

# Recycling

## PREVIEW

By Diane Emeott

The new recycling bins will be ready to roll out Oct. 1 – Chad Grecsek, assistant director of Environmental Services gave Deerfield residents a preview at last week's District 4 meeting.

"The big one holds 65 gallons," Grecsek showed off the new, blue recycling bin the city wants residents to try for a number of weeks. "We'll work with you. We want this to proceed."

The city will not be using city funds. "We actually received a grant for this," said City Manager Burgess Hanson.

Resource Recovery Reserves Distribution funds must be used to promote recycling, Grecsek explained later. An approximate 75-cent-per-month household charge for the new bins won't be paid for by residents, but by the grant dollars, he said.

New logo will be "ALL IN," which means "1) We can continue with single stream, putting all recyclables in one cart, and 2) There will be a community connection—with residents, businesses and the city all working together in partnership," said Recycling Specialist Cheryl Miller.

Grecsek called Deerfield Beach a leader in Broward



Chad Grecsek presents the new 65-gallon recycling bin.

County in terms of recycling.

"We are currently at 32 percent, but we have a long way to go. By 2020, all of the state [of Florida] will have a goal of 75 percent [recycling]," he said.

The idea is for solid waste diversion. When you divert more waste from the incinerator (= decrease waste), you save money. When you increase recyclables, you also get more revenue, according to Grecsek.

"We're hoping recycling is still done once a week. We're hoping, as the program takes off, folks will reduce their put out for garbage or downsize their garbage container," he said.

The city is going to an automated system, serviced with

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automated collection vehicle, with automated arm to improve collection efficiency plus decrease worker-related injuries.

"Every time someone steps off of the truck, there is a potential [workers compensation] issue," said Vice Mayor/Commissioner Bill Ganz.

For residents concerned about fitting the new bins in their garage, or in tight spaces, Grecsek said, "We'll have other size options for those who just can't fit the 65-gallon cart. However, the footprint of the 65-gallon cart is equivalent to or less than the footprint of two 18-gallon bins – the blue and yellow bins – that we're currently using."

"I can't wait to get mine!" said resident Kathy Maggi. "Between that and the gar-

bage disposal, I can go for two weeks!"

The new bins will feature a bar code in front. They will be special carts with info readers in them, allowing the city to keep track of strays ... if it walks away, said Hanson.

A Rewards program, this fall, will make use of the radio frequency ID tag, which helps track information. Some of the information will be used to give residents points for recycling – which can be redeemed for rewards, such as coupons to local businesses.

Miller said she will be contacting as many homeowners associations and other groups as possible to begin making every detail available.

"Recycling is the most simple, effective step we can take to create a large positive impact for our planet," she said.