

Recycling Guide

The Recycling Bin

Dirty Don'ts

Below is Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation's list of recycling contaminants.

All efforts should be made to avoid placing these items in your curbside recycling bin or in bins at your local recycling drop-off center.



NO Plastic Bags

Plastic bags are the WORST contaminant in the recycling bin. When placed in a curbside bin, they get wet and dirty and cannot be recycled. Think of switching to reusable shopping bags and/or recycle plastic bags at your neighborhood store "Restore" Plastic Bag Recycling receptacle.



NO Liquids

When we compact bottles for shipping, liquids drip, splatter and explode all over the floor, creating a sticky stew with a stench. Please completely empty all containers before recycling.



NO Materials in Plastic Bags

Workers have to rip open bags that contain recyclables and then add the bag to the heap of bags bound for the landfill.



NO Ceramics or Non-Recyclable Glass

Ceramic, china, dishes, mirrors, light bulbs, Pyrex, porcelain and window glass should not go in the recycling bin. Please carefully place these items in your regular trash.



NO Plastic Lids or Caps

Plastic lids and caps are NOT recyclable on or off the bottle. They should come off and be thrown in the trash prior to recycling the bottle. Also remember to empty the bottle of all liquids.



NO Diapers or Bio-Hazardous Waste

Syringes and needles, diapers and other sanitary products are not recyclable or compostable. Visit the Eureka Sharps Disposal Program at <http://idfri.org/locations.htm> for more information and disposal locations.



NO Non-Recyclable Plastics

Plastic lids, Styrofoam, plastic coffee cups, deli containers and plastics numbered 3-7 are not recyclable at this time. Please refrain from putting these items in your curbside recycling bin. RIRRC is developing a program to accept #3-7 plastics by 2012.



NO Hazardous Waste

Hazardous waste such as paint, automotive fluids, car batteries and pesticides must be taken to either an RIRRC EcoDepot event, to the Central Landfill's EcoDepot facility or check with your local DPW for programs.



NO Frozen Food Boxes

Paperboard boxes that were designed for freezer food, such as frozen dinners, have a plastic polymer sprayed on them to protect against freezer burn. That same coating prevents the box from breaking up during the recycling process. These materials are not recyclable or compostable. Please also refrain from disposing of pizza boxes and beverage carrier boxes in your recycling bin.



NO Scrap Metal

Scrap metal items of any size should not go in your curbside recycling bin. These items cause excessive damage to the recycling equipment. Plus they are valuable! Take these items to a local scrap dealer for extra cash!



For more information contact:
Rhode Island Resource Recovery at (401)942-1430 ext. 775
Visit us on the web at <http://www.rirrc.org>