

## MAYOR'S COLUMN

The New Year launches a renewed effort by Westchester County to step up enforcement of the County's mandatory recycling laws. Starting February 1, 2008, recyclables that are not properly separated will not get picked up. Westchester County has decided not to require residents to use clear plastic bags as part of the new rules, leaving it up to the individual municipalities and private haulers. At this time, the Village has opted to continue our current collection methods.

Bronxville residents have been doing an excellent job of recycling; in fact, our grass tonnage numbers are some of the best in the county for a Village our size. The real targets of the stepped up enforcement are large private weight generators including apartment buildings, government offices, schools, restaurants, and large businesses. The county as a whole has also consistently exceeded the New York State mandated goal of 40 per cent recycling, but the concern is that the volume of material at landfills and incinerators also continues to grow.

The County's area of focus is the separation of cardboard from regular trash. All corrugated boxes should be flattened or "nested" and waxed cardboard items such as milk cartons are not recyclable. A new village initiative will be a monthly collection in the second week of every month for white appliances, computer monitors and televisions. Contact the Department of Public Works at 337-7338 to schedule a pick-up.

As a reminder, items that cannot be recycled include paint cans, auto parts, glass that is not used for food and beverages such as light bulbs, drinking glasses, crystal, kitchen cookware, window and mirror glass and all styrofoam packing materials. Plastic containers which held potentially hazardous materials such as motor oil, solvents and pesticides should be discarded with regular garbage. Recyclable plastics need to be well rinsed with all caps removed. Plastic bags of any kind are not recyclable and cannot be used as a receptacle for recyclable materials.

The Recycling pick-up schedule will remain on Wednesdays for 2008, but the garbage collection schedule will change on January 7, 2008. Residences and businesses on the Monday/Thursday routes will now be on the Tuesday/Friday route and vice versa.

Thank you for your continued cooperation as we renew our efforts to conserve our natural resources and be responsible stewards of the environment.

For more information on Westchester County recycling rules and suggestions call the hotline at (914)-813-5420 or visit online at [westchestergov.com](http://westchestergov.com).