



Mountain Lakes Recycling Guidelines

Mountain Lakes is a community that values the natural environment, and it is not alone. In 2017, Mountain Lakes was one of 48 New Jersey communities out of 565 that earned Sustainable Jersey Silver Certification. None have Gold. We all benefit from keeping our environment clean and sustainable, and our Ordinances reflect the State and Federal environmental regulations.

Please follow the guidelines laid out for you in this brochure. This brochure covers responsible recycling – both home pickup and at the DPW Recycling Center, disposal of household hazardous waste, keeping our waters clean, and a few other suggestions to better enhance our natural surroundings. See the table of contents below.

More information is available on the Borough website at www.MtnLakes.org under the “Borough” tab in the top menu. Information regarding solid waste, recycling and water conservation can be found in the “Department of Public Works” section. The Ordinances are available through the website too. Be sure you know the rules and read over the Borough Ordinances. If you have an issue or complaint you can send it in through the website on the home page. Scroll down to “Quick Links” and click “Resident Service Request”. Keep up with events here too. The DPW has Trash Day for large items the third weekend of April and Oct each year.

Contents

Homeside Pickup	2
Recycling Center	3
Other Recycling Options	4
Household Hazardous Waste	5
Backyard Composting	6
GrassCycling	7
The Better Bag Challenge	8
Water Conservation	9
Stormwater Pollution	10



Mountain Lakes Recycling Guidelines

Homeside Pickup

Below is a summary of the items accepted and not accepted for homeside weekly recycling in Mountain Lakes. Our recycled materials generate revenue for the Borough, where trash collection is a cost. Please take the time to review how these materials need to be prepared for pick-up.

Do not use plastic bags to contain *any* recycling

COMMINGLED - Plastics, Glass and Metals

- **Plastics** - #1, #2, #4, #5, #7, including bottles, jars, jugs & other rigid plastic containers
- **Glass** - clear, amber and green bottles and jars
- **Metals** - Aluminum & Metal cans, metal jars, can lids, bottle caps, clean aluminum dishes and foil
- **Aseptics** - Milk cartons, Juice boxes & containers



Please rinse out all containers

UNACCEPTABLE COMMINGLED

If you are not sure, please put it in your refuse container.

- **Plastic Bags** - Use recycling receptacles at King's and Whole Foods
- Plastic Wrap
- **Glass** - Window panes, Mirrors, Ceramics, Pyrex, Drinking glasses
- Aerosol cans
- **VCR/VHS Tapes** - #5 plastic case is recyclable but mylar tape is not

FIBER - Paper

- Newspaper
- Junk Mail
- Paper Bags
- Cardboard
- Gray cardboard - cracker, cereal, cookie and cake mix boxes
- Corrugated Cardboard (must be flattened)
- Office & notebook paper with or without staples
- Envelopes with or without windows
- Magazines
- Spiral Notebooks
- Manila folders
- sticky notes
- postcards
- greeting cards
- non-metallic wrapping paper
- coupons
- frozen food boxes

All paper & cardboard must be placed in a reusable container, like a paper bag. **ALL CORRUGATED CARDBOARD MUST BE FLATTENED.**



UNACCEPTABLE FIBER

- Food contaminated paper or boxes - pizza boxes
- Padded envelopes
- Waxed cardboard & paper
- Paper towel & napkins
- Tissue paper
- Metallic wrapping paper
- Blueprint paper
- Construction paper
- Self-adhesive labels & envelopes

