

WASTE MANAGMENT

In the waste management matter, the waste collection means a system for the collection of municipal solid waste, which, for each kind of waste, consists of a first selection made by the citizens. This is different from the totally undifferentiated collection, done until a few years ago.

The goal is the waste separation to redirect each type of recyclables to its most suitable treatment for the waste disposal: from dump storage or incineration for the undifferentiated residual, to composting for the organic and recycling for the differentiated ones (paper, glass, plastic, metal, etc.)

It is citizen or Company responsibility to do the first separation of waste, trying to use the necessary precautions such as cleaning of glass and plastic waste from food, debris and oils.

Apart being an action driven by the common sense of every citizen, there are penalties for those who do not properly dispose the waste. It is different for special waste such as oils, batteries, medicines, neon tubes, etc.: each ones has its own containment and they must not be disposed as undifferentiated.

Here are some data that can make people understand how waste collection important is:

- Each kilo of recycled plastic saves 1.5 kg of CO₂;
- Recycling 4 wooden pallets it can be made 1 desk; with 30 it can be made a wardrobe;
- Recycling 1 aluminum can saves 90% of energy needed to produce a new one and 9 kg of CO₂ for every kilo of aluminium;
- More than 2 million tons of paper and cardboard collected in Italy avoided the production of greenhouse gases equal to a traffic national block for a week;
- To produce 1 ton of paper from virgin pulp it is required: 15 trees, 440,000 liters of water and 7,600 kWh of electricity.

With these data it is essential that everyone strive to differentiate the waste as much as possible to recycle an increasing rate of material.

The Italian Law No. 152 of 3 April 2006, regulates the national waste management. It gives Regions the powers and functions to achieve the goals of recycling. In addition the municipalities have their own plan that manages the waste collection, it takes to achieve the goals mentioned, fixed as follows:

- At least 40% within 31 December 2007
- At least 45% within 31 December 2008
- At least 50% within 31 December 2009
- At least 60% within 31 December 2011
- At least 65% within 31 December 2012