



## Legislation Text

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**TO: Mayor and Commissioners**  
**FROM: Katerri Johnson, City Clerk's Office**  
**THROUGH: Mark R. Lauzier, City Manager**  
**DATE: November 6, 2018**

PROCLAMATION TO PROMOTE RECYCLING IN PALM BEACH COUNTY AND TO DECLARE NOVEMBER 15, 2018 AS AMERICA RECYCLES DAY.

**Recommended Action:**

It is recommended that the City of Delray Beach proclaim and recognize November 15, 2018, as America Recycles Day and encourage all residents to continue to Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rethink their waste whether they are at work, home, school or play, and to Recycle Right every day by putting the correct items in their blue and yellow recycle bins!

**Background:**

Recycling is a process that allows materials that would otherwise be wasted to be manufactured into new materials and used again. By decreasing landfill waste and conserving important natural resources, recycling can mitigate pollution, save energy, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Common items such as paper, cardboard, food and beverage containers made from plastics, aluminum and glass are known to be recyclables, but so are many other household products, such as cleaners, pesticides, rechargeable batteries, paints and electronics.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency released the 2016 Recycling Economic Information Report, which was compiled through a cooperative agreement with the National Recycling Coalition, to demonstrate the economic value of recycling using a base year of 2007. This report showed that recycling and reuse activities in the United States accounted for:

- 757,000 jobs;
- \$36.6 billion in wages; and
- \$6.7 billion in tax revenues.

This equates to 1.57 jobs for every 1,000 tons of materials recycled.

Locally, in 2010, the Solid Waste Authority (SWA) of Palm Beach County created a Recycling Revenue Share Program, in which half of the traditional recycling revenue the SWA generates - after processing costs - is shared with participating cities based off of their population or collected weight. Since the Recycling Revenue Share Program began, the SWA has shared almost \$9.5 million dollars with the partnering cities - of which **CITY OF DELRAY BEACH has received - \$879,947.59.**