Mountain Lakes Recycling Guidelines

The Recycling Center

55 Pocono Road
Mountain Lakes
Mon-Fri 7am-4pm
Sat. 7am-2pm

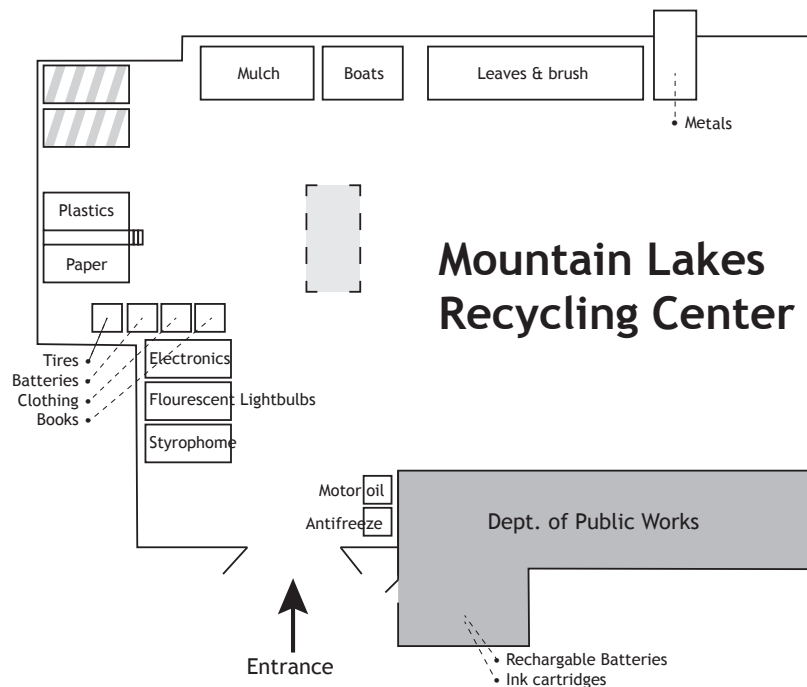
**Bulk Trash Days are
scheduled twice a year
(Fri-Sat) in
April and October**

Homeside recyclables can also be dropped off at the Recycling Center

- **Commingled** - One dumpster is provided for CLEAN plastics, glass and aluminum/metal cans. NO PAPER OR PLASTIC BAGS IN THIS DUMPSTER. Use the scrap metal dumpster for all hard metals.
- **Mixed Paper** - One dumpster is provided for mixed paper.
- **Shredded paper** - MUST be in a clear plastic bag tied at the top and placed alongside the dumpster. DO NOT PUT ANY PLASTIC BAGS OR NON-PAPER ITEMS IN THIS DUMPSTER.

RECYCLABLES THAT ARE ACCEPTED *ONLY* AT THE RECYCLING CENTER (Not homeside)

- **Antifreeze and Used Motor Oil** - Dispose of in designated containers
- **Batteries** - lead acid/automotive in shed area marked "Batteries"
- **Rechargeable and cell phone batteries** are collected in a designated box inside the door to the DPW office.
- **Electronic Waste** - computers, TV's, printers, fax machines, microwaves, game consoles, radios, stereos, remotes, zip discs/drives
- **Fluorescent Light Bulbs** - all sizes, CFLs too
- **Ink Cartridges** - collected in designated box inside the door to the DPW office
- **Styrofoam** - CLEAN WHITE ONLY (no stickers, labels or tape). No packing peanuts allowed
- **Tires** - Whole only
- **Scrap Metal and Appliances** - Metal bookcase, metal fencing, metal file cabinets, metal garbage cans, grills, hole punchers iron, lawn mower (with gas & oil removed), metal pipes, screens, staplers, metal table toaster, etc.
- **Leaves** - deposit in area marked "Leaves Only" - NO PLASTIC BAGS
- **Mixed Brush** - deposit in area marked "Brush Only"
- **Grass Clippings** - NOT accepted at this facility. (See page 7)
- **Clothing** - Gently Used
- **Books** - All usable books will be donated to charity organizations. Any unusable books will be properly recycled.



Recycling Center
is for recyclables
only
NO TRASH
See Borough
Regulation §295

Other Recycling Options

These items are not accepted at the Mountain Lakes Recycling Center, but a few suggestions are offered for local places that reuse, recycle or dispose of them properly.

- **Bubble wrap and Packing Peanuts** - UPS Store
- **Carbon Dioxide Alarms/Detectors** - FIREX will accept and properly dispose of all manufacturers at no charge: www.firesafety.com/homedir/en/ProductsServices/Firex
- **CD Cases/Jewel cases** - Green Disk 1-800-305-DISK, 425-392-8700
- **Coat Hangers (Metal)** - Return to Cleaners to reuse or put in Scrap Metal at the Recycling Center
- **Cork** - Collected at Whole Foods
- **Eyeglasses** - Donate at Lens Crafters, Pearle Vision
- **Flags** - Contact American Legion or VFW
- **Plastic Bags** - Recycling receptacle at King's and Whole Foods



