NEW YORK CITY
Residential Recycling Guide

Full recycling is back in America’s largest city! Here are some simple pointers on what to recycle and how.

Paper & Cardboard

YES

Newspapers, magazines & catalogs
White or colored paper
All mail (even envelopes with plastic windows), wrapping paper, etc.
Smooth cardboard
Cereal and other dry-food boxes, etc.
Paper bags
Flattened cardboard

NO

Plastic- or wax-coated paper
Candy wrappers, take-out containers, etc.
Carbon paper
Heavily soiled paper or cardboard
Hardcover books

Place paper and cardboard recyclables in a clear bag or green-labeled container. Note that paper milk and juice cartons (rinsed) should be placed in the container with metal, glass and plastic.

Metal, Glass & Plastic

YES

Metal cans
Food, aerosol (empty), etc.
Foil wrap & trays
Plastic bottles & jugs
For detergent, soda, milk, juice, water, etc.
-any bottle where the neck is smaller than the body
Glass bottles & jars
Milk and other beverage cartons
Household metal including:
- Wire hangers
- All metal appliances (from washing machines and stoves to toasters and irons)*
- All indoor and outdoor metal furniture, including cabinets and window screens
- Metal pots and pans, cutlery and utensils

NO

Motor oil or chemical containers
Styrofoam
Cups, egg cartons, etc.
Food containers
For yogurt, margarine, take-out, salad bar, etc.
Plastic bags, wrap or film
Sandwich wrap, grocery or dry cleaning bags, etc.
Plastic trays or tubs
For microwave, etc.
Plastic utensils, plates, cups, bowls
Plastic appliances, toys, furniture
Lightbulbs
Pane glass
Pump spray nozzles
Caps or lids
Household batteries

*Rinse metal, glass and plastic items and place them in a clear bag or blue-labeled container. Throw away caps and lids with your regular trash.

To find this guide online, go to www.nrdc.org/cities/recycling/

For more information, call the city information line at 311 or visit the New York City Recycles website at www.ci.nyc.ny.us/html/dos/html/bw_home/index.html

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