



Florida Department of Environmental Protection

State of Recycling in Florida

**Karen Moore
June 19, 2018**





Florida's Recycling Goals

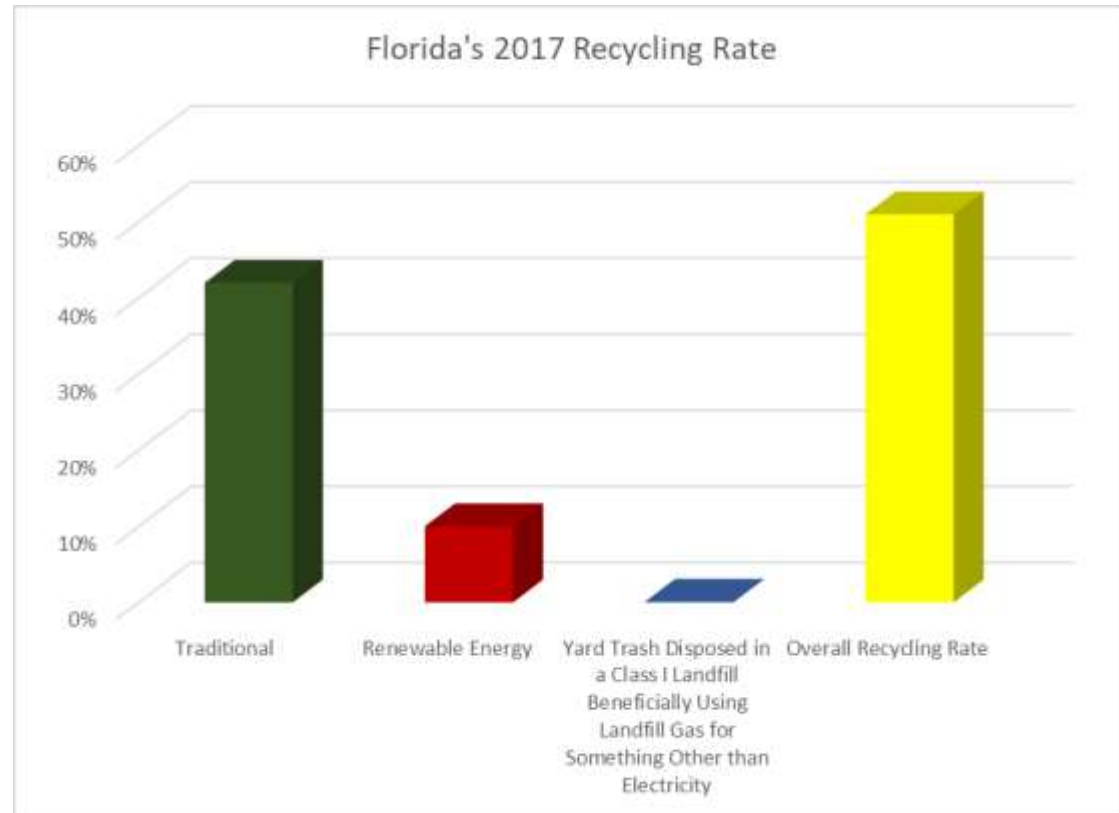
- 403.706, Florida Statute
 - The Legislature set a 75% statewide recycling goal for **municipal solid waste** by 2020.
 - Municipal solid waste is generated by residential, commercial, and institutional sources. (It does not include industrial or manufacturing waste.)
 - For 2014/2015, the threshold recycling rate is 50%. For **2016/2017 it increases to 60%**. For 2018/2019 it goes to 70%.
 - The Legislature also set that same goal for all counties over 100,000 population.
 - The Legislature has directed all counties to report their recycling progress to DEP annually.



Progress Towards the Goal

- The statewide **overall recycling rate**, which **includes renewable energy* recycling credits**, decreased from **56% (2016) to 51% (2017)**
 - The Legislature set an interim milestone recycling goal of 60% for calendar year 2016/2017
- The statewide **traditional recycling rate**, which **excludes renewable energy recycling credits**, decreased from **44% (2016) to 42% (2017)**

