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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**ROCK ISLAND COUNTY AREA  
DROP-OFF RECYCLING PROGRAM LAUNCHES “NO GLASS”  
RESTRICTION**

BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2009, the drop-off recycling program in Rock Island County area will no longer take glass. The six-year old program recycles roughly 200 tons per month of paper products and mixed materials, such as plastics, metal and glass to date. However, current economic conditions have resulted in poorer glass recycling markets, higher transportation costs and too great a cost to process glass, nearly tripling the cost of processing from the current price.

“It was a tough Board decision because glass has been an integral part of the drop-off program.” said Gena McCullough, RICWMA Staff Coordinator. By weight, glass represents 14-15% of the recycling volume. The drop-off program began in 2003 to reduce landfilling of recyclable products, promote recycling, encourage reuse and purchasing recycled content materials, and improve the quality of the environment in the Rock Island County. Since 2003, over 17,000 tons have been diverted from landfills.

City Carton Recycling was awarded a new 5-year contract by RICWMA to process and recycle plastics, metal and paper products including cardboard and box board. Processing costs will rise from the current \$36.75 per ton to \$42 per ton in the first year, increasing annually to account for inflation over the five year term. RICWMA administers the program and pays the cost of recycling through its solid waste fee assessed at the landfills in Rock Island County.

The regional collection sites include:

- **East Moline – 901 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue at Fire Station and 1200 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue at City Engineering and Maintenance Services Facility**
- **Milan – 451 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street**
- **Moline - 3635 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue at Public Works Department**
- **Rock Island – 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 24<sup>th</sup> Street at Water Treatment Plant**

The communities of East Moline, Milan, Moline and Rock Island continue to host regional drop-off recycling collection sites as part of the program sponsored by RICWMA, a consortium of local governments in Rock Island County. The program has been an excellent example of intergovernmental cooperation and cost effectiveness.



30% Total Recovered Fiber  
All Post-Consumer Fiber

