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## Appendix

## E

## Recycling Markets

The economic viability of recycling depends on a number of factors, including the prices for recyclable materials. Table E-1 shows Washington, DC, and national market prices.

*Table E-1. Local and National Recyclable Material Prices, September 2003 (\$/ton)*

Material	Washington, DC	National
<b>Metals</b>		
<b>Ferrous</b>		
Used steel cans	75	90
No. 2 bundles	80	76
Municipal shredded	80	88
Shredded auto scrap	120	121
<b>Nonferrous</b>		
Aluminum UBCs	920	980
Auto batteries	60–80	100
<b>Plastics, baled</b>		
Clear PET	240	300
Green PET	200	280
Natural HDPE	180	260
Mixed HDPE	100	180
Mixed PET	120–140	220
Mixed HDPE and PET	20–40	60
<b>Paper, post-consumer</b>		
Corrugated	40	64
Newspaper 6	35–40	44
Newspaper 8	60–65	70
High-grade office	180–185	122
Colored ledger	75–80	94
White ledger	120–130	153
Computer laser	126–136	166
Computer laser- free	130–138	178
<b>Glass</b>		
Clear	29	29
Green	11	9
Brown	14	17

Source: *Recycling Manager*, a service of American Metal Market, 2003.

The current recycling market (2003) places the highest value on office paper, white ledger paper, laser paper, aluminum used beverage cans (UBCs), and plastics, including PET and natural HDPE. Prices for glass, mixed HDPE and PET, corrugated cardboard, and newspaper #6 are relatively low. The market for recyclables is still developing. As more end-products use recyclables as inputs, the viability of markets for recyclables will grow. In addition, viable markets for other recyclables may emerge during the SWMP planning period.