*Electricity produced from MSW or landfill gas





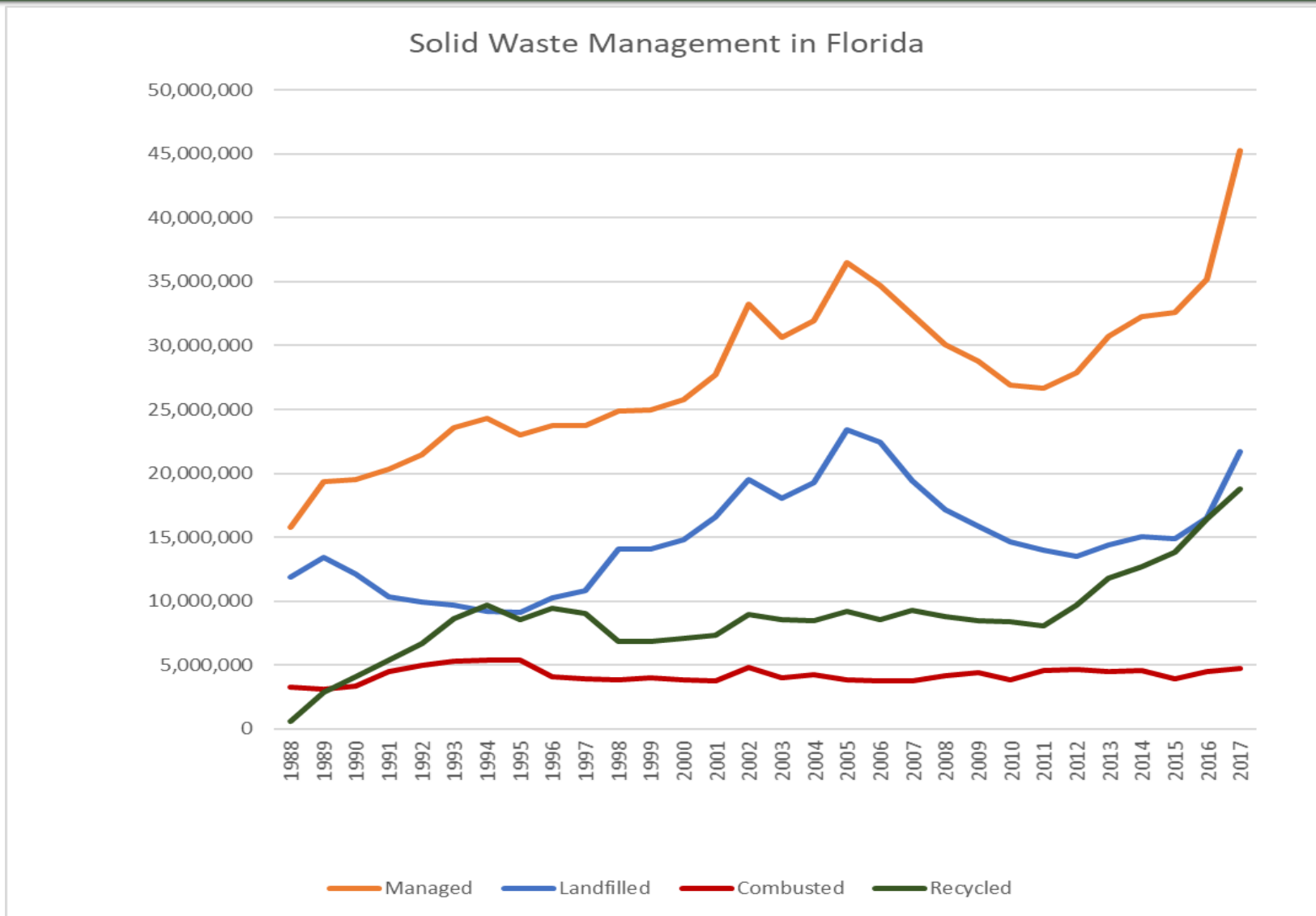
Rate Change – Why?

- First Landfill Report by County of Origin Available in 2017
 - Better Data
 - Counties Can Better Track Their Municipal Solid Waste
 - Waste being disposed outside county landfills
 - Reported Landfilled Tons Increased
 - Recycling Rates Decreased



