



Recycling Contamination Is Costly

Contamination ruins the quality of recyclable materials, clogs sorting machinery, and can even endanger recycling workers. Contamination causes entire truck loads of recycling to be rejected and diverted to landfill.

What is recycling contamination?

Recycling contamination is when materials that cannot be recycled, or are not properly cleaned, are mixed into the recycle stream. Some examples of common contaminants are plastic bags, soiled cardboard, bottles or jars containing food waste, and hazardous material containers.

Keep It Clean. Keep It Recyclable.

Tips for successful recycling

- ✓ Do not place recyclables in bags. Items must be loose!
- ✓ Use recycling bins for recycling only
- ✓ Set bins out by 6am to ensure pickup
- ✓ Paper and cardboard should be clean and dry
- ✓ Food containers must be empty and rinsed
- ✓ If in doubt, throw it out!

RECYCLE THESE ITEMS

Glass packaging

Bottles and jars, all colors

Metal packaging

Cans and tins

Paper and boxes

Clean paper, cartons, and cardboard

Office paper, envelopes

Newspaper, catalogs, magazines

Boxes, phone books, paper bags

Plastic: bottles, tubs, jars, and jugs

Bottles: water, salad dressing, shampoo

Jars: peanut butter, medicine, hand cream

Jugs: milk, detergent

Tubs: margarine, coffee

THESE ITEMS ARE NOT RECYCLABLE

NO PLASTIC BAGS

NO HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Bubble wrap, trash bags, newspaper bags, shrink wrap, etc.

Styrofoam® or Polystyrene

“Tanglers” such as hoses, cords, chains, holiday lights, rope, twine, textiles, etc.

Electronics (including computers, keyboards, TVs, etc.)

Food wrappers, box liners, chip bags

Foil and baking tins

Shredded paper

Food containers such as bakery, deli, salad, frozen meal trays, etc.

Home health care / medical supplies (needles/syringes, plastic IV fluid bags, CPAP masks, gloves, etc.)

Cups, plates, or cutlery of any kind

Paper towels, napkins, or wet/dirty paper

Tanks or scrap metal

Batteries of any kind



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