

between all of the districts in the County (Brinnon, Quilcene, Chimacum, and Port Townsend Schools), and often there is inconsistency within a school district. The Students for Sustainability, a club at Port Townsend High School, has worked diligently to reinstitute the inconsistent recycling program and will continue to create a fully functional program at the school.

Processing: Materials collected from the recycling containers and the curbside and commercial collections are brought to the Jefferson County Recycle Center for some processing and shipment to markets. The City's contractor (DM Disposal) is required by contract to transport all recyclable materials collected in the City to the Recycle Center.

4.3. MARKET CONDITIONS AND DESIGNATION OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS

Recycling Markets

State regulations (RCW 70.95.090(7)(c)) require "a description of markets for recyclables," hence a description of the markets for recyclable materials collected in Jefferson County is provided below. This is intended to be only a brief report of current conditions, and it should be noted that market conditions for recyclables can undergo substantial changes in a short amount of time.

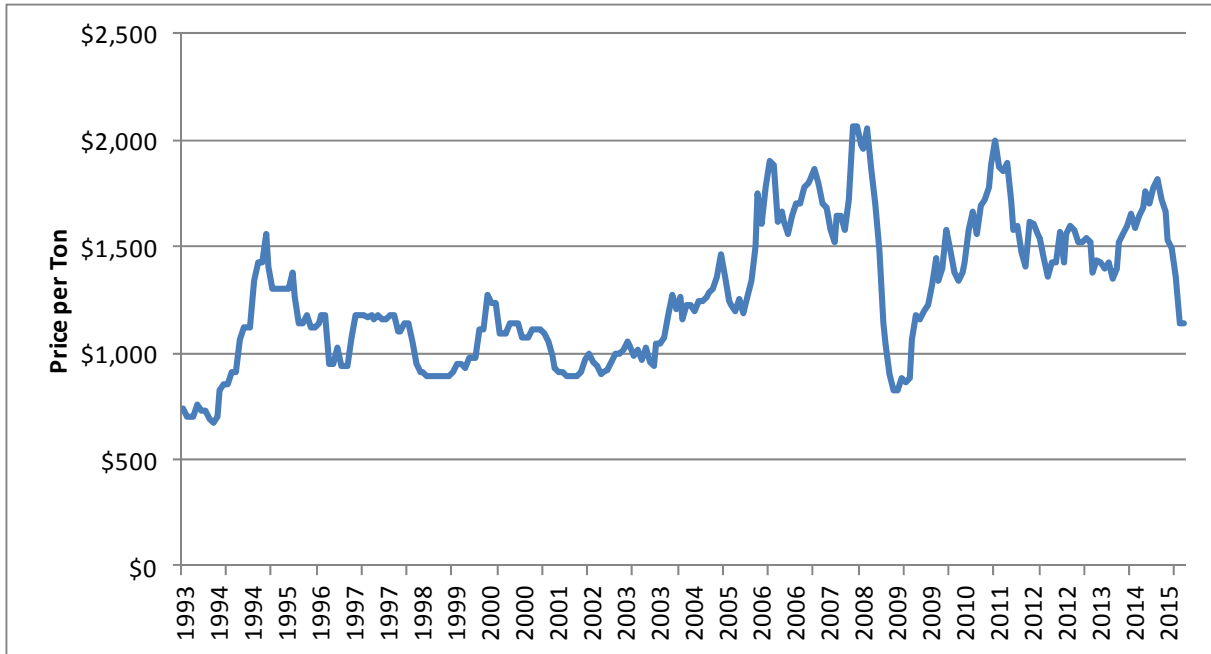
Market demand and prices for recyclables have fluctuated significantly over the past several years, just as prices for all commodities fluctuate with demand and other factors. Some recyclable materials have seasonal cycles in supply and demand, but all materials exhibit long-term trends with the possibility of sudden price spikes or dips. In some cases, long-term contracts with price floors can help moderate the swings in market revenues, but this isn't possible for all materials. Figures 4-1 and 4-2 show how the prices for aluminum cans and a few other materials collected from residential sources in the Pacific Northwest have fluctuated over the past 20 years. As can be seen in Figures 4-1 and 4-2, market prices dipped for most materials in 2008 and 2009 due to the slump in demand caused by the recession.

Another important factor for marketing of recyclable materials collected in Jefferson County is the cost of transporting the materials from the Olympic Peninsula. Recycling markets are often in Seattle or Portland, and so the cost of transporting materials to those areas is a barrier. The low market value of many recyclable materials limits the number of materials that can be cost-effectively moved to markets.

