

3 BASIC RULES



RULE 1

Recycle bottles, cans, cups, tubs, paper and cardboard*



RULE 2

Keep food and liquid out of your recycling



RULE 3

No loose plastic bags and no bagged recyclables

WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT!

YES

Into Your Recycling Cart

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



ALWAYS RECYCLE



Paper & paper cups



Flattened cardboard & paperboard



#1, #2 and #5 plastics - Keep screw lids on.
Plastic bottles, cups & containers



Food & beverage cans



Glass bottles & containers

Make sure everything in your cart can be recycled and fits inside your cart.
[Recycle Reload Policy.](#)

NO

NOT Accepted in your Recycling Cart

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



DO NOT INCLUDE IN YOUR RECYCLING CONTAINER



NO foam cups, containers or straws



NO loose plastic bags, bagged recyclables or film
Empty recyclables directly into your bin



No smaller than a 'credit card' items
loose caps, straws, foil bits, wrappers, and small plastic pieces



NO food or liquids



NO batteries, power tools, flammables or hazardous waste

No large plastic items
Laundry baskets, lawn furniture or toys



NO green / pet waste



NO clothing, furniture or carpet

No party items

Red Solo cups, plastic flatware, napkins & paper towels, dirty pizza boxes & plates



No flexible packaging

(multiple layered plastic)
chip bags, candy wrappers, juice pouches, snack wrappers, freezer bags like Ziplock, and frozen vegetables bags

The 'chasing arrows' symbol doesn't necessarily mean it's recyclable.

YES

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

Marked Plastics: #1, #2 & #5

Plastic Bottles, Jugs, Jars, Tubs & **Cups (#5 only)**

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

💡 NO Red SOLO cups – they are #6.

Food & Beverage Containers

Milk cartons, juice boxes, and paper food/beverage cartons are accepted. Plastic food containers are recyclable only if they are **#5 plastic** and empty. All other food containers are **trash**.

Black plastic food containers are TRASH because recycling equipment cannot properly sort them using optical scanners.

💡 Always make sure containers are **completely empty** to avoid contamination.

Paper & Paper Cups

Paper, newspaper, magazines and empty paper cups are good to recycle.

Shredded paper: Place in paper bag.

Compost or trash soggy paper products.

💡 Paper cups must be empty and recycled without lids. Keep cup sleeves on.

Flattened Cardboard & Paperboard

Flatten and recycle all cardboard and paperboard. Cut into 2' x 2' pieces to fit in the cart.

💡 Cardboard pizza delivery boxes without leftovers or liners should be recycled.

Food & Beverage Cans

Recycle empty tin, aluminum and steel cans.

💡 Make sure cans are completely empty to avoid contamination.

Glass Bottles & Containers

Bottles and jars, clear, brown, green colors are accepted.

💡 Remove caps and lids and place in garbage. No broken glass accepted.

NO

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

No Flexible Packaging

Flexible packaging like chip bags, candy wrappers, snack bags, freezer bags, frozen veggie bags, and juice or soup pouches cannot be recycled in curbside programs.

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

No Bagged Recyclables

Do not bag recyclables.

They must be loose in the bin.

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

No Plastic Bags

Plastic bags are not accepted as part of curbside recycling programs - they get tangled in equipment and threaten worker safety.

No Plastic Wrap & Film

Plastic wrap, bubble wrap, sandwich bags and freezer bags should not go in the recycle bin.

💡 Reuse whenever possible or look for local options to recycle.

No Polystyrene Foam

Polystyrene foam containers and cups are not acceptable in the curbside recycling program.

💡 Packing peanuts aren't recyclable either, however some shipping stores will take peanuts back for reuse.

OTHER PROBLEM MATERIALS That DON'T belong in the Recycling Cart

No Batteries, Power Tools, Flammables or Hazardous Waste

These items can cause fires when recycled improperly. Dispose of them at WLSSD Household Hazardous Waste Facility.

💡 Keep batteries separate in a cool place and bring to WLSSD HHW Facility.

No Tangling Items

Garden hoses, rope, leashes, wire, holiday lights, string and chains should never go in the recycling bin.

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

No Food Waste or Liquids

These materials will spoil all of the recyclables, turning the load to trash.

💡 Instead backyard compost or drop food scraps off at one of WLSSD food waste bin in your neighborhood.

No Green Waste / Pet Waste

Yard waste doesn't belong in the trash or recycling carts.

💡 Sign up for yard waste pickup from Hartel's or drop off your yard waste at WLSSD.

No Dirty Diapers

Dirty diapers' and pet waste's shouldn't go in the recycle cart!

💡 These materials will spoil all of the recyclables, turning the load to trash. Trash these instead and keep recyclables clean and dry.

No Household Items

Clothing, textiles, shower curtains, mini-pools, fencing and furniture don't go in the recycling.

💡 Check local programs for reuse and recycling options first. Put them in the trash bin if no other options are available.

No Medical Waste

Medical waste can pose a safety hazard and never goes in curbside recycling or waste carts.

💡 Don't put our employees lives in danger. Dispose of medical sharps/needles properly. Place in a puncture resistant container, such as a detergent bottle or plastic soda bottle with a screw top lid. Label: MEDICAL SHARPS. Deliver to the WLSSD Household Hazardous Waste Facility. Hartel's Disposal does NOT ACCEPT these items.

No Garage Waste

Car parts, scrap metal, tires, filters, propane cylinders and the like are safety hazards if put in curbside recycling or trash carts.

💡 Check locally for special collection programs or take them to a local retailer or scrap recycler.

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