



Recycling 101

If you're wondering what is recycling or how to recycle properly, check below to learn everything from recycling basics to expert tips.

[Recycling Resources](#)[Simple Rules](#)[Recycling Guide](#)[Recycling Myths](#)[Recycling Services](#)

Simple Rules

Knowing these rules and putting them into practice will help you recycle more efficiently. And it will help to ensure everything that makes it into your container finds a second life.*



Recycle empty, dry bottles, cans, cups, tubs, paper and cardboard.



No food or liquid.



No bagged recyclables.



No batteries in the recycling or trash.

*Recyclable items vary by location. Check local programs to find out what is recyclable in your area.

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Recycling Guide

What Can Be Recycled

Always check local programs to confirm what's recyclable in your area. For a quick overview of the basics, download [What's Recyclable](#).

☐ All Materials☐ Plastic☐ Paper & Cardboard☐ Glass☐ Metal☐ Other

Accepted in Your Bin*

These items can go in your recycling bin, as long as they're clean and dry.



Plastic Bottles, Cups & Containers



💡 Empty and dry containers, then put the cap or lid back on before tossing in the bin. No foam or compostable cups.



Food & Beverage Cans



Paper & Paper Cups



Not Accepted in Your Bin

Try to reduce and reuse these items instead of putting them in the garbage.



No Bagged Recyclables



💡 If you collect your recyclables in a bag, empty them directly into your cart and reuse the bag!



No Plastic Bags



💡 Do not bag recyclables as materials inside may not get recycled. Reuse plastic bags, or learn where you

Other Materials

Typically not accepted for curbside pickup. Check local programs for disposal options.



No Tangling Items



💡 "Tanglers" can wrap around equipment, endanger workers and shut down entire recycling centers. If they are still in good condition, donate them.



No Dirty Diapers



💡 These materials will spoil all of the

**Healthcare**

be recycled. Some communities allow them in compost. Check your local guidelines.



Food & Beverage Containers



Glass Bottles & Containers



No Flexible Packaging



This type of packaging is made from multiple materials preventing it from being recycled.



No Polystyrene Foam

recycling options first. Put them in the garbage bin if no other options are available.



No Medical Waste



No Garage Waste

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Common Recycling Myths

Learn the truth behind the myths that contribute most to recycling contamination.

Myth: Most people recycle all they can



Myth: Recycling arrows on a container mean it is definitely recyclable



Myth: Containers must be squeaky clean in order to be recycled



Myth: Even if an item shouldn't go in the bin, it will get sorted anyway



Myth: Hoses, tanks, shower curtains, swing sets, etc. are recyclable



Myth: All types of glass bottles and jars are recyclable



Feedback

Recycling & Sustainability Services

See how WM can help you contribute to a more sustainable tomorrow.



Trash & Recycling

Weekly curbside collection.

[Residential Trash & Recycling](#)



Commercial Trash & Recycling

Recurring pickup for small and medium businesses.

[Commercial Waste & Recycling](#)



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