

Public Recycling

By Kathy Hudson

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With once-a-week residential recycling on the way, I've been noticing other ways to make trash disposal in this city greener.

Last Wednesday I was at Cross Keys with a friend. After we shopped at [Talbot's](#), we went to the [Village Square Café](#). What an inviting addition to the neighborhood that restaurant is.

Unfortunately, we were there at 3:30 p.m., and we didn't want to spoil our dinners, so we passed on the good-looking muffins and pastry and on the outstanding BLT I spied another customer having. My friend had iced tea, and I had water in a glass bottle. When I was finished, however, I tried to put the bottle in a recycling trashcan, but none was to be found either in the café or out in the courtyard.

The same thing happened recently when I was up at the Eddie's shopping center on Roland Avenue. A friend wanted to put her soda can in a trash can for recyclables. None was found along the wide concrete apron, inside of Eddie's or inside of Starbucks. She ended up taking her can home, just as had I ended up taking my bottle home from Cross Keys.

It wasn't hard to take our trash home, but it would be nice if merchants and the city provided ways for the public to dispose of trash responsibly.

I hope that Baltimore City will soon put recycling trashcans out on street corners. The ones with small holes at the top I've seen in other cities are excellent for glass and plastic bottles. I hope that area merchants and area shopping centers will do the same.

Right now Baltimore is behind the eight ball in having recycling containers in public and commercial areas.

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Kathy Hudson is a freelance writer who lives in in Roland Park. Her interests include gardening, literature and city life. She's a terrible cook, so she's always on the lookout for a decent meal, carryout or otherwise. She's written for "The Baltimore Messenger" since 1995 and has had a bi-weekly column, "Hudson's Corner," since 1998. For "Style" magazine she writes spotlights on people and regular garden features.