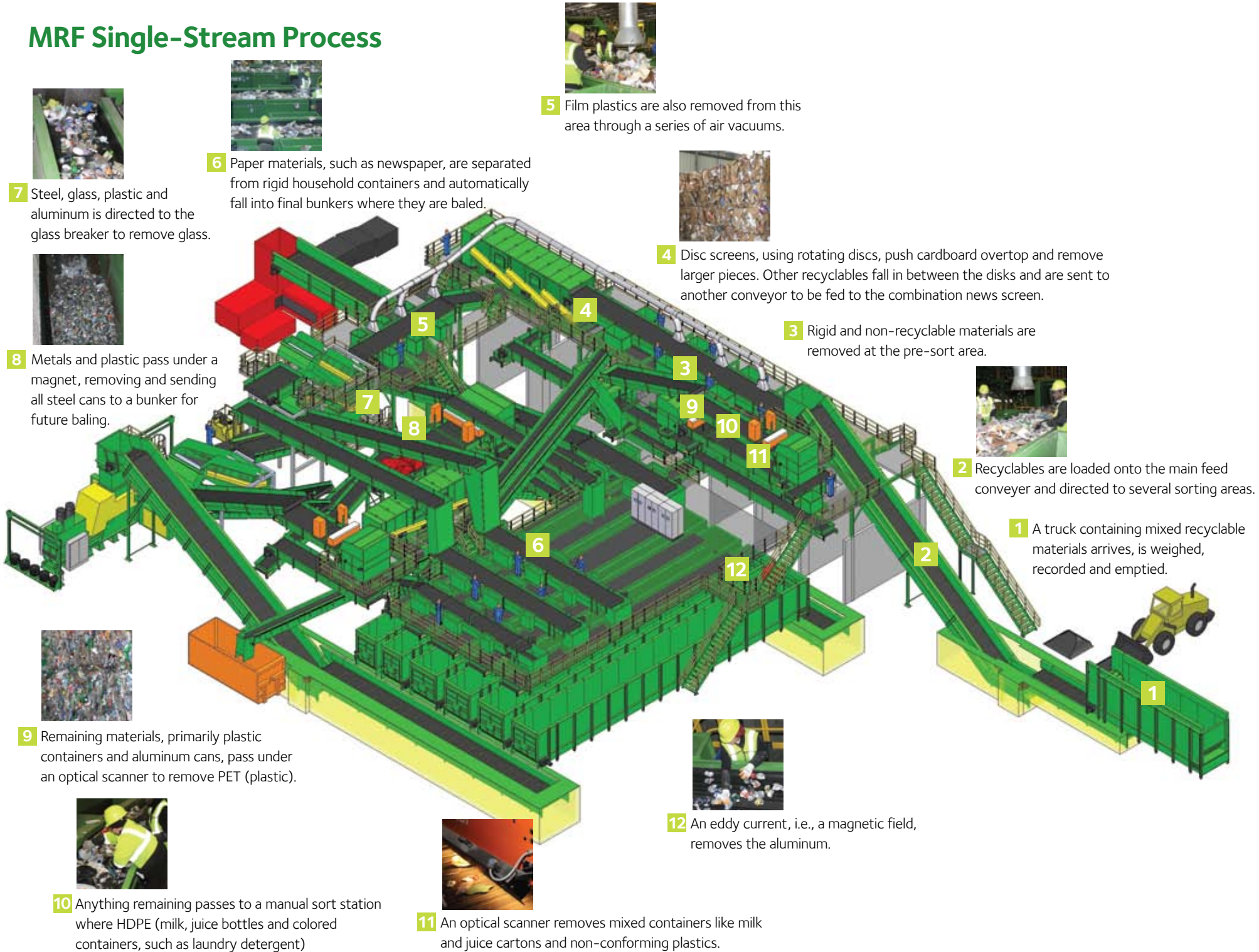
Additional partnerships have been established with the Tacony Civic Association, the Delaware River City Corporation and the River Trail, along with our sponsorship of the Spring Clean-up at Pennypack Park. We continue to look for innovative ways to partner with the local community.

Simply put, waste is no longer something to get rid of – it's a resource. As a company, Waste Management is focused on recovering more of the value in waste. Single-stream recycling is being adopted by an increasing number of cities and towns nationwide because it works. The simplicity of a single cart and the ability to accommodate a wider range of materials has allowed communities and commercial customers with single-stream recycling to collect up to 50 percent more recyclables compared to previous dual or multi-stream programs. Innovative solutions like single-stream recycling and our Philadelphia Material Recovery Facility – along with other advanced technologies in the pipeline – will help Waste Management achieve its long-term recycling goals.



**THINK GREEN.®**

# MRF Single-Stream Process



**5** Film plastics are also removed from this area through a series of air vacuums.

**6** Paper materials, such as newspaper, are separated from rigid household containers and automatically fall into final bunkers where they are baled.

**7** Steel, glass, plastic and aluminum is directed to the glass breaker to remove glass.

**4** Disc screens, using rotating discs, push cardboard overtop and remove larger pieces. Other recyclables fall in between the disks and are sent to another conveyor to be fed to the combination news screen.

**3** Rigid and non-recyclable materials are removed at the pre-sort area.

**8** Metals and plastic pass under a magnet, removing and sending all steel cans to a bunker for future baling.

**2** Recyclables are loaded onto the main feed conveyor and directed to several sorting areas.

**1** A truck containing mixed recyclable materials arrives, is weighed, recorded and emptied.

**9** Remaining materials, primarily plastic containers and aluminum cans, pass under an optical scanner to remove PET (plastic).

**12** An eddy current, i.e., a magnetic field, removes the aluminum.

**10** Anything remaining passes to a manual sort station where HDPE (milk, juice bottles and colored containers, such as laundry detergent)

**11** An optical scanner removes mixed containers like milk and juice cartons and non-conforming plastics.

# Green Building Design and Operation

## 47% Recycled Content – 42% Regional Materials



### Exterior:

#### Green Roof:

reduces heating and cooling costs, improves air quality and extends life of roof.

#### Roofing and Siding Materials:

80% recycled content and 65% manufactured within 500 miles of facility.

#### Commuting Practices:

Bike rack and preferred parking for low-emission vehicles.

#### Energy Efficiency:

10% less energy use, diminishes reliance on fossil fuels and reduces greenhouse gas production.

#### Stormwater Management:

- Porous pavement allows rainwater to recharge back into ground.
- Vegetated bioretention areas to promote absorption and infiltration of stormwater runoff.

#### Materials Management:

>95% of construction waste and debris generated on project reused or recycled.

### Interior:

- Floor tiles made of 46% recycled materials, 23% rapidly renewable
- Low-flow plumbing fixtures
- Carpet made of 50% recycled materials

- Low VOC paints
- Lumber certified by Forest Stewardship Council
- Furniture certified GREENGUARD or SCS Advantage Gold
- Countertops made of 70% recycled materials



[wm.com](http://wm.com)

For additional information call 215.428.4347.

Learn more about Waste Management's single-stream recycling process by viewing our video at [youtube.com](http://youtube.com), using keywords Waste Management, Philadelphia, recycling and single-stream.