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A Leader in Solid Waste Solutions Since 1932

Get a Bin and Use It, Cincinnati!



Recycling: It's The Right Thing to Do

Recycling is very important in today's world. By taking a few minutes to recycle, you help protect land, air and water, as well as conserve natural resources and landfill space.

How do I get a bin?

To get your FREE bin, please call Rumpke at 242-4600.

What items are acceptable in the City of Cincinnati's curbside recycling program?

Plastic #1 Bottles	Aluminum cans	Steel and bi-metal food cans
Plastic #2 Bottles	Glass bottles and jars	Newspapers with inserts
Mixed office paper	Magazines	Cardboard, broken down
Telephone books	Junk mail	Brown grocery bags
Computer paper	Paperboard (such as cereal boxes)	

What items are not acceptable in Cincinnati at this time?

Butter Tubs	Plastics #3-#7	Styrofoam
Egg Cartons		

What are the new acceptable items?

Mixed paper (office paper, junk mail, computer paper, paperboard, etc.)

What if my area does not offer curbside recycling?

You can still recycle at any of the 4 permanent drop-off locations inside the city limits. The same items that are accepted in the curbside program are accepted at the drop-offs, including mixed paper. These drop-off locations are:

North Avondale

617 Clinton Springs

Open: 24 hours

Dunham Recreation Center

1945 Dunham (off of Sunset)

Cincinnati, OH 45238

Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Mt. Auburn

250 William Howard Taft (in back parking lot - enter off of Highland)

Open: 24 hours

Hartwell – Kroger

8241 Vine Street

Cincinnati, OH 45216

Open: 24 hours

What is Single Stream Recycling?

Rumpke Recycling is proud to take part in a sorting process called "Single Stream Recycling." Through this process, residents can place all recyclable items in their recycling bins for weekly collection, without sorting them. Eliminating the need for sorting makes the process easier on both residents and Rumpke drivers.

All the recyclable materials are placed together in the recycling truck, and transported to a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). At the MRF, the recyclables are sent through a series of machines which separate the materials. Employees are stationed at several points throughout the facility to maintain quality control. Once the items have been separated, they are baled and shipped to end markets where they are manufactured into new items.

Plastics

- Plastics are rated numbers one through seven. The number identifies a plastic according to its texture, thickness, strength or color.
- Plastic is made from the natural resource petroleum.
- You can identify the plastic type by looking at the bottom of the container for a triangle symbol with a number in the center and the plastic's initials underneath.

Plastic #1

- PETE plastic or polyethylene terephthalate.
- This is the most common type of plastic.
- Plastic #1 is known for its clarity, strength and resistance to heat and oils.
- Plastic #1 is recycled into polyester, dish washing liquid bottles, toner cartridges, yarn and carpet.

Examples:

Soft drink bottles

Mouthwash bottles

Salad dressing bottles

Peanut butter jars

Fruit drink bottles

Plastic #2

- HDPE or high density polyethylene
- This type of plastic is known for its strength and stability, and resistance to chemicals
- Plastic #2 is recycled into laundry detergent bottles, drainage pipes, recycling bins, park benches, plastic lumber, Frisbees, bird feeders, floor tile and fencing.

Examples:

Milk bottles

Detergent bottles

Shampoo bottles

Juice bottles

Glass

- Glass never wears out and it will not decompose
- Glass is made from the natural resource sand.
- Glass is an example of closed-loop recycling--it is always recycled back into glass

Examples:

Glass bottles and jars

Blue, green, clear and brown glass

Metals

Aluminum

- Aluminum is recycled back into food or beverage cans, and also aluminum gutters and siding.
- It is made from the natural resource bauxite.
- We have mined all of the bauxite in the United States

Examples:

Aluminum food and beverage cans

Steel

- Steel is recycled into nails, lunch boxes, cars, appliances and staples.
- Steel is made from the natural resource iron ore

Examples:

Steel food and beverage cans and empty aerosol cans

Paper

- Paper is made from the natural resource trees.
- Paper is recycled into recycled paper, construction paper egg cartons, cereal and cracker boxes, paper towels and tissue.

Examples:

Newspapers

Magazines

Phone books

Brown paper bags

Cardboard

How should I prepare my recyclables for pick-up?

Plastics:

Remove lids and rinse containers. The lids are made from a different type of plastic than the container that can make the recycled plastic weak.

Please flatten to take up less space in your bin.

Glass:

Remove lids and rinse glass bottles and jars.

Steel lids may be placed in the recycling bins as well.

Metals:

Empty steel and aerosol cans.

Remove lids and spray nozzles.

Steel lids can be placed in the recycling bin.

Please flatten to take up less space in your bin.

Paper:

Place paper in brown grocery bags to keep it clean and dry.

Shredded paper is also acceptable, but must be placed in a bag to prevent the shreds from blowing away.

Corrugated cardboard must be cut into 2 foot x 2-foot bundles.

What else should I know?

Common Terms:

Abatement: The reduction in landfill pollution by source reduction and waste recycling.

Bale: A densified and bound cube of recyclable material, such as waste paper or scrap metal.

Baler: A machine used to compress recyclables into bundles to reduce volume.

Closed-loop recycling: The process in which an item is recycled back into the same product (as old aluminum cans are made into new cans).

Commingled recyclables: A mixture of several recyclable materials into one container.

Cullet: Broken or waste glass used in the manufacture of new glass.

Eddy-current separation: An electromagnetic technique for separating aluminum from a mixture of materials.

End market or end use: The use or uses of a diverted material or product that has been returned to the economic mainstream, whether or not this return is through sale of the material or product. The material or product can have a value that is less than the solid waste disposal cost.

Grade: A classification of recycled products that separates them by composition, previous use or source. There are four main grades of recovered paper: corrugated/Kraft paper, newspaper, high-grade papers and mixed papers.

Materials recovery facility (MRF): Recyclables collected in the City of Cincinnati and the surrounding areas are sent to the MRF where they are sorted, baled and shipped to an end market to be made into new products.

Municipal solid waste (MSW): Includes nonhazardous waste generated in households and commercial and business establishments and institutions; excludes industrial process wastes, demolition wastes, agricultural wastes, mining wastes, abandoned automobiles, ashes, street sweepings and sewage sludge.

Post-consumer recycling: The reuse of materials generated from residential and commercial waste, excluding recycling of material from industrial processes that has not reached the consumer, such as glass broken in the manufacturing process.