Designated Recyclable Materials

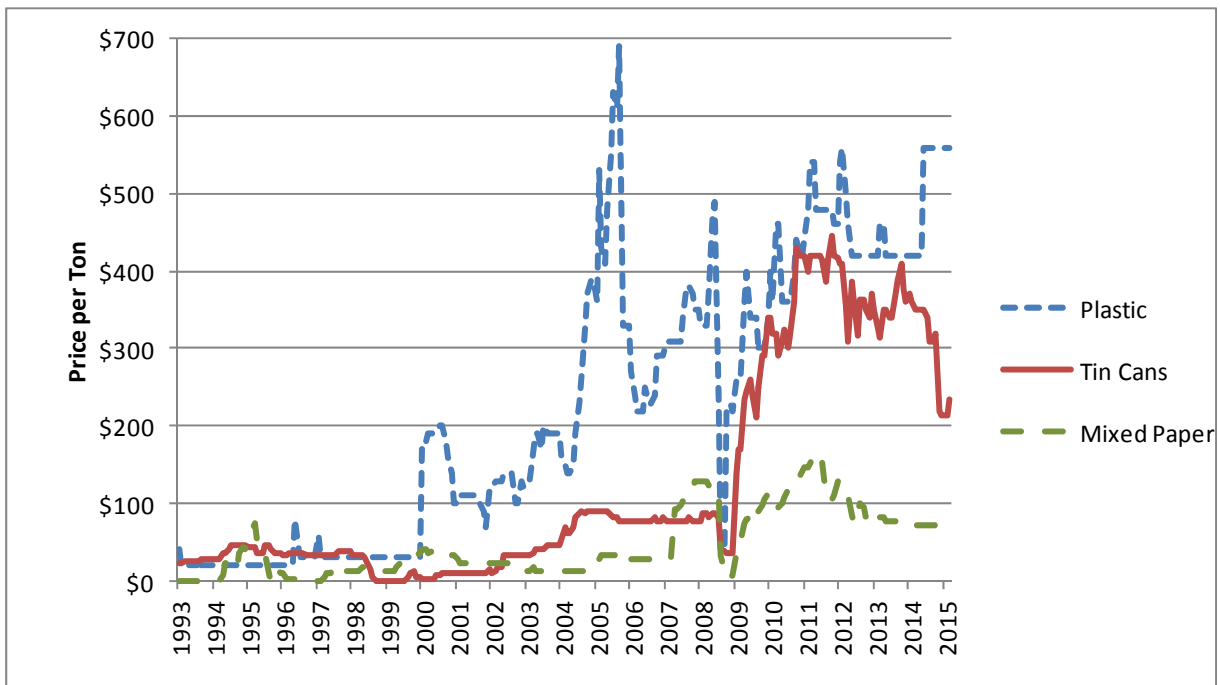
Designation of recyclable materials is an important step in solid waste plans since the adoption of Chapter 173-350 WAC, which defines recyclable materials as being those

**Figure 4-1
Price Paid for Baled Aluminum Cans**



Source: Seattle Public Utilities website (original data source: American Metal Markets).

**Figure 4-2
Prices Paid for Select Recyclable Materials**



Source: Seattle Public Utilities website (original data sources are Mill Trade Journal's Recycling Markets, Pulp and Paper Week, Recycling Times, and Waste News).

materials “that are identified as recyclable materials pursuant to a local comprehensive solid waste plan.” Not listing a specific material as recyclable does not mean that it cannot or should not be recycled, but listing a specific material as a designated recyclable material typically makes it easier to implement programs or install facilities for those materials.

Table 4-2 shows the list of designated recyclable materials. This list is not intended to create a requirement that every recycling program in the County collect every designated material. Instead, the intent is that through a combination of programs, residents and businesses should have an opportunity to recycle all of the designated

**Table 4-2
List of Designated Recyclable Materials**

Priority Level	Material
<p>Group 1: Materials that should be collected by the curbside, multi-family and commercial recycling programs.</p>	<p>Clean paper (newspaper, cardboard, office paper, and mixed paper) Glass bottles and jars Aluminum and steel cans, clean aluminum foil and pans Plastic bottles, jars and tubs</p>
<p>Group 2: Materials that should be collected at drop-off and buy-back locations or through other collection services.</p>	<p>E-waste (covered units) Cell phones Clothing, textiles, shoes Oil and oil filters Antifreeze Scrap metals and appliances Plastic buckets and plant pots Plastic bags Reusable building materials Yard waste Edible food (donated)</p>
<p>Group 3: Hard to recycle materials that should be recycled if markets are available.</p>	<p>Food waste Batteries (all types) Other electronics Wood Carpet Drywall Roofing materials Mixed construction and demolition Tires</p>

materials through at least one program. In other words, if plastics are on the designated materials list, then at least one program in the County must collect plastics. The list has been prioritized to indicate the degree of access that residents and businesses should have for these materials (in other words, greater access should be available for the higher-priority materials).

The list of “designated recyclable materials” shown in Table 4-2 should be used for guidance as to the materials to be recycled in the future. This list is based on existing conditions (collection programs and markets), and future markets and technologies may warrant changes in this list. The following conditions are grounds for additions or deletions to the list of designated materials:

- The market price for an existing material becomes so low that it is no longer feasible to collect, process and/or ship it to markets.
- Local markets and/or brokers expand their list of acceptable items based on new uses for materials or technologies that increase demand.
- New local or regional processing or demand for a particular material develops.
- No market can be found for an existing recyclable material, causing the material to be stockpiled with no apparent solution in the near future.
- The potential for increased or decreased amounts of diversion.
- Legislative or local mandate, or other new requirements.
- New or additional capital or processing costs.
- Other conditions not anticipated at this time.

Any proposed changes in the list of designated materials should be reviewed and approved by the Public Works Director, and minor changes in this list may be adopted without formally amending this SWMP.

4.4. PLANNING ISSUES FOR RECYCLING

Jefferson County is currently well-served by a variety of recycling and composting programs. The existing service level is, in fact, equal to or better than neighboring counties, thanks in part to the 24-hour availability of recycling drop-off sites. Some improvements and issues are addressed by this SWMP, however, and the most significant of these are noted below.

Collection Frequency for Recycling

The collection frequency for the residential curbside recycling program is currently every-other-week. Other studies have shown that more frequent collections will lead