

What is commingling?

- Commingling is the process of combining mailings from many mailers into one very large mailing called a “pool”. Since the pool is 5 million or more pieces, there are only a few plants in the US that do this process.
- Five Maples uses a commingler in New Jersey for certain mailings. They pick up our mailings for commingling on Tuesday and Thursday. Those mailings are combined with mailings from many other companies, with the trucks leaving for all around the US within 2-3 days after the pickup.

Five Maples will recommend commingling for your mailing if it appears that:

- It may improve the in-home date for the mailing across the country, or,
- It may save some postage cost.

How does it affect delivery?

- Compared to regular USPS handling, commingling will take 3-5 days longer for in-home delivery in New England, have about the same delivery in NY and NJ, but save 5-15 days for in-home delivery for the rest of the country.
- That is to say, commingled mailings should take 5-to-10 days in the Northeast and 10-to-15 days for the rest of the country.

How does it affect cost?

- The large size of the pool results in postal discounts, which are partially offset by trucking and processing charges. Thus the postage cost for a commingled, non-profit class letter, postcard or self-mailer less than 1.5 ounces, is 14.5 cents each. For standard class, it is 26.3 cents each.

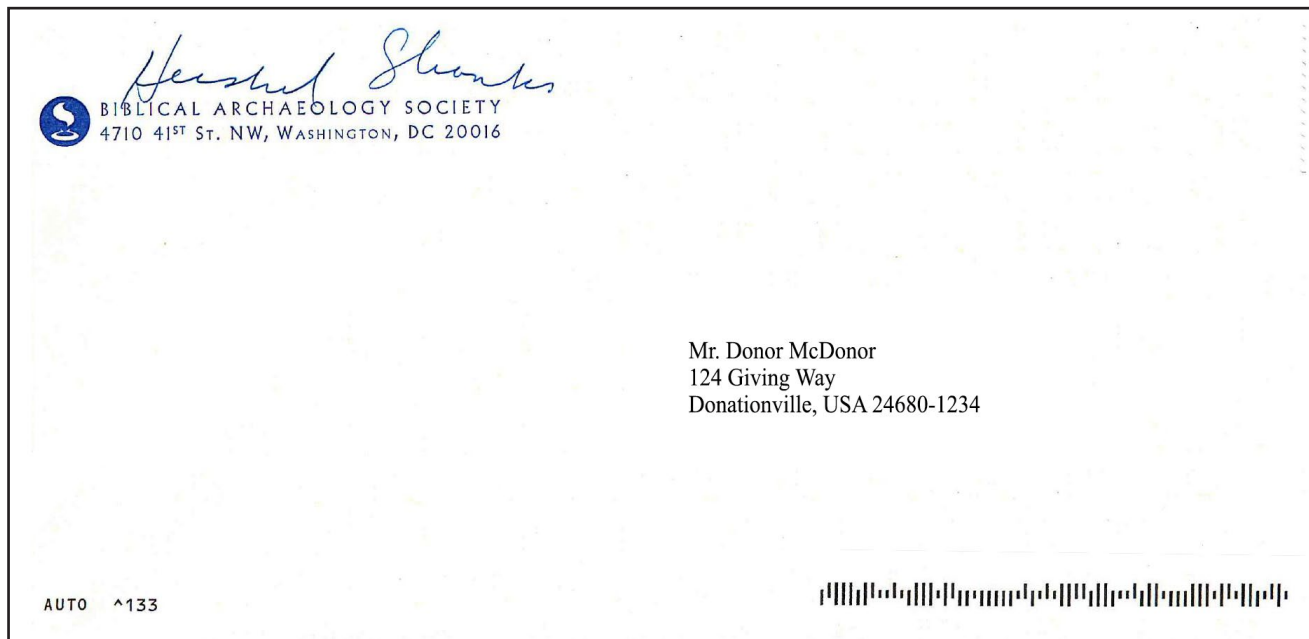
Should your mailing be commingled?

- If your constituents are spread across the US, and you want the best overall delivery across the country, but don't want to pay for first class mail, then you may want us to use commingling for your mailing.

What are the requirements?

- At least 5,000 letter-sized pieces in your mailing.
- On enveloped mail we need to print the word Auto in small letters in the address panel or lower left corner of the envelope. See the next page for a scan of what that looks like on an envelope, with the word Auto next to the match number our camera system uses to ensure 100% insertion accuracy.

Example of commingle envelope:



On enveloped mail we need to print the word Auto in small letters in the address panel or lower left corner of the envelope. Here is a scan of what that looks like on an envelope, with the word Auto next to the match number our camera system uses to ensure 100% insertion accuracy.