

# WASHINGTON RECYCLING NEWS

## Textile Bin Comes to Washington

The State of CT has mandated an additional 10% of our Solid Waste Matter (SWM) (garbage) be incorporated in our recycling materials collection. Our Town has answered the call. Many things that we throw away *can be recycled*. For instance: torn clothing, worn out shoes, ripped doggy beds, old hats, etc.... items not accepted in clothing bins, can now be deposited into textile bins for re-use in manufacturing.

## BAYSTATE TEXTILES

Baystate Textiles has delivered one bin to the Town of Washington. With the help of the Transfer Station staff, our bins will be monitored so as not to create an eyesore from overflow or mis-use.

Check Baystate's website for a complete listing of acceptable (and unacceptable) items at:

[www.baystatetextiles.com](http://www.baystatetextiles.com)

You may also contact the Selectman's office at our email address: [selectmen@washingtonct.org](mailto:selectmen@washingtonct.org)

In addition to the State's mandate, there are also economic reasons for our town to do this. Washington (through our tax dollars) pays for every pound of MSW we throw away. Taking items out of MSW and putting them into recyclables saves our tax dollars. Think how many pounds we all throw away in the form of these textiles (what does an old steel boot, winter coats, etc. weigh?) and what that can add up to!

So friends and neighbors, we're asking you to step up to the plate and throw the appropriate items into the textile bins and help save our tax dollars and our environment.

## COMPOSTING

Ask our Transfer Station staff for more information on food scraps and composting.

The infographic is titled "the secret double life of donated textiles" in green text on a light green background. Below the title, it states "NEARLY 100% OF DONATED TEXTILES ARE RECYCLED! They are separated into three grades:" followed by three categories: "45% USABLE CLOTHING" with a white t-shirt icon, "20% FIBER CONVERSION GRADE" with a cloud icon, and "30% WIPING CLOTH GRADE" with a blue cloth icon. A central circular diagram titled "CLOSING THE LOOP" shows a cycle of arrows. Text around the cycle includes: "Recycled fiber products SAVE MONEY and RESOURCES by using existing materials." (with a green dollar sign icon), "Recycled cloth rags use LESS WATER, LESS ENERGY and create a LOWER CARBON FOOTPRINT than all other alternatives." (with a blue cloth icon), and "The second hand clothing market provides AFFORDABLE CLOTHING to those in need and ENCOURAGES GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP." (with a black pants icon). Below the cycle, a section titled "SECOND LIFE ..." shows various items being repurposed: a stained t-shirt to wiping cloth, a lone sock to pillow stuffing, old denim to household insulation, a teddy bear to car seat stuffing, and a torn bath towel to wiping cloth. At the bottom, there are logos for "SM-RT SECONDARY MATERIALS AND RECYCLED TEXTILES" and "The Association of Wiping Markets, Used Clothing and Fiber Industries", along with icons for recycling and reuse.

95% of unwanted textiles can be reused or recycled. Bay State Textiles accepts "the good, the bad and the ugly" as long as they're clean and dry. Whether you are cleaning out your closets, redecorating and updating draperies, linens, etc. or it is time to get rid of the childhood stuffed animals, keep them out of the waste stream and support your local community!

***Please bag items and tie the bag!!!***

**[DOWNLOAD LIST OF ACCEPTED ITEMS](#)**

Above information courtesy of [BaystateTextiles.com](http://BaystateTextiles.com)