

# RECYCLING COMMODITY UPDATE

## — SEPTEMBER 2025 —

### FIBER



**Fiber grades**, consisting primarily of cardboard and paper, make up about 60% of the overall residential recycling stream. Corrugated cardboard (“OCC”) and mixed paper values have recently further declined. Downward trends related to consumer spending levels coupled with uncertainty of tariffs have contributed to a decrease in OCC and mixed paper values. In addition, a mill closure in the Northeast has reduced regional demand for recycled fiber grades.



**High grades**, such as recycled sorted office paper and printer’s material, have also recently experienced a slight decrease in value. However, demand remains stable.

### PLASTIC, METAL & GLASS



**Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET)** prices have decreased since early 2025 as we enter the seasonally high generation months, which reduces demand for recycled PET. In addition, the price of virgin resin has declined, making it a more viable alternative to recycled PET as a feedstock for manufacturers. This has also resulted in lower demand for recycled material, pushing lower its value.



**High Density Polyethylene (HDPE)** natural and color grades have both experienced lower values through the last several months. The value of recycled colored HDPE is near multi-year lows. Global and domestic economic conditions have had an impact of recycled HDPE as most mills are running high inventories.

**Used Beverage Container (UBC)** aluminum pricing has declined in price over the last quarter.



**Glass** container recycling continues to be challenging and costly with insufficient demand from end markets. Much of the glass we recycle is transported long distances domestically to markets to be reused in beneficial use and aggregate mix products.



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