Gently Used Local Donation Opportunities

- Items can be resold on the **Montville Twp/Mtn Lakes/Boonton Twp/Boonton Stuff For Sale** Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/954067847966486/>
- **Big Brothers Big Sisters** has a community donation center at 307 Route 46 East in Denville. Acceptable items include clothing, linens, books, miscellaneous household items and some furniture. For complete list go to http://njpickup.org/items_accepted.html
- **Goodwill** has several area stores/donation centers. The closest being 266 Route 46 East in Rockaway. See <http://www.goodwill.org/>
- **LUPUS** will pick up at your door. See <http://www.lupus.org/>

Other options

The Morris County MUA website offers an extensive list of local alternatives including internet based exchange links:
www.mcmua.com/sw_reduction.asp

Recycling NJ website offers a simple to use guide to recycling questions:
www.recyclingnj.com/recycle.html

Mountain Lakes Recycling Guidelines

Household Hazardous Waste

Household hazardous waste (HHW) are materials found in residential products containing hazardous chemicals that are harmful to human health and the environment. They pose a threat to our water, air and wildlife when not handled correctly or disposed of appropriately.



Pollutants commonly found in households can trigger asthma, allergies, chronic disease and other negative health effects. People are exposed every day to toxic materials in the form of cleansers, pesticides and fumes from paint and carpeting. Fortunately, comparable products with little or no toxic constituents are available.

Mountain Lakes (ML) promotes the use of alternatives to household hazardous substances. All unused substances should be safely disposed and not thrown out in the trash.

Latex “water-based” paint

Must be dry and disposed of with the rest of your household garbage. Here’s how to properly dispose of latex paint:

- 1) Make sure the paint can is 1/2 full or less. (If the can is more than 1/2 full, pour excess into another container, like a milk jug, coffee can, or trash bag.)
- 2) Add clay-based kitty litter or speedy dry so that the can is 3/4 full.
- 3) Stir mixture.
- 4) If liquid paint remains, add more kitty litter or speedy dry.
- 5) Allow paint/kitty litter or speedy dry mixture to dry until no longer pourable.
- 6) Dispose of can in the garbage.

DO NOT PUT THE LID BACK ON THE PAINT CAN! Cans will not be picked up by your trash hauler if they can’t see that the paint is dry.

EMPTY CANS AND LIDS also go in the trash.

The Recycling Center has safe disposal receptacles for these household hazardous materials:

- Anti-Freeze
- Car Batteries
- Rechargeable Batteries
- Consumer Electronics
- Fluorescent Light Bulbs
- Used Motor Oil

Oil-Based Paint

Oil-based paint is a flammable material. It must be disposed of at a Morris County Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Day or at the permanent Household Hazardous Waste Facility in Mount Olive. For more information please call (973) 829-8006.

Backyard Composting



With a small investment in time, you can improve the health and appearance of your yard, save money on fertilizers and mulch, all while preserving natural resources and protecting the health of your family and pets.

Composting is nature's way of recycling organic materials back into the soil in order for the cycle of life to continue. The billions of living organisms in healthy soil transform dead plants into vital nutrients for new plant growth. Since healthy plants come from healthy soil, one of the best ways you can build healthy soil in your garden and lawn is by using compost. You can easily make compost with landscape trimmings and food scraps in your own backyard.

How to make compost

- 1) Add your **brown** and **green** materials (generally three parts browns to one part greens), making sure larger pieces are chopped or shredded. The ideal compost pile contains browns and greens (of varying sizes) placed in alternate layers.
- 2) Every time you add to the pile, turnover and "fluff" it with a pitchfork to provide aeration, unless your bin has a turner.
- 3) When material at the bottom is dark and rich in color, with no remnants of your food or yard waste, your compost is ready to use. The resulting compost can be applied to lawns and gardens to help condition the soil and replenish nutrients.
- 4) Do *not* add **NON-biodegradable items** (plastics, glass and metals), **toxins, pesticides, meat, dairy items, or pet waste.**

Greens (1 part)

- Uncooked or cooked fruits and vegetables
- Bread and grains
- Coffee grounds and filters
- Grass clippings
- Paper tea bags with staple removed

Browns (3 parts)