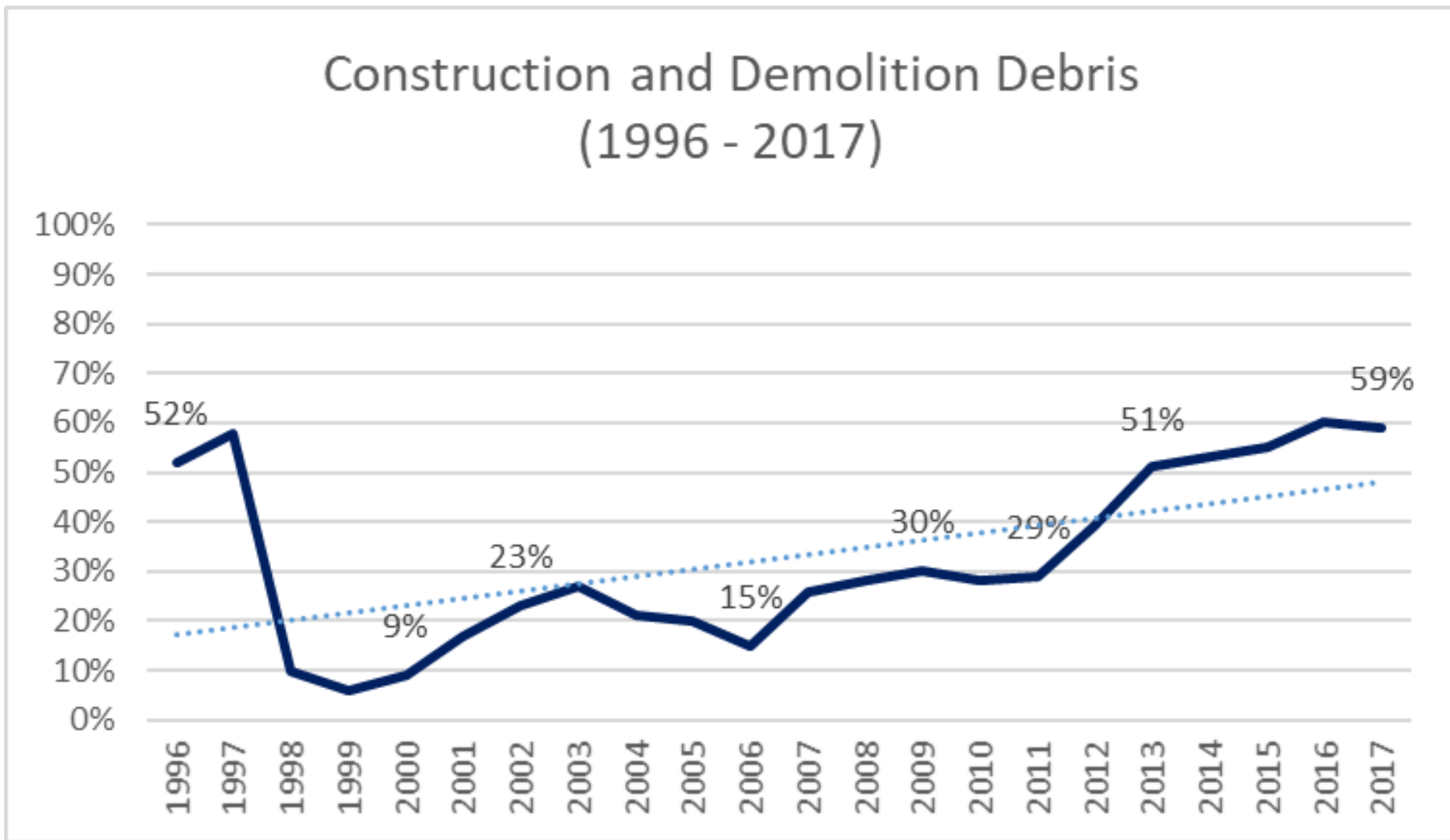


Solid Waste Management in FL (1988-2017)



