

## **Free Pink Bag Curbside Textile Recycling Service Coming to Manchester**

Beginning on Monday, October 15th, Manchester residents will be able to recycle unwanted textiles and small household items simply by bagging those using free, pink plastic bags and leaving them at the curb on their regular recycling collection day. Manchester is providing the new service in partnership with Simple Recycling. The service is free to both residents and the Town of Manchester.

According to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), more than 84% of old clothes, shoes, belts, handbags, and textile items end up in a landfill or an incinerator. On average, that works out to about 85 lbs. of textile items per person each year. As a result, textiles make up more than 6% of all the residential and municipal trash in the US.

Ohio based Simple Recycling ([www.simplerecycling.com](http://www.simplerecycling.com)) aims to change those statistics. The company provides free curbside collection and recycling of unwanted textiles and housewares to communities across the United States. Currently, Simple Recycling serves nearly two million households across eight states, and will soon be serving residents here in Manchester.

Simple Recycling has sent informational mailers to homes that receive trash and recycling collection from the Town of Manchester. The mailers will contain free Simple Recycling pink bags. When cleaning out closets or disposing of unwanted items, residents can place them in the pink bags. At the start of the program, if a resident doesn't have enough bags, it's OK to use regular trash bags that are clearly marked for Simple Recycling. Residents can then place the bags at the curb on their normal recycling collection day. Simple Recycling's trucks will pick them up, free of charge. Residents can request additional free pink bags by calling Simple Recycling's toll free number (866) 835-5068 or completing a bag request form online at their website, <http://simplerecycling.com/bag-request/>

The company will accept a wide range of used textiles and small household items. The list of accepted items includes all types of used or new clothing, boots and shoes, belts and ties, handbags, hats and gloves, toys, towels, sheets and blankets, small kitchen appliances, and more.

The Simple Recycling service is not meant to compete with local charities. Its purpose is to provide a convenient curbside collection option for residents who want it. Ultimately, it's about keeping those items out of the trash.

For more information about the Simple Recycling program, Manchester residents with questions can call 860-647-3200, option 4, or visit [www.ManchesterRecycles.org](http://www.ManchesterRecycles.org).