- Cotton or wool rags
- Dryer and vacuum cleaner lint
- Eggshells
- Nut shells
- Fireplace ashes
- Sawdust
- Houseplants
- Hay and straw
- Wood chips
- Leaves, branches, twigs
- Used potting soil
- Shredded newspaper
- Cardboard rolls
- Clean paper
- Hair and fur
- Chicken, rabbit, cow, horse manure

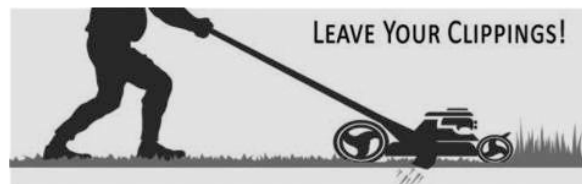
Troubleshooting Your Pile

Problem:	Cause	Solution:
Rotten egg smell	<i>Insufficient air or too much moisture</i>	Turn pile and incorporate coarse browns (sawdust, leaves)
Ammonia smell	<i>Too much nitrogen</i>	Incorporate coarse browns (sawdust, leaves)
Pile does not heat up or decomposes slowly	<i>Pile too small</i>	Add more organic matter
	<i>Insufficient moisture</i>	Turn pile and add water
	<i>Lack of nitrogen</i>	Incorporate food waste, grass clippings, or manure
	<i>Not enough air</i>	Turn pile



GrassCycling - To feed your lawn

GrassCycling is the practice of leaving grass clippings on your lawn when mowing. It's the natural way to recycle grass clippings, which also provides your lawn with the valuable nutrients and the water that it needs.



Why GrassCycle?

SAVE MONEY

Save money on water, fertilizer, and cost of disposal.

ENJOY A HEALTHIER LAWN

GrassCycling is an easy way to a healthy lawn and a great way to recycle valuable nutrients. Clippings break down quickly & release appropriate nutrients like nitrogen back into the soil feeding your lawn.

SAVE WATER

Grass clippings left on your lawn will shade grass roots and help keep the moisture in the soil from evaporating.

REDUCE YOUR WORK

GrassCycling can drastically reduce the time and money spent on lawn care by saving you from the hassle of raking, bagging and disposing of grass clippings and studies show that homeowners actually reduce their total annual mowing by 20-25%.

REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS

Burying grass clippings in a landfill contributes to the generation of methane, a greenhouse gas 21 times more potent in its heat trapping capabilities than carbon dioxide.

You Can GrassCycle!

- 1) Mow your lawn when it's dry.
- 2) Keep your mower blades sharp.
- 3) Follow the "1/3 Rule" - mow your lawn often enough so that no more than 1/3 of the length of the grass blade is cut and left on the lawn at a time. Lawns are most healthy when mowed to a height of 2 ½ to 3 inches.

Try it for a few weeks and see what you think

Do I need a special mower?

You can GrassCycle with any mower (push, electric, gas or mulching). Remove the collection bag to allow clippings to drop on the lawn. If your mower does not have a safety flap covering the opening where the bag fits into the chute, then purchase a retrofit kit from your hardware store. If you use a landscape service, tell them to leave the clippings on your lawn.

Will GrassCycling cause thatch and make my lawn look bad?

GrassCycling does *not* cause thatch buildup. Research has shown that shallow roots caused by pesticide treatments, overwatering and over-fertilizing are the primary causes of thatch, *not* grass clippings. Short clippings from regular mowing will decompose quickly and will not cover the grass or cause thatch.

The Better Bag Challenge

Plastic single use bags are made from a non-renewable resource; and the manufacturing process of single-use paper bags is water-intensive. Single-use bags may last for 1,000 years or more if landfilled.

Join the Green Team in our effort
to stop using single use bags

Here's what you can do:

- 1) Sign the pledge at:
www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0545afae2ca3fe3-reusable
- 2) Get your Environmental Commission pouch bag and sport your support of environmental activities. Pledge signers get the discounted price of \$6.00.
- 3) Keep reusable bags in your purse or the car.
- 4) **Remember to bring your reusable bags into the store. If you don't, then go back out to the car to get them.**



Why does it matter?

