

Franklin – In an effort to go more green, Franklin is going pink.

Residents with Town Curbside solid waste collection will soon get pink bags that they can put out on trash days. Two Pink bags and an introduction card will be arriving the first week of November. The contents of the bags will be kept out of the landfills.

Residents can find out more at simplerecycling.com

According to DEP statistics 8.1 percent of trash is reusable, recyclable material, with 95 percent that can be reused. But only 15 percent of people recycle these materials through drop boxes or other methods. Simplerecycling now has one million customers in Massachusetts, including towns like Franklin. Customers get bright pink bags, which can be filled with either used clothes or other items that can be sold at thrift stores. The bags are set out on the same day as recycling. When bags are picked up, an empty ones are left for the homeowner to fill again.

There is no cost to the town or the resident, and the town is paid \$20 a ton for the material versus a cost of roughly \$63 a ton for incineration.

Simplerecycling trucks can usually do the routes faster than town recycling trucks and are not connected to Waste Management trash and recycling service. If a resident hasn't had their bag picked up after 5 PM they call Simplerecycling customer service, and the bag can be picked up the next business day, or the following week.

“Franklin residents can make a difference by diverting textiles from their trash to save money and the planet”

According to Simplerecycling , clean, “pre-loved” clothing and accessories, including those in need of repair, stained, ripped, single sockets., etc., and small household goods that fit into the bags are all recyclables.

That includes:

- All clothing;
- Shoes, belts, scarfs, purses, hats, gloves, backpacks, bibs, coats, boots, sneakers, ties, etc.;
- Household textiles: Curtains/drapes, bedspreads, sheets, pillows, sleeping bags, towels, etc.;
- Kitchenware: Glasses, dishes, silverware, pans, etc.;
- Small electronics: Radios, hair dryers, curling irons, etc.;
- Small decorative items: Knick knacks, pictures, etc.; and
- Miscellaneous: Jewelry, toys, tools, books and other small home goods that can fit in the bag.

Regular curbside recycling continues for metal food and beverage cans, plastic bottles, jars, jugs and tubs, glass bottles and jars and paper and cardboard.