

# PAPER PRODUCTS

## Why is it necessary to sort paper products?

Sorting paper products into the three types of categories cardboard, mixed paper, and newspapers, magazines and catalogs allows for quick processing and keeps contaminants at a minimum. Paper products with even a small amount of contaminants can ruin the entire manufacturing process.

## HOW TO SORT YOUR PAPER PRODUCTS



### CARDBOARD

Includes corrugated, cereal boxes, shoeboxes, egg cartons, and any type of brown paper or sacks



### MIXED PAPER

Includes phone books, envelopes, colored paper, white paper, and junk mail



### NEWSPAPER, MAGAZINES & CATALOGS

## PLEASE REMEMBER CLEAN PAPER PRODUCTS ONLY

## PAPER PRODUCTS THAT CAN'T BE RECYCLED

Paper with any sort of food contamination, waxed paper, waxed cardboard milk or juice containers, oil soaked paper, carbon paper, sanitary products or tissues, thermal fax paper, or plastic laminated paper such as fast food wrappers, juice boxes, and pet food bags can not be recycled.

# ALUMINUM BEVERAGE CANS



## WHY SHOULD I RECYCLE ALUMINUM BEVERAGE CANS?

- Aluminum has a high market value and continues to provide needed funds for the Solid Waste Division.
- Recycling Aluminum is easy – just rinse and store until you can take it to your local transfer station.
- Recycling aluminum conserves natural resources – every pound of recycled aluminum saves four pounds of ore.
- Aluminum will stay in our landfills for 200 or more years.
- An aluminum can recycled today will be back on your grocer's shelf in about 60 days.

## STEEL (TIN) CANS



RECYCLING TIN CANS IS EASY; ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS RINSE THEM OUT AND THEY ARE READY FOR THE RECYCLING BIN.

## WHY SHOULD I RECYCLE TIN CANS?

- Steel can be recycled again and again without losing any of its strength or quality in the recycling process.
- It takes approximately 75% less energy to make steel from recycled products than it does from iron ore.

- Recycled steel cans may be used in new cars, girders for buildings, or new food cans.
- Recycling tin cans is easy – just rinse and store until you can take it to your local transfer station.

## **PLASTIC PRODUCTS**



### **PLASTIC BOTTLES**

Plastic containers that have a smaller top than bottom

### **PLASTIC MILK JUGS**

## **WHY SHOULD I RECYCLE PLASTIC BOTTLES AND MILK JUGS?**

- Plastic takes over 500 years to decompose
- Recycling on ton of plastics saves approximately 7.4 cubic yards of landfill space.
- If every household in America recycled one out of ten plastic bottles used, it would keep over 200 million pounds of plastic out of landfills.
- Recycling plastic bottles is easy.
  - Rinse
  - Smash (to save space at your home and recycling center)
  - Store
  - Haul to your nearest recycling center

## **CAN I RECYCLE MY ANTIFREEZE, HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE, SOLVENT, OR OIL CONTAINERS?**

No, Leftover residues from these bottles and containers can create a hazard for workers, a possible fire hazard, and contaminate the recycling process.

## **WHY CAN'T I RECYCLE MY YOGURT CUP AND OTHER PLASTIC CONTAINERS?**

Many types of plastic containers such as yogurt cups, take-out food containers, and wide-mouth bottles are not recyclable. These type of containers, even though they have a number embossed on the bottom of the container, contain additives such as different dyes, plasticizers, UV inhibitors, softeners, and other chemicals required to shape the container. These additives are

incompatible with the plastic used to make milk jugs and plastic bottles.

To make plastic bottle recycling a success, please ensure that you only recycle plastic bottles in the plastic bottle recycling bin. All other type of plastic or other materials contaminate the rest of the collection and cause the entire collection to be disposed of in the landfill.

## GLASS BOTTLES & JARS



### ARE ALL GLASS PRODUCTS RECYCLABLE?

No, following is a list of glass products that will contaminate recyclable glass and may damage processing equipment.

- Ceramics (i.e. dishes, ovenware, cups, drinking glasses, etc.)
- Pottery
- Mirrors
- Windshields & Window glass
- Pyrex & Visionware
- Light bulbs
- Lead-based glass (i.e. crystal, TV tubes)

Just remember if it is not a glass bottle or jar it is not recyclable.

### WHY DO I NEED TO SORT MY GLASS BY COLOR?

Glass manufacturers add a color agent to the process to make colored glass. The color agent becomes a permanent component of the glass product. In order to ensure color consistency of the new container made from recycled glass, sorting the glass by

color is critical in the recycling process of glass. If a brown bottle accidentally ends up in the wrong recycle bin, the entire batch becomes contaminated and ends up in the landfill.



**SOME GREEN BOTTLES LOOK LIKE CLEAR GLASS. TO BETTER IDENTIFY CHECK THE BOTTOM SEAM IF IT HAS A GREENISH HUE, IT'S GREEN GLASS.**