It is estimated that there are over 500 BILLION plastic bags used annually throughout the world. Only 5-10% of these bags are properly recycled, and others in the single-stream recycling stream can cause equipment to jam and delay the processing of recyclables. A substantial quantity of these bags ends up on our roadsides, in our trees, in our storm drains and, also, in our waterways. Where they can be devastating to marine life. Additionally, both single-use paper and plastic bags are costly for retail stores and that cost is passed on to us, the customers.

If soiled, reusable bags can easily be washed. Pouch bags can be kept conveniently in a purse or clipped on to belt loops. Reusable bags can also be kept in the car.

Remembering to bring the reusable bags into the store has proven to be the single biggest reason for nonuse.



Environmental
Commission of
Mountain Lakes

Water Conservation

Mountain Lakes draws our drinking water from a sole source aquifer. This means its the only source of potable water for us and is irreplaceable. According to the U.S. Geological Survey our aquifer has shown a steady average decrease in water levels. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection advises conservation.

Indoors

Big water users are toilets, washing machines, showers, faucets, and dishwashers.

- Use ENERGY STAR water efficient appliances and plumbing fixtures
- Check for water leaks
- Keep cold water in the fridge so you don't have to run the faucet
- Turn off faucet when brushing teeth or shaving
- Recover water by collecting cold water that runs until it gets hot, and use for plants
- Limit shower time



Outdoors

Gardening to suit the water supply conditions is most sustainable.

Choose drought tolerant native grasses, shrubs, and trees.

Avoid pesticides - healthy soil retains moisture better and reduces watering needs. The microbes are essential ingredients of healthy soil.

Fertilize with mulch and compost - these natural fertilizers retain moisture, retards weed growth, feed plants a complete diet, and improves the soil.

- Mulch is available free seasonally at the Recycling Center.
- MLEC offers home composters annually on EcoWeekend at a discounted price.

Obey the Water Conservation Ordinance (No. 237-10) - which limits the days that residents can use sprinkler systems to water their lawns and landscaping from June through September every year. Residents with even numbered homes can water on even days and odd numbered homes can water on odd days from 12:00 to 10:00 am and 6:00 pm to 11:59 pm.

If you have an automatic watering system

- Use drip irrigation and micro sprays over sprinklers.
- Adjust your schedule to coincide with rain
- Install a soil moisture sensor so you do not use water when the soil is saturated.

Use Rain Water Collection (Rain Barrels) -

Rainwater helps replenish groundwater (aquifers). Plants prefer rainwater to municipal water that has traces of chlorine, and it's free. 500 gallons of water can be collected in a 1/2 in. rain with water coming off a 1500 sq. ft. roof.

- MLEC offers rainbarrels annually on EcoWeekend at a discounted price.
- Fit your gutters with a rainbarrel system that meets your needs.



Solutions to Stormwater Pollution

As a member of the New Jersey community, know these easy things you can do to protect our water.



Limit your use of fertilizers and pesticides

Fertilizers and pesticides compromise the ability of natural environments, like those of our streams and woodlands, to perform optimally.

- Do a soil test to see if you need a fertilizer.
- Do not apply fertilizers if heavy rain is predicted.
- Look into alternatives for pesticides.
- Maintain a small lawn and keep the rest of your property or yard in a natural state with trees and other native vegetation that requires little or no fertilizer.
- If you use fertilizers and pesticides, follow the instructions on the label on correct application.
- Make sure you properly store or discard any unused portions.

A Guide to Healthy Habits for Cleaner Water

Pollution on streets, parking lots and lawns is washed by rain into storm drains, then directly to our drinking water supplies and the ocean and lakes our children play in. Fertilizer, oil, pesticides, detergents, pet waste, grass clippings: You name it and it ends up in our water.

Stormwater pollution is one of New Jersey's greatest threats to clean and plentiful water, and that's why we're all doing something about it.

By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of stormwater. It all adds up to cleaner water, and it saves the high cost of cleaning up once it's dirty.

As part of New Jersey's initiative to keep our water clean and plentiful and to meet federal requirements, municipalities and other public agencies must adopt ordinances prohibiting various activities that contribute to stormwater pollution. Mountain Lakes is part of this initiative (Ordinance No. 202). Breaking these rules can result in fines or other penalties.

Properly use and dispose of hazardous products

Hazardous products include some household and commercial cleaning products, lawn and garden care products, motor oil, antifreeze, and paints.

