

RECYCLING BEST PRACTICES



Image: <https://www.hobartcity.com.au/Residents/Recycling-and-rubbish>

As any company considers many of its options for recycling and composting bin placement, it's important to leverage best practices. Luckily, through organizations like Keep America Beautiful, much research on recycling has been conducted to provide best-practices for others.¹ They are transversal to all modern resource management initiatives and stem from the need to guarantee the financial and environmental sustainability of recycling initiatives. The most relevant section for is the office recycling section, but all sections are applicable.

BEST PRACTICES = COLLECTION + MEASUREMENT + ORGANICS+ CONTAMINATION

Collection: Considerations regarding collection frequencies and potential synergies within exiting operations. The key is to avoid making collection efforts a cost burden without compromising the need to remove disposed materials when required.

- Make your effort a collective one: You might have one leader but your success depends on bringing in everyone that will play a role in your program. This will allow you to identify synergies and efficiencies otherwise hidden.
- Determine collection frequency: Collection implies human and financial resources. Lower collection frequencies reduce costs. However, miscalculating might cause bins to overflow and lead to littering problems.

¹ Office study: (<https://www.waste360.com/source-separation/study-highlights-best-practices-increasing-recycling-workplaces>) Public space study: (https://www.kab.org/sites/default/files/KAB_SERA_PublicSpaceRecycling_Final_Aug18.pdf)