

Bin Buddies Recyclables Fact Sheet

Plastics

Tips

- Plastic lids and rings can be left on plastic containers.
- All containers must be clean and free of food and liquid residue.

Acceptable Items

Lincoln Consumer Recyclables Collection Sites accept plastics #1 through #5. Although NOT accepted at City collection sites, plastics marked #6 and #7 can be recycled curbside.

The plastic # is usually found inside a recycling triangle on the bottom of an item.



WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT: If a plastic container does not have a recycling symbol, to prevent contaminating all of the recycling load, dispose of it in the garbage bin.

Plastic Number	Examples
#1	peanut butter jars, plastic soda and water bottles, microwavable food trays and salad dressing bottles
#2	milk jugs, laundry detergent bottles and butter tubs
#3	shampoo bottles and window cleaner spray bottles
#4	squeezable condiment bottles and frozen food trays
#5	syrup, ketchup and some medicine bottles and yogurt containers

Unacceptable Items

Plastics #6 and #7 (Accepted in curbside recycling ONLY)

For plastics #6 and #7, only bottle and tub-shaped plastics are accepted in curbside recycling. For questions about what is recyclable curbside, encourage residents to call their curbside trash and recycling collector.

Plastic Bags and Film

Putting recyclables in plastic bags and mixing plastic bags and plastic film in recycling can cause recycling sorting machines to

malfunction, shut down or catch fire.

Plastic bags can be recycled at participating grocery and retail stores. View a list of locations and the types of bags or film they accept at www.abagslife.com.

Miscellaneous Plastics

Toys, plastic tableware, styrofoam, plastic lumber, buckets and flower pots are some examples of items not accepted at collection sites.

Glass

Tips

- All containers must be clean, lids removed and free of food and liquid residue.
- Do not mix glass with other recyclables.
- Broken glass is dangerous and can cause other recyclables to become contaminated (i.e., crushed glass going into cardboard or paper).

Acceptable Items

Bottles and jars only, of any color

Unacceptable Items

Window glass, drinking glasses, mirrors, dishes and cups, vases and ceramics

Cardboard

Tips

- Flattening boxes helps save space in recycling bins.
- Cardboard must be clean and free of food and liquid residue.
- When recycling pizza boxes, separate the lid (top) and recycle. Throw greasy pizza box bottoms in the trash.

Cardboard (cont.)

Acceptable Items

Clean and dry corrugated cardboard and paper packaging. Staples and tape are okay.

Unacceptable Items

Waxed cardboard, packing material, plastic within cardboard items and wet or soiled cardboard.

Paper

Acceptable Items

Newspaper and inserts, newsprint packing paper, mail, magazines, catalogs, telephone directories, paperback books and molded paper egg cartons.

Unacceptable Items

Paper plates, coffee cups, paper towels or tissues, and soiled or wet paper.

Aluminum and Tin Cans

Tips

- Metal lids from glass bottles and jars can be placed inside tin cans. Crimp the cans at the top to prevent lids from falling out.
- Make sure cans are empty and clean of any liquids or food residue.
- Labels do not need to be removed.

Acceptable Items

Aluminum cans, steel (tin) cans, and aerosol cans.

Unacceptable Items

Aluminum pans and foil, metal objects, hangers and cans containing food or liquid residue.

Textile and Apparel

New and used items can be donated to local thrift stores.

FAQ

What do I do with items containing chemicals some of which could be hazardous?

Items that are contaminated with industrial oil-based liquids or concentrated pesticides can not be recycled. If individuals have hazardous materials that need to be disposed of, they can be taken to Lincoln's Hazardous Waste Center (5101 N. 48th Street). Latex-based paint can be dried to a semi-solid state by using cat litter or paint hardeners and can be placed in the trash.

What do I do if a recycling bin is missing?

If a bin is not at the site then they are being emptied. It usually takes the contractor about an hour to empty a recycling bin and return it.

What should I do if the recycling bins are full at a public recycling site location?

Please do not leave recyclables outside of the bins. Contact the Waste Diversion Hotline at 402-441-8215. Let them know of the recycling bin that need to be emptied. You may take your recyclables to a different site or return another day.

What if there is waste or illegally dumped material at a public recycling site?

If there is waste at the site, please call the Waste Diversion Hotline at 402-441-8215. If there is hazardous or foul smelling waste at the site, please call the Recycling Hotline or the Emergency Health Department number at 402-441-8021.

How does someone get curbside recycling service?

Visit <https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/itu/solid-waste/recycle/collectors.htm> for a list of local collectors.

