

### AF&PA Comments on Methods for Reducing Consumer Packaging that Generates Solid Waste

Gretchen Spear, Director, Packaging & Government Affairs Hartford, CT June 21, 2017



#### About AF&PA

- Advances a sustainable pulp, paper, packaging and wood products manufacturing industry
- Fact-based public policy and marketplace advocacy





#### The Paper Industry in Connecticut

- Over 3,600 employees, 61 facilities
- \$270 million in annual payroll
- \$39 million in estimated state and local taxes paid



#### AF&PA's Sustainability Goals

- 1. Paper Recovery
- 2. Energy Efficiency
- 3. GHG Emissions
- 4. Forestry
- 5. Safety
- 6. Water

Exceed 70%

Increase purchased energy efficiency by at least 10% Reduce intensity by at least 20% Increase certified fiber procurement Reduce incidence rate by 25% Reduce use in mills by 12%







# **Paper-based Packaging Products**



#### **Papermaking Process**





#### **Paperboard Packaging**







- 1) Bleached Paperboard
- 2) Recycled Paperboard
- 3) Bleached Paperboard Liquid Packaging



#### **Corrugated (Cardboard) Containers**





#### **Paper Bags – Grocery and Retail**





#### **Multiwall Paper Shipping Sacks**







### **Paper Recovery**



#### U.S. Paper Recovery Rate 1990-2016





#### Increasing Paper Recovery

- AF&PA promotes a free marketplace for collection and utilization for all products
- Raising awareness about the importance of recycling
- Creating public/private partnerships
- Providing tools and resources
- Promoting of proven best practices



#### **Recovered Fiber Contamination**

- "Wishful Recycling"
- Fiber is at risk of contamination from liquids, glass and other waste materials
- Support separation of dry recyclable material from wet or organic solid waste



#### **AF&PA Action Plan: Partnerships**

- The Recycling Partnership
- Foodservice Packaging Institute
- Paper Shipping Sack Manufacturers' Association
- The Responsible Package
- Recycling Industry Trade Associations
  - Northeast Recycling Council



#### **Recommendations**

- Marketplace drives paper recovery and utilization
- Avoid mandates and arbitrary rules
- Allow industry to continue successful, voluntary recycling programs
- Support Public-Private Partnerships





## Thank You

**Gretchen Spear** 

Director, Packaging & Government Affiars

Gretchen Spear@afandpa.org

