

RECYCLING COMMODITY UPDATE

OCTOBER 2026

FIBER



Fiber grades, consisting primarily of cardboard and mixed paper, make up approximately 60% of the overall recycling stream. Demand for recycled Corrugated Cardboard (“OCC”) remains strong, which is supportive of pricing levels. Recycled Mixed Paper grades are experiencing lower demand from mills, which results in downward pressure on its value.

High grade values have remained stable in the year due to the lack of supply. Mill demand forecasts are strong for the remainder of 2026.

PLASTIC, METAL & GLASS



Polyethylene Terephthalate (“PET”) continues to experience low pricing levels for recycled content. PET mill closures have caused a surplus of recycled material in the market causing a supply and demand impact on value and costs associated with recycling have been impacted related to higher freight costs.

High Density Polyethylene (“HDPE”) Natural values have decreased due to higher domestic recovery creating more supply than demand. HDPE Color values have increased slightly due to seasonal demand.



Used Beverage Container (“UBC”) aluminum pricing has been stable and has experienced a slight increase in value in late 2026.



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.

Overall, the recycling markets are stable and continue to modestly improve in 2026 with values across several material categories improving from multi-year lows.