

Top 10 Things to NOT Put in Your Recycling Bin

A common question asked is “what items shouldn't I put in the recycling bin?” Some are common sense, like pizza boxes, as they can contaminate all the recyclables in your bin. But some are not so common sense! Here are items that not everyone realizes are not recyclable. They are the items that companies that recycle materials have the most problems with when processing materials.

1. Plastic bags and plastic film (take plastic bags to a grocery store that has a recycling bin for them)
2. Plastic-coated boxes, such as freezer or juice boxes
3. Ceramics or pottery
4. Pyrex glass
5. Clam-shell plastic boxes, such as for strawberries
6. Screw tops for plastic bottles, all tops should be removed and thrown away
7. Plastic containers that don't have a neck, such as margarine tubs
8. Egg cartons, paper or plastic
9. Tyvek envelopes
10. Ream-wrappers - wrappers can be coated with film to help the paper stay dry.



By keeping these items out of the recycling bins, you help your hauler provide a cleaner product that is more profitable. This will not only help keep your garbage rates down but will also help provide more recyclable products!

MORE INFORMATION

Hennepin County has developed an “A-Z Guide” for how to get rid of common household products, from recyclables to donations to household hazardous waste. Follow the link below to find more information.

www.co.hennepin.mn.us/vgn/portal/internet/hcchannelmaster/0,2324,1273_10042401_2,00.html

The Hennepin County Drop off sites accept appliances, electronics, recyclables, household hazardous waste and general trash for free or for a small fee depending on the item. Please follow the link below to find locations, hours and more information on what they accept.

www.hennepin.us/vgn/portal/internet/hcchannelmaster/0,2324,1273_143226201_2,00.html