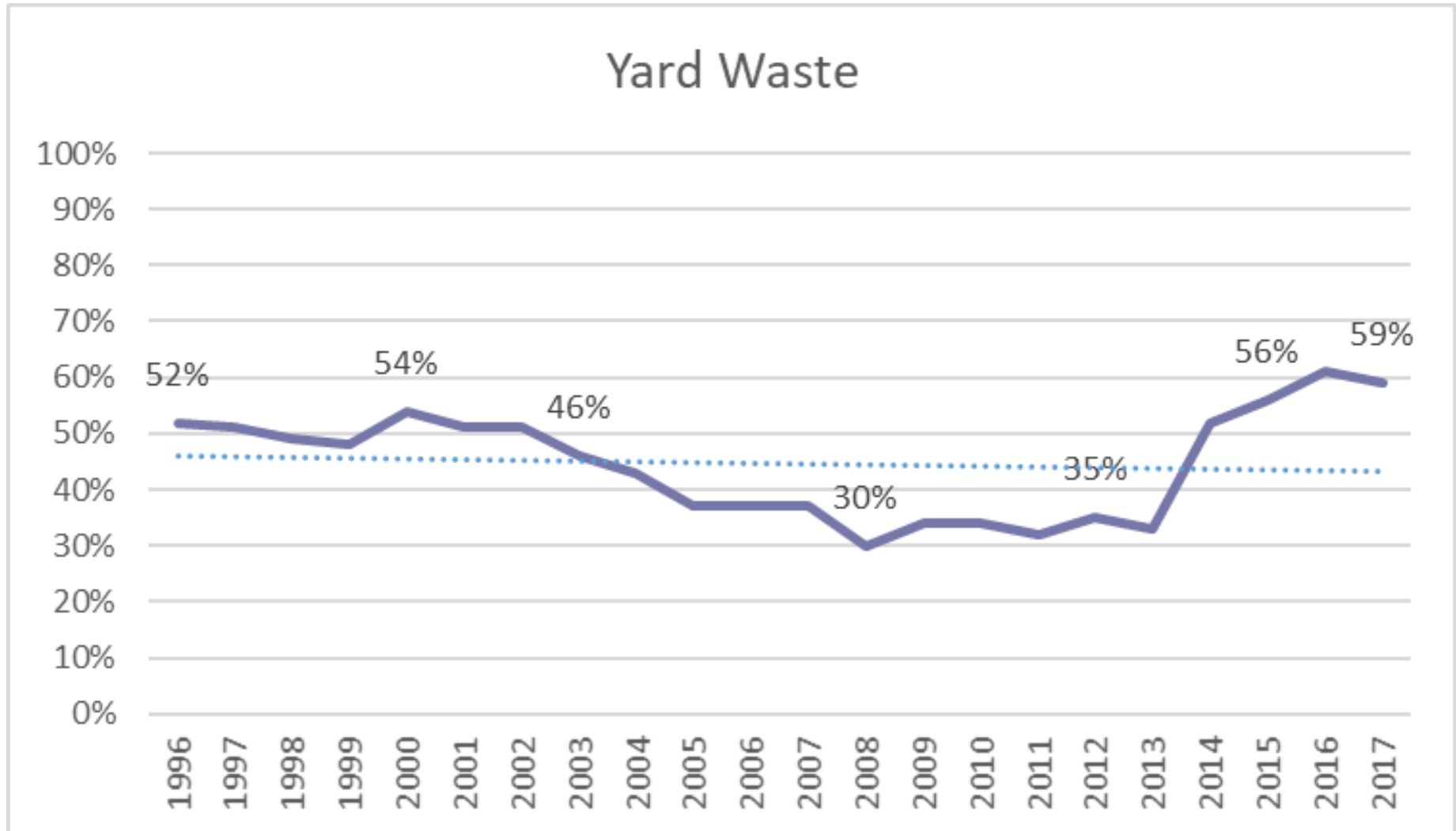


Construction & Demolition Debris (1996 – 2017)





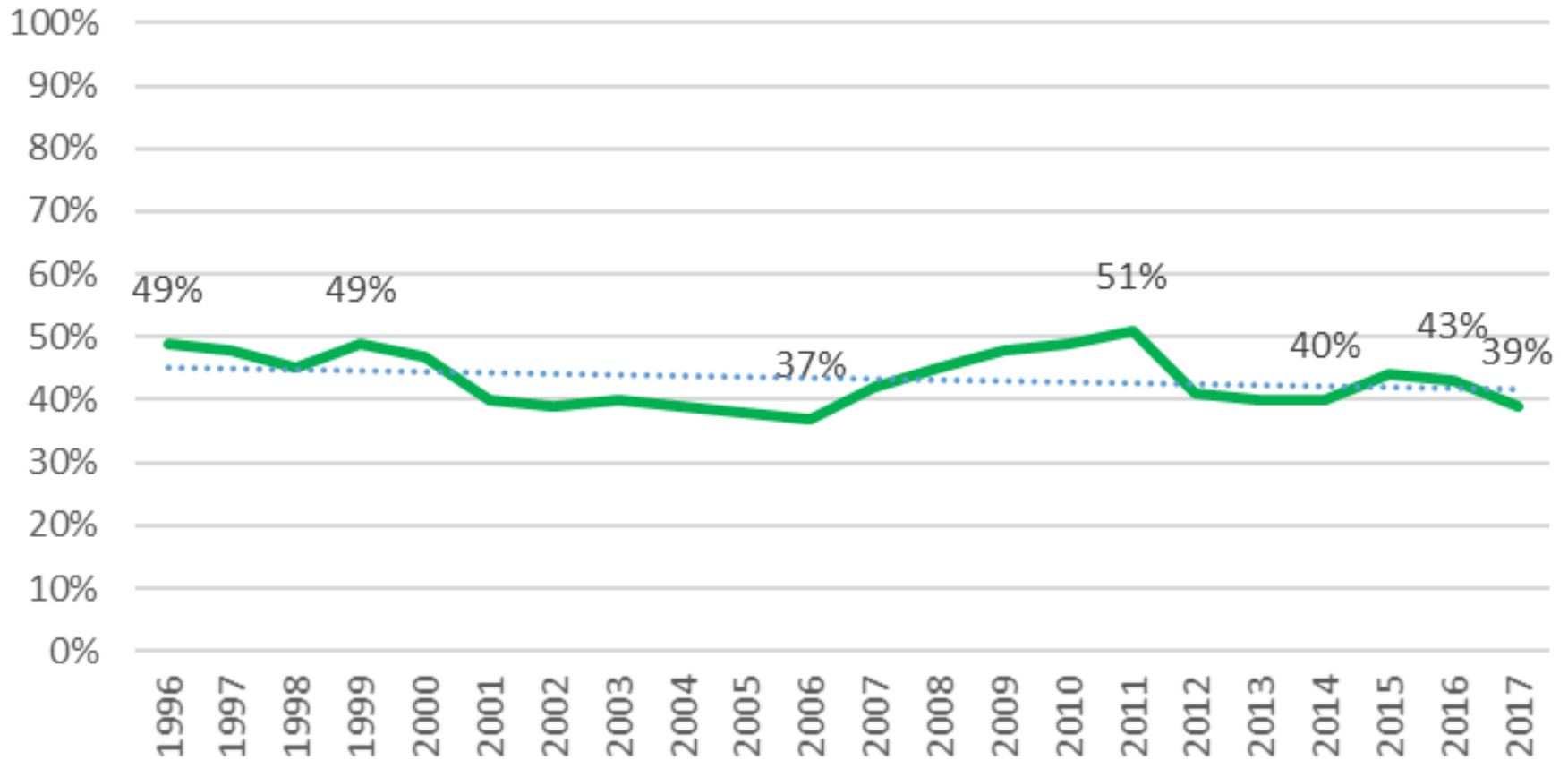
Yard Waste (1996 – 2017)