- Do not pour any hazardous products down a storm drain they are connected to local waterbodies.
- If you have hazardous products in your home or workplace, make sure you store or dispose of them properly. Read the label for guidance.



- Use natural or less toxic alternatives when possible.
- Recycle used motor oil.
- See page 5 of this brochure or contact the Borough facility management office for the locations of hazardous-waste disposal facilities

Clean up after your pet

Did you know that animal waste from pets can pollute our waters? When left on the ground, pet waste is washed by rain and melting snow and ice into storm drains that carry it to our rivers, lakes, the ocean and drinking water.

Animal waste contains a high concentration of nutrients as well as bacteria and disease-causing microorganisms that can cause problems.

- Mountain Lakes has pet-waste rules that are enforced.
- An example is requiring pet owners or their keepers to pick up and properly dispose of pet waste dropped on public or other people's property.
- Make sure you know Mountain Lake's ordinances and comply with them. It's the law.
- And remember to: Use newspaper, bags or pooper-scoopers to pick up wastes.
- Dispose of the wrapped pet waste in the trash or unwrapped in a toilet.
- Never discard pet waste in a storm drain.



Keep pollution out of storm drains

- Mountain Lakes has marked storm drain inlets with messages reminding people that storm drains are connected to local waterbodies.
- Do not let sewage or any other wastes flow into a



stormwater system.

Don't feed wildlife

- Do not feed wildlife, such as ducks and geese.
- Mountain Lakes has an ordinance that prohibits wildlife feeding in public areas.

Dispose of yard waste properly

- Keep leaves and grass out of storm drains.
- Use leaves and grass clippings as a resource for compost.
- Use a mulching mower that recycles grass clippings into the lawn. See page 7 of this brochure for GrassCycling.

Don't litter

- Place litter in trash receptacles.
- Recycle. Recycle. Recycle.
- Participate in community cleanups on EcoWeekend, usually the 3rd weekend of April. For details check the Mtnlakes.org website.

Contact information

For more information on stormwater related topics, visit www.njstormwater.org or www.nonpointsource.org

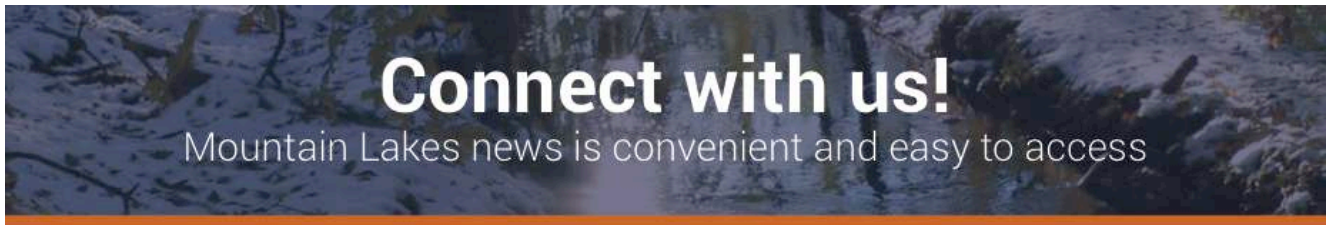
Additional information is also available at U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Web sites www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater or www.epa.gov/nps

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Water Quality
Bureau of Nonpoint Pollution Control
Municipal Stormwater Regulation Program
(609) 633-7021

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
www.CleanWaterNJ.org



POSTAL CUSTOMER - LOCAL



1 **Subscribe to Borough Texts**

Sign up for emergency alerts through Nixle

Get borough emergency information in real-time to you home, mobile or business phone, email or text. You pick where, you pick how.

Visit www.nixle.com or text **07046** to **888-777**

2 **Connect with us through E-mail/Social Media**

Email Blast:
eblast@mtlakes.org

Learn of upcoming events in town and important borough announcements...

Facebook:
[BoroughofMountainLakes](https://www.facebook.com/BoroughofMountainLakes)

Twitter:
[@mtnlakesnj](https://twitter.com/mtnlakesnj)

3 **Visit our Web Site**

www.mtnlakes.org

Everything you need to know about your Borough:

- Public Works
- Public Safety
- Schools
- Finance
- Recreation
- History