

Cork Recycling

On December 15, 2008 the Cecil County Department of Public Works began Recycling Synthetic, Natural, Wine, and Champagne Corks at all three of it's Solid Waste Management Facilities.

Cork is the bark of the cork oak tree. This tree produces a layer of cork every 9 years, so taking the bark off does not kill the tree. The bark is then used to make wine corks. The process of manufacturing wine corks results in corks and cork waste. 70% of the bark ends up as cork waste. Granulated cork is made from only the waste by-product of industrial cork production.*

We will collect corks at all of the SWMD facilities and then mail them to Terracycle. **TerraCycle is saving millions of corks from going into landfills. They are recruiting wine enthusiasts, restaurants, bars, tasting rooms and wineries to keep used corks out of the waste stream. As an eco-friendly innovator, TerraCycle upcycles used corks - both natural and synthetic - into cool products are available nationally at major retailers. If you normally put corks in the trash, this program gives you a planet friendlier option!**

What kinds of corks are acceptable?

We accept all corks! Natural, synthetic, wine, or champagne corks are all accepted. Bring them in!

Who can sign up for the Terracycle Cork Brigade?

Anyone can sign up for the Cork Brigade! Participation is open to individuals, organizations, wineries, tasting rooms, bars and restaurants.

For more information on cork recycling or to sign up your business, visit:

**<http://www.Terracycle.net/cork/cork.htm>



Cork Oak Tree



Cork harvesting



Upper Branches



Harvested tree

*www.Marylandcork.com