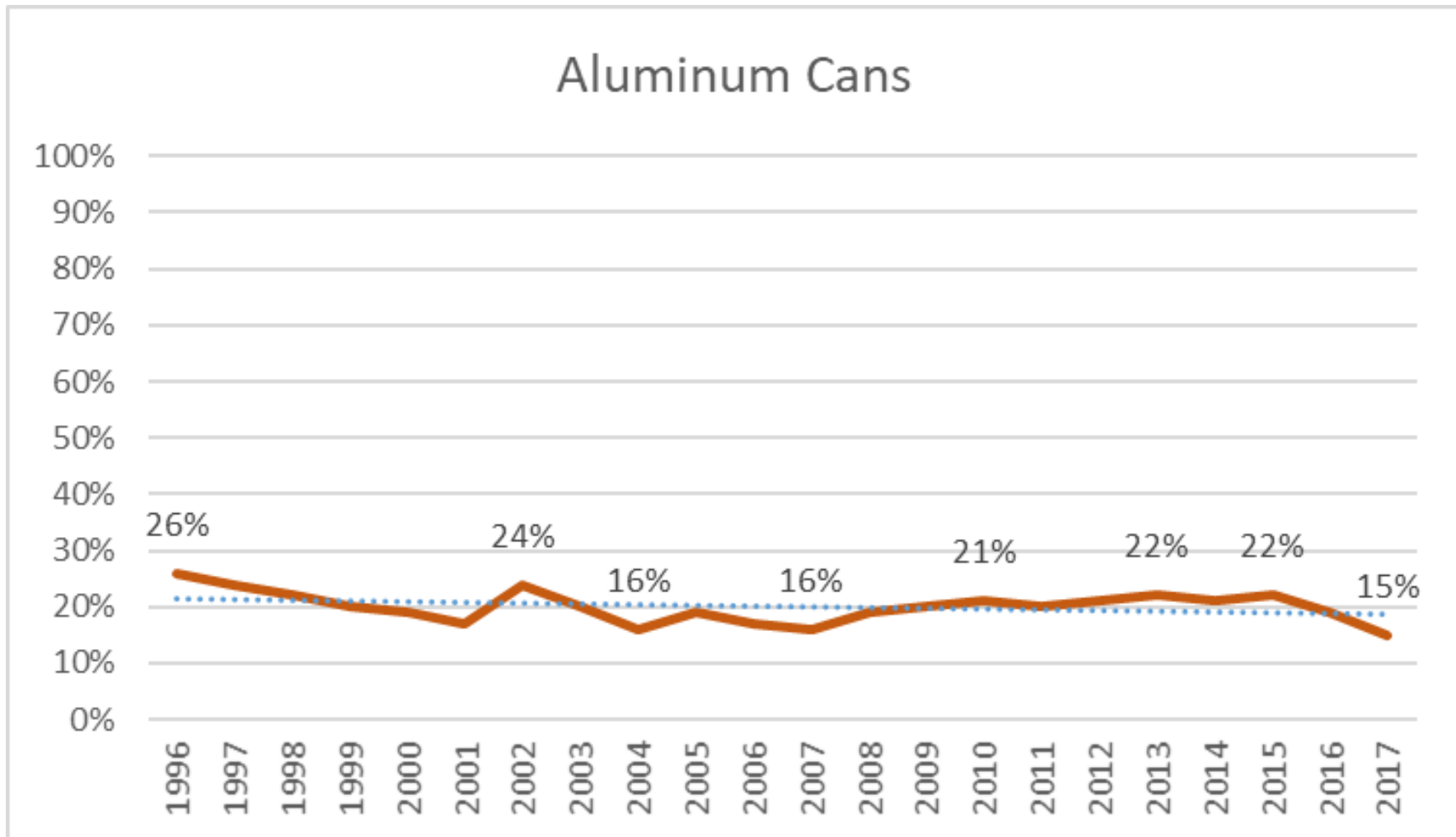
Cardboard (1996 – 2017)

