

## THE BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

203 South Fourth Street - Courthouse - Room 207 Oakland, Maryland 21550

www.garrettcounty.org countycommissioners@garrettcounty.org

301-334-8970

301-895-3188

FAX 301-334-5000

### Board of Commissioners

Gregan T. Crawford  
Robert G. Gatto  
James M. Raley

### County Administrator

R. Lamont Pagenhardt

### County Attorney

Gorman E. Getty III

## Press Release

**CONTACT PERSON:** R. Lamont Pagenhardt  
**DATE:** February 8, 2013  
**RE:** Garrett County Recycling Rate at 51%

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The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has finalized its' review of each County's Maryland Recycling Act (MRA) Tonnage Report for calendar year 2011.

The Garrett County Department of Solid Waste & Recycling is proud to announce a recycling rate of 50.93%, with a waste diversion rate of 51.93%; this places us 5<sup>th</sup> amongst the counties in this state. In 2010, the recycling rate was 45.17%. The higher recycling rate is indicative of an economy beginning to bounce back with the consumer buying more and producing more waste and recycling materials.

"Garrett County Department of Solid Waste & Recycling would like to congratulate the residents and businesses for the improvement in their recycling efforts; everyone has worked hard to achieve the 51% recycling rate. However, we will still continue to encourage residents and businesses to not only recycle every day, but also reduce waste at the source," said Kimberly Madigan, Recycling Coordinator.

In the 2012 legislative session, the Maryland General Assembly passed House Bill (HB) 929: *Environment – Recycling Rates and Waste Diversion - Statewide Goals*. In the past, Garrett County was required to divert at least 15% of its waste to recycling programs. With the newly passed House Bill 929, we will be required to divert at least 20% of our waste to recycling programs.

"Now, more than ever, it will be important to keep up with good recycling habits and fast, efficient reporting. The Maryland Recycling Act Tonnage Report for calendar year 2012 is being sent out now. Please complete the reports and return to the landfill office located at 3118 Oakland Sang Run Road, Oakland.

If you have questions about what is recyclable or if you can report materials sent out of the area (YES), or would like help completing the tonnage reporting form, please contact the office at 301 387 0322 or email [kmadigan@garrettcounty.org](mailto:kmadigan@garrettcounty.org), commented Madigan."