RECYCLE RIGHT



REMEMBER: EMPTY, CLEAN, AND DRY!

Empty any residual food or liquid, clean the container with a quick rinse or scrape, and tap twice to shake off excess moisture before tossing in your recycling cart.



REMEMBER: KEEP IT LOOSE!

Don't bag your recycling! Recyclables should be loose in your recycling cart and free of a plastic bag liner.

Avoid Recycling Contamination

Keep these top 10 contaminants **OUT** of your recycling cart!

(Contamination occurs when items are placed in carts or prepared improperly.)



1. PLASTIC BAGS - At the recycling facility plastic bags get tangled in machinery and can't be effectively sorted for recycling. Ask your grocery store if they offer a take-back program, bring to a transfer station, or place in the garbage.



2. STYROFOAM - Styrofoam breaks into numerous, tiny particles when compacted in a recycling truck. Please drop this off at The Recology Store (free!) or place in the garbage.



3. LIQUIDS - A few drops are ok, but more will cause paper to mold and render it nonrecyclable. Empty containers and give them a few taps to remove as much liquid as possible.



4. BAGGED RECYCLING - Keep your recycling loose in your cart. Bagged recycling presents a safety concern at the recycling facility and is often sent directly to the landfill.



5. TEXTILES - Much like plastic, textiles get caught in the machinery at the recycling facility. Drop them off at the Recology Store (free!) or call to arrange a special item pickup.



6. FOOD WASTE - Food waste left on items can prevent them from being recycled. Manufacturers using recycled materials will reject loads that smell like mold or rot. Compost food and remember "Empty, Clean & Dry!"



7. ELECTRONICS OR E-WASTE - Electronic waste contains toxic materials. Bring these items to the Recology Store (free!) or call to arrange a special item pickup.



8. YARD WASTE - Yard waste can end up baled with paper and prevent the paper from being accepted by manufacturers. Please place yard waste in your compost cart.



9. PIZZA BOXES & WAXED CARDBOARD - Grease and wax aren't good candidates for paper recycling. Place these items in your compost cart.



10. PLASTIC WRAP - Plastic that doesn't hold its shape (frozen food packaging, chip bags, and wrapping around toilet paper) can't be recycled. Place these items in the garbage.