Corrugated Cardboard



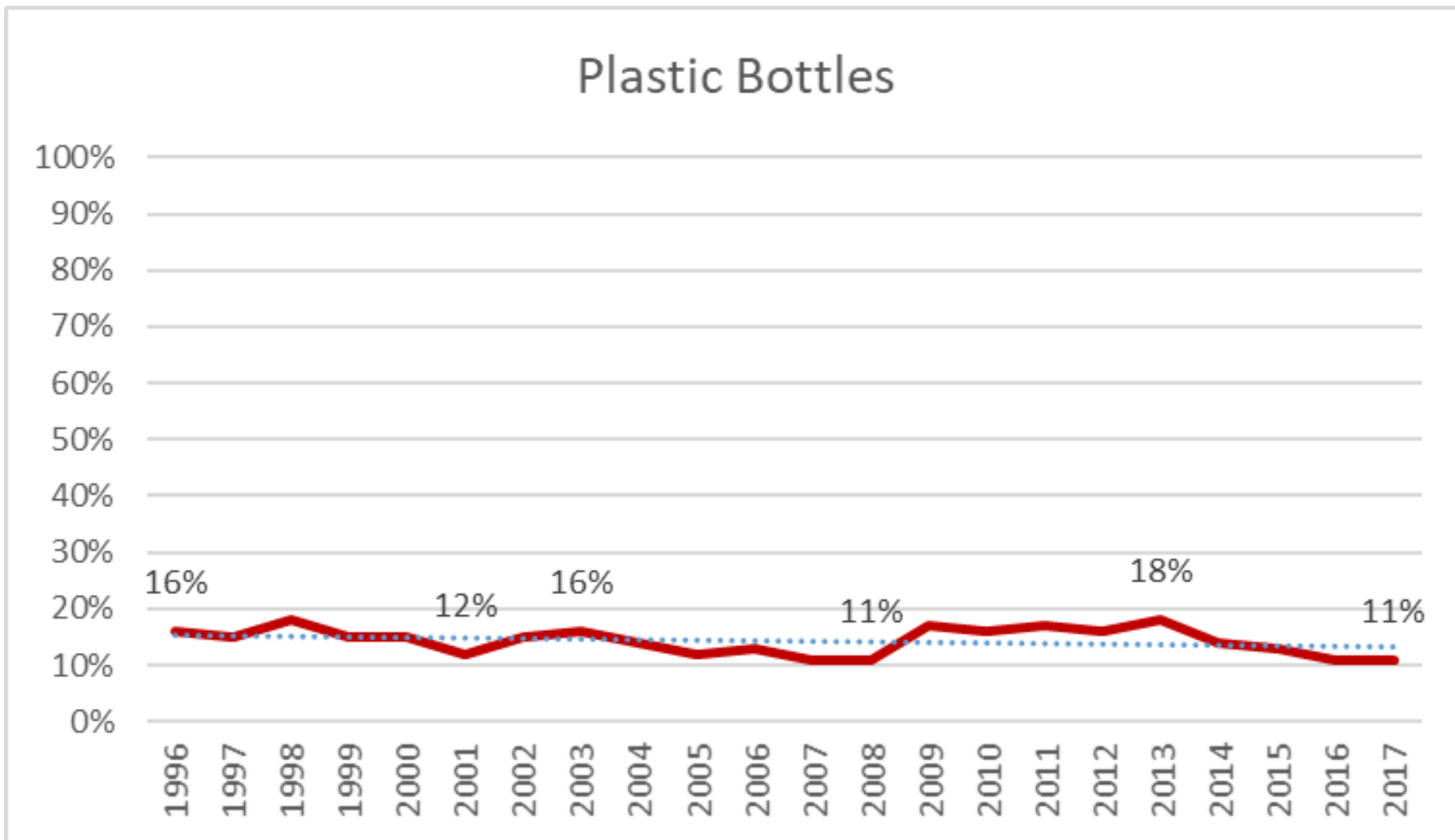


Aluminum Cans (1996 – 2017)





Plastic Bottles (1996 – 2017)





Reaching the 75% Recycling Goal

- The 75% goal is a weight based goal
 - Need heavier materials: push to recycle more C&D and Organics
 - Need more volume
 - Need additional credits



Implications of the 75% Recycling Goal

- 2012: The methodology for calculating the recycling rate changed to include the following towards meeting the state goal:
 - C&D materials and uses expanded to include:
 - Concrete From:
 - Roads
 - Bridges
 - Sidewalks
 - Curbs
 - Storm/Sewer Pipes
 - Culverts
 - C&D used for lake fill and land fill
 - Asphalt
 - Fuel or Fuel Substitute Recycling Credits
 - Definition of MSW expanded to include contaminated soils.



