



## Reduce Junk Mail

### FOUR STEPS TO FOLLOW:

1. End unsolicited credit card offers by telling the major credit agencies not to sell your information to direct mail and credit card companies. Please call 1-888-567-8688 24 hours a day.
2. Add your name to the Do Not Mail List maintained by [directmail.com](http://directmail.com). There is no charge for this service.
3. Add your name to the Mail Preference Service maintained by the Direct Marketing Association. A \$1.00 fee payable by credit card is used for verification purpose.
4. Please notify specific companies or catalogues that you wish to be removed from their lists. Call the number listed on the mailing or catalogue. Give them your catalogue or customer number, on the back of the publication.

### INTERESTING FACTS:

Did you know that junk mail creates four million tons of preventable waste each year? The waste generated by junk mail has many negative impacts on our environment.

- Costs taxpayers \$320 million in disposal fees annually.
- Destroys 62 million trees a year.
- Creates 28 billion gallons of wastewater per year.
- Fills 3 % of American Landfills.
- 44 % percent is unopened, unread and trashed.

By following these simple steps you can free up space in your mailbox and in our landfills. Remember anytime you sign up for new service or give out personal information like name, address, and telephone number to a company, that information could be sold to other companies. Avoid giving out your information whenever possible.

With that in mind, it is difficult to end junk mail entirely. For the mail pieces that you do receive, make sure you recycle them. Richland County Solid Waste will recycle your catalogues, magazines, books and junk mail. Please remove card on any credit card offers you receive in the mail. Cut up the plastic card and dispose of it in your regular trash.

If you have bank statements and/or account information you want to dispose of properly. Please contact your local bank and see if they offer this service for their customers before taking the documents to them. **DO NOT PUT THIS INFORMATION IN WITH YOUR JUNK MAIL.**