



Reducing Our Impact Means knowing what cannot be recycled.



Every municipality and every work location has a different source separation and waste diversion program.



Knowing what is not acceptable in the program is as important as knowing what is acceptable.



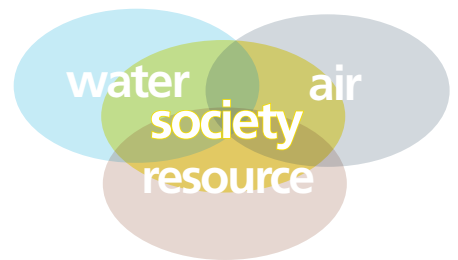
Placing unacceptable materials in a waste diversion program may:

- mean double handling
- affect the safety of the employees on a recycling line
- cause breakdowns of equipment at the recycling facility
- affect the cost effectiveness of the recycling process
- affect the quality of the materials resulting in less revenue



EACH DAY CONSIDER ▼

- Some plastics are not recyclable and belong in the garbage. Check the bottom of the container and look for the number within the mobius loop.
- Things made out of more than one type of plastic (like toys) are not recyclable.
- Coat hangers, kitchen utensils, pots and pans and scrap metal do not belong in the blue box. Coat hangers can damage machinery causing safety issues or process shutdowns. Ask your dry cleaner if they will take them back for re-use.
- Pots and pans and kitchen utensils are made from two or more materials and are difficult to separate during recovery. Try donating them to the Salvation Army, Goodwill or a second hand store.
- Scrap metal can be taken to a scrap yard.
- Some things can not be recycled because of the amount of ink that they contain. Things like cookie bags, greeting cards, wrapping paper and wall paper should be placed in the garbage.
- Wax paper also belongs in the garbage as the wax coating makes it impossible to recycle.
- Candy wraps, chip bags and wax paper liners from cereal boxes are all garbage.
- Place containers in the blue box separate from their lids. Lids can be made out of different materials from a container, keeping them together means some of the material can't be recycled.
- Some municipalities accept plastic bags for recycling. This does not include plastic food wrap (like saran wrap). These plastic wraps are made from two or more plastics making it too difficult to recycle.



MESSAGE TO TAKE HOME ▼

READ THE INFORMATION that your municipality provides about your recycling program.

TAKE THE STEPS to separate and place materials in the correct container.

CHECK OUT your municipality's website where you can find the rules for your own program.

REMEMBER if something is made from more than one material, chances are it can't be recycled.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

1. What things do you know to be unacceptable for your recycling program?
2. What materials can you recycle at your work place?
3. What are some ways you could make recycling easier at home or at work?

You must be the change you wish to see in the world.
Mahatma Gandhi



Reduce Our Impact
Our Environmental Messenger™

KNOWING RECYCLABLES

COMMIT ■ CREATE ■ PARTICIPATE