



STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE
MAYOR

Bureau of Solid Waste

Re News



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Q&A with Recycle Rob

Recycle Rob,

Using plastic bags seems to be the easiest way to keep my recyclables. Why won't the city take them?

-Bag Lady

Dear Bag Lady,

When your single stream recyclables go to the Material Recovery Facility (MRF), they are dumped out onto a conveyor belt that starts them on the process of separation.

Plastic bags can interfere with that process by getting caught up and wound up in the separating machinery.

This shuts down the process while workers have to find and extricate the plastic bags. This takes time and money and can even damage the machinery.

Hope this gives you an idea as to why we ask our recyclers to not put their materials in plastic bags. Thanks for the question and keep on recycling!

-Recycle Rob

Submit your own questions by emailing them to:
Robert.Murrow@baltimorecity.gov

Just what do I put in my recycling container?

Basic recycling is easy: paper, bottles and cans. With single stream recycling, it is even easier – everything goes into one container – junk mail, plastic bottles and soda cans! But is that all there is? And what just doesn't belong in the rest of your recycling?

It is probably easier to know what doesn't belong than what does. Plastic bags are always a big no-no for collection and containment. Styrofoam cannot be collected curbside but you can take it to the Northwest Citizens' Convenience Center at 2840 Sisson Street. This is where you can use plastic bags since our vendor – Dart, Inc. – asks that the Styrofoam be put into plastic bags before being placed into the container that is available. Ask the yard attendant if any are available when you come.

Take-out food containers (I'm looking at you fried rice!), plastic rings (from your six-pack of healthy juice!) and deli and salad containers, and soiled aluminum foil are also not acceptable in your curbside recycling collection. Everything else can go in! Empty aerosol cans, plastic cups, books, milk and juice cartons, "clean" aluminum foil & pans, plastic wide-mouth containers and pizza boxes.

For a complete list of acceptable and non/acceptable recycling items go to:
<http://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/Recycling.aspx>

No Trash & Recycling Pick Up

July 4, 2014

Make Up Day

July 5, 2014

No Hazardous Household Collection:

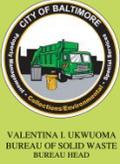
July 4, 2014

Why Recycle?



Recycling benefits our environment, economy, and our society. It creates cleaner and greener communities and supports jobs. Recycling saves Baltimore money because instead of paying to dispose of materials, the city earns revenue from the sale of recyclables to industries that rely on them to manufacture new products.





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Please don't use plastic bags!

You can use anything as a container for your recyclables **except** plastic bags. Many grocery stores and supermarkets will recycle plastic bags.



Acceptable and Unacceptable Recycling Materials

Acceptable Recycling Material:

- Aerosol Cans (empty)
- Aluminum: cans, beverage and food containers, foil (clean), and pie pans
- Bottles: narrow-neck bottles
- Cartons (waxed): used for a liquid such as juices, milk or soups
- Glass containers such as bottles and jars (brown, clear or green)
- Metal: beverage and food containers
- Plastic: bottles and jars
- Prescription bottles, including caps
- Steel: beverage containers and food
- Tin: cans and foil

Rigid Plastics

(to be taken to the citizen drop-off centers)

Rigid plastics include milk/soda crates, buckets, laundry baskets, children's toys, etc.

Unacceptable Recycling Material Examples:

- Cookware and plates (plastic)
- Containers of toxic substances -e.g., cans motor oil, pesticides, etc.
- Contaminated paper products -e.g., napkins, paper towels, and tissue
- Dry cleaning bags
- Glass (window and mirror)
- Waxed paper

Re-minders

Next Household Hazardous Waste Day is July 5!

Fluorescent light bulbs you need to dispose of properly? Then you need to come to our next monthly Household Hazardous Waste event at the Northwest Citizens' Convenience Center at 2840 Sisson Street, Saturday, July 5th & 6th from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Most of what we get is paint. Oil paint *is* household hazardous waste but latex water-based paint *is not*. It can be dried out and placed with your regular mixed refuse.

We also cannot accept *anything* not in the original manufacture's packaging.

Apartment & Condo Recycling is Coming!

During the 2012 legislative session, The Maryland General Assembly passed House Bill 1, Environmental Recycling-Apartment Building and Condominium Law.

By law an owner or manager of the apartment building or council of the unit owners of condominiums, with ten or more units, are required to provide recycling services by October 1, 2014.

For further details about the new recycling law and how it affect your community contact your property manager or contact the Office of Recycling at 410-396-4511

All American Source Reduction

As families and friends gather for cookouts and picnics, please remember to **REDUCE** the amount of trash generated by following these easy steps:

1. Bring a recycling bin, bag, or box along with you.
2. Use plates and utensils that are reusable, biodegradable, or recyclable.
3. Use an environmentally friendly grill like a solar grill.
4. Once your festivities are over, pack up your recyclables and bring them home.

Express your freedom to be **GREEN**– Recycle!!

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