



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

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.

NO

Plastic- or wax- coated paper

Candy wrappers, take-out containers, etc.

Carbon paper

Heavily soiled paper or cardboard

Hardcover books

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

*Call 311 before discarding appliances that contain CFC gas, such as refrigerators and air conditioners.

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 collect the 5-cent deposit on beverage containers such as beer and soda bottles and cans, redeem them at a neighborhood store instead of putting them in with your 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

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

Natural Resources Defense Council
40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011 | 212 727-2700
www.nrdc.org