Implications of the 75% Recycling Goal

- Recycling credits for municipal solid waste used for the production of renewable energy
 - Waste-to-Energy (WTE) Plants
 - Renewable Energy Plants – other than WTE
 - Landfill Gas
- Yard trash can be accepted at a Class I landfill if it uses an active gas collection system to collect landfill gas generated at the disposal facility and provides or arranges for a beneficial use of the gas.
- Landfill cover: daily, intermediate and final



Implications of the 75% Recycling Goal

Single Stream Recycling

- Contamination
 - Large volume = Quantity NOT Quality
 - Goal focuses on volume not processing cost
 - Ambitious Residents
 - Not all items are accepted in recycling programs
 - Hinders processing
 - More sorting = wasted energy=higher costs



DEP Efforts

“Rethink. Reset. Recycle.” education campaign in partnership with material recycling facilities across the state to address the need to educate residents on how to reduce contamination in single stream curbside recycling.





Materials for Download



Style Guidelines

Download



Scaleable Web Banners

Download



SOCIAL MEDIA QUICK-RESPONSE GUIDE

Social Media Kit

Download



Fact Sheet

Download



Rack Card

Download



Utility Insert

Download



Print Materials

Florida has a curbside recycling problem.



Floridians are contaminating curbside recycling bins with materials that are not meant to be there — mainly plastic bags; tangles, like cords and hoses; and clothing.

Let's **RETHINK** what we recycle and **RESET** our behavior to focus on recycling the *basics* at curbside.

Back To The Basics

Focus on recycling these items in your home curbside bin:

Aluminum & Steel Cans



Plastic Bottles & Jugs



Cardboard & Paper



When in doubt
— throw it out!



Reset your recycling behavior!

By eliminating the 30% of contaminated materials in curbside recycling bins,

we could **save \$100 million** in recycling costs in one year



Problem

About **30%** of materials sent to Florida recycling facilities are not recyclable at curbside. These contaminants can clog machines and shut down operations of a processing facility or ruin full loads of "good" recyclables.



Plastic bags, tangles, and clothing are big contributors to contamination problems. Popular packaging materials like Styrofoam peanuts and containers, plastic bubblewrap and thin plastics also create processing problems.

Solution

Stick to the basics:

- Recycle...
 - > aluminum and steel cans
 - > plastic bottles and jugs
 - > paper and cardboard

When in doubt, throw it out — don't risk contaminating the load of "good" recyclables.





Working Towards 2020 & Beyond

- Workshops & Webinars
 - Food Recovery/Diversion Workshop
 - Sustainable Materials Management Workshop
 - Recycling Coordinator Training (Webinar)
 - Public Sector Reporting (Webinar)
- Education Campaigns
 - Rethink, Reset, Recycle
 - WRAP (Wrap Recycling Action Program)



Working Towards 2020 & Beyond

- Planning & Tools
 - Working closely with Dr. Townsend on his State of the State research on the feasibility of reaching 75% goal and the possibility of shifting to sustainable materials management goal
 - WasteCalc Update
- LISTSERV
 - Encourage discussion and dialogue of important topics amongst those that drive recycling in the state
 - Florida Recycling Coordinator (frc@lists.dep.state.fl.us)
 - Closed group for county and city recycling coordinators



Recycling Report

<https://floridadep.gov/waste/waste-reduction/content/recycling>

Browser address bar: <https://floridadep.gov/waste/waste-reduction/>



Recycling

Home » Divisions » Division of Waste Management » Waste Reduction » Recycling

Waste Reduction Quick Links

- District and Business Support Program
- Petroleum Restoration Program
- Permitting and Compliance Assistance Program
- Waste Cleanup Program
- Highlights
- DEP Business Portal
- OCULUS
- Contamination Locator Map (CLM)

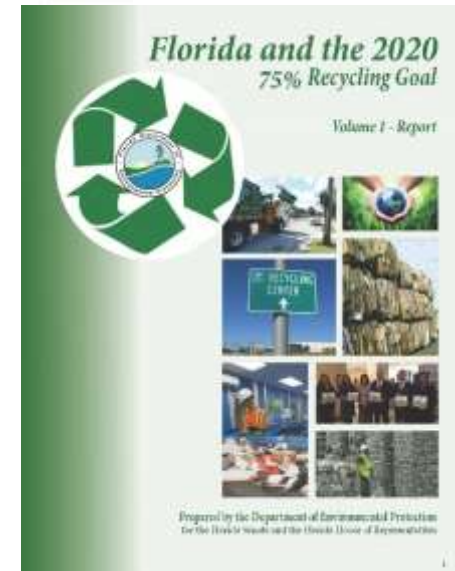
On its way to a 75 percent recycling rate by 2020, Florida's recycling rate in 2015 was 54 percent, meeting the 50 percent target rate specified in Florida statute. Twenty counties are leading the way with 2015 recycling rates reaching and exceeding the 50 percent Interim Recycling Goal.

