

Paper and Cardboard

CURB SIDE RECYCLING

Most of us use a product made of paper every day. Paper production represents about 1.2% of the world's total economic output and makes up more than 40% of the composition of landfills. The good news is, more and more Americans are recycling paper.

REMOVE ALL STAPLES AND PAPERCLIPS BEFORE RECYCLING

Do's

- Corrugated cardboard (boxes) Break down all boxes.
- Magazines
- Office paper (all colors)
- Newspapers
- Paperboard (cereal boxes)
- Unsolicited direct mail (even window envelopes are okay)
- Phone books



Don'ts

- Waxed paper
- Dairy or Juice cartons
- Food-contaminated paper (such as a cheese-encrusted pizza box)
- Mixed metal and paper (like stapled paper – just remove the staple and the paper can be recycled)

Metals

Do you think of your empty soda cans and food cans as natural resources? They are. The scrap value of the 36 billion aluminum cans Americans discarded in one year alone was about \$600 million. Apart from the economic impact, the environmental savings of recycling metal are enormous. Recycling steel and tin cans, for example, saves 74% of the energy needed to produce them in the first place.

DON'T RECYCLE UNTIL THE CANS ARE CLEAN, LEFT OVER RESEDUE CAN CONTAMINATE THE RECYCLING PROCESS

Do's

- Aluminum cans
- Foil and aluminum bake ware
- Steel cans and tins (rinsed-out soup cans, veggie cans, coffee cans, etc.)
- Wire coat hangers
- Empty aerosol cans (make certain the can is completely empty, remove the cap and lid since this material cannot be recycled.)

Don'ts

- Food-contaminated metals (rinse thoroughly before recycling)
- Automotive parts
- Plumbing parts
- Paint cans with wet or dried-on paint (Dried paint cans will go into regular trash and onto the landfills)
- Electronics (See list for recycle locations)

Glass

Glass is endlessly recyclable, and most glass bottles and jars produced in the United States now contain at least 25% recycled glass – which also requires 75% less energy to produce than glass made from new materials. One important thing to keep in mind as you recycle glass is that even small amounts of some materials (like ceramics) mixed in with glass can contaminate entire loads.

DON'T RECYCLE UNTIL THE GLASS IS CLEAN, ANY LEFT OVER RESEDUE CAN CONTAMINATE THE RECYCLING PROCESS CLEAR, BROWN AND GREEN GLASS ONLY!!

Glass Cont.....

Do's

- Clear glass (rinsed mayonnaise containers, pasta sauces, pickle jars, etc.)
- Brown amber glass typically used for beer
- Green bottles typically used for wine

Don'ts

- Any glass contaminated with stones, dirt and food waste
- Ceramics, such as dishware, ovenware, and decorative items
- Heat-resistant glass, such as Pyrex
- Mixed colors of broken glass
- Mirror or window glass
- Metal or plastic caps, corks or lids (remove from the jar before recycling)
- Crystal
- Light bulbs
- Cathode-ray tubes (CRTs) found in some televisions and computer monitors

Plastics

Did you know that every year we produce enough plastic film in this country to shrink-wrap Texas? Or that Americans discard 38 billion plastic water bottles every year? While plastic offers the advantages of being flexible and lightweight, manufacturing it consumes fossil resources and contributes waste to our environment. One important thing to keep in mind as you recycle plastics is that cleanliness is essential. One dirty product, or one with food waste still in it, can contaminate an entire bale containing thousands of pounds of collected plastics.

The Plastic Recycling Code

How can you tell whether to put a plastic container into your recycling bin? Turn the product over and look for the recycling symbol, a triangle with a number from 1 to 7 inside. That number is the "resin identification code," or RIC. Each number represents a different type of plastic, and some are more easily recycled than others.

DON'T RECYCLE UNTIL THE PLASTIC IS CLEAN!!

ANY LEFT OVER RESEDUE CAN CONTAMINATE THE RECYCLING PROCESS.

PLASTICS NUMBERED #1 through #7 ARE ACCEPTED

Typical Dos

- Make sure it's clean! Does that peanut butter jar still have some remnants sticking to the side?
- Garden Plastics (flats, trays and individual pots) are now accepted. Must be completely clean.
- **Plastic Jugs and Bottles (#1 & #2) and Household Plastics (#3 to #7)**
These typically include soft drink and soda bottles; plastics from cereal boxes; containers for salad dressing, vegetable oil, and peanut butter; oven-ready meal trays; butter and margarine tubs; and containers for laundry detergent and some household cleaners.
- Plastic grocery and produce sacks are commonly, but not always, made from plastic types #2. Make certain your check the number listed on the bag. These bags are often collected in barrels at grocery stores or place them all in one bag tying them securely so that individual bags do not fly away.

Typical Don'ts

- Food-contaminated plastic—rinse out all plastic containers thoroughly.

Styrofoam—items such as coffee cups, foam egg cartons and packing material are **NOT accepted** for recycling in this area.