



5535 Vine Street, Cincinnati, OH 45217
Phone (513) 242.4600 Fax (513) 242.4459

Fact Sheet – Cincinnati Material Recovery Facility (MRF)

History & General Information

- Rumpke is a family-owned and operated business, founded in 1932 by William Rumpke near Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Rumpke Recycling's Material Recovery Facility, located on 12 acres in St. Bernard, Ohio, has been in operation since May 1991.
- Rumpke Recycling employs approximately 160 people and operates more than 75 recycling trucks.

Capabilities and Processing

- Rumpke Recycling services more than 200,000 homes and businesses throughout the Greater Cincinnati area every week through curbside, commercial and more than 60 drop boxes.
- The Cincinnati Material Recovery Facility (MRF) serves Hamilton, Clermont, Warren and Butler counties in Ohio; Dearborn, Switzerland, Ohio, Union, Franklin and Ripley counties in Indiana; and Boone, Kenton, Pendleton and Campbell counties in Kentucky.
- The materials that Rumpke Recycling collects in the Greater Cincinnati area include newspapers with ad slicks, magazines, corrugated cardboard boxes, telephone books, office paper, junk mail, grocery bags, aluminum cans, steel food cans, aerosol cans, glass food and drink bottles and jars (all colors and clear) and plastic bottles and jugs.
- More than 100,000 tons of processed materials are shipped from this recycling center each year to vendors throughout the world who will use these materials to produce products. Many of these vendors are located in Ohio and the Greater Cincinnati area.
- The material takes approximately 11 minutes to travel from the beginning of the plant to the end.

Renovations

- In 2009, Rumpke Recycling underwent a \$6 million renovation to upgrade to the latest technology. Prior to 2009, the last major renovation occurred in 2002 when single stream technology was added for a cost of \$300,000.
- The renovation included the addition of TiTech Optical Sorting Scanners, a new concrete tipping floor, a new compressor room, new duct work, a new air filtration system, a new mezzanine walk way for public tours and employees and new ergonomically designed platforms.
- Rumpke Recycling Cincinnati is one of 25 plants in the United States to have TiTech Optical Sorting.
- The new equipment increased processing from 14 tons per hour to 27 tons per hour.
- The new system allows Rumpke to process natural HDPE (plastic #2) and colored HDPE separately.
- The new facility increased glass recovery from 600 tons to 1,000 tons per month.
- The system features two computerized touch screen observation decks, which allow Rumpke to provide preventative maintenance, as well as necessary maintenance, as the screens visually highlight specific motors and all equipment components.

Connect with Rumpke

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Contact Information

Molly Yeager
Corporate Communications Coordinator
Office: (513) 741-6765
Email: molly.yeager@rumpke.com

www.rumpkerecycling.com





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The Recycling Process

- Material is unloaded onto a tipping floor. Rumpke's updated tipping floor features \$180,000 in new concrete and a wall separating the floor from the plant. The wall has four entrances into the recycling center.
- Next the material is loaded onto a drum feeder.
- Material moves along a conveyor system, and watchful employees remove items that are contaminants to the recycling process.
- The materials pass over a series of smaller spinning discs, which directs the cardboard to another set of conveyors. The fiber is transported via a long system of conveyors to the other side of the recycling center for bailing.
- The remaining, commingled materials ride along the conveyor to another team of employees who again remove any contaminants to the recycling process.
- Next the materials pass over a series of larger spinning discs. Paper is separated from containers each falling onto their own conveyor systems.
- An angled sorter is used to separate tiny pieces of paper from the containers. Powerful fans are used to move the material along.
- Then the materials arrive at the TiTech optical scanners. Light shines down on each item and reflects off of the material returning a sine wave to a reader, which signals various valves to release puffs of air. This coincides with the shape of the container and move it through to its designated area. The first TiTech optical scanner separates plastic containers from the newspaper ejected off of the angled sorter. The ejected containers are then reintroduced to the container stream.
- The containers are separated further as a magnet and eddy current remove the steel and aluminum containers.
- A second TiTech optical scanner identifies and sorts plastics number one.
- A third TiTech identifies and separates natural and colored number two plastics.
- Plastic bottles three through seven are manually sorted.
- Once all materials are separated, the materials are compacted into bales weighing 800-1,200 pounds each.
- The materials are then shipped to manufacturers who use the items as raw materials to make new products.