In 2015, 20 counties have already achieved that 50 percent rate. As of Jan. 1, 2015, the department also has recognized over 30 businesses and other organizations with a recycling rate of at least 50 percent. The challenge is for the recycling efforts of other counties, businesses and governmental agencies to match or exceed those that are leading the way. Each of us and our families can contribute by continuing to recycle as much as possible from our homes.

With strong recycling programs and strong participation from businesses, governmental agencies, organizations, families and individuals, we can get Florida to 75 percent by 2020. Contact your [county recycling coordinators](#) to see how you, your family, your business and your organization can help.

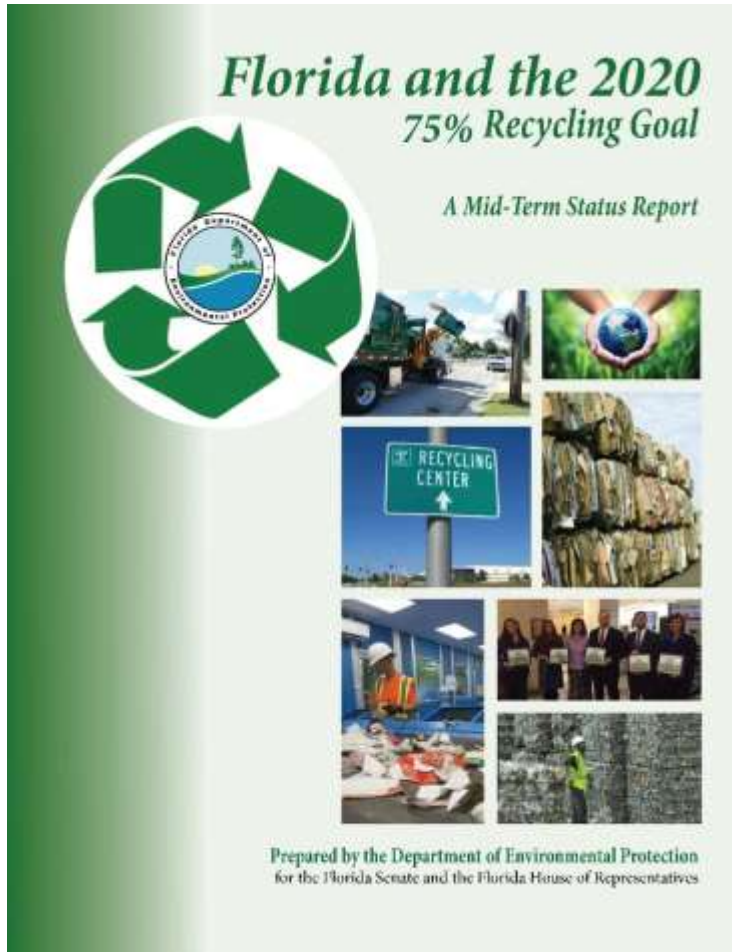
Report to the Legislature

- Florida and the 2020 75% Recycling Goal - December 2017
- Volume 2 of full Appendices coming soon.





75% Recycling Goal Report to the Legislature



- The report looks at options and recommendations provided by recycling industry stakeholders
 - Summary of Options
 - Single stream
 - Markets
 - C&D Recycling
 - Organics Recycling
 - Commercial Recycling
 - Education
 - Sustainable Materials Management



Report Conclusions

- Recycling in Florida has changed vastly over the last 10 years. Many of the challenges have occurred due to changes in collection, shifts in the recycling markets and new and lighter weight packaging.
- Florida recycling industry has been successful in continuing to raise the recycling rate since the inception of the current goal in 2012. However, without significant changes to the current approach, Florida's recycling rate will likely fall short of the 2020 goal of 75%.
- There is a developing consensus that suggest using a weight-based goal may not result in efficient or effective recycling; rather, incorporation of source reduction and sustainable materials management concepts into a comprehensive statewide recycling program may be needed.



Recycling Recognition Program



- Since 2012, DEP has awarded 33 establishments across the state with **Recycling Recognition certificates**.
- About 50 candidates are in various stages of applying, assembling data, or improving their recycling programs to qualify for recognition.
- We publicize certificate recipients on our web site.



Thank You

Karen Moore

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Waste Registration and Recycling Program

850-245-8864

Karen.S.Moore@floridadep.gov