

RECYCLE RIGHT

Do



PAPER

Recycled Paper can become: Bandages, Hospital gowns, and Coffee filters.
Did you know? Recycling a stack of newspaper just 3 feet high saves one tree.



ALUMINUM & METAL CANS

Recycled aluminum cans become: New aluminum cans, aluminum foil, airplane parts, and bicycles. Recycled metal cans become: Car parts, household appliances, new food cans.
Did you know? Recycling 1 aluminum can saves enough energy to keep a 100-watt bulb burning for 4 hours.



PLASTIC BOTTLES, JUGS & TUBS (with caps & lids)

Recycled Jugs can become: Picnic tables, Deck chairs, Recycling bins, and Fleece clothing.
Did you know? It takes only 1,050 milk jugs to make one 6-foot plastic park bench.



CARDBOARD

Recycled cardboard can become: New boxes, gift wrap, drywall liner.
Did you know? Recycling 1 ton of cardboard saves 46 gallons of oil.



MAIL

Recycled Mail can become: Drywall, Egg cartons and Insulation.
Did you know? 1 ton of recycled paper can save 7000 gallons of water.



PIZZA & FOOD BOXES

Recycled Food Boxes can become: Paper Towels, Tissue and Cardboard.
Did you know? Recycling a food box requires 75% less energy than making a new one.



JUICE & MILK CARTONS

Recycled Juice and Milk cartons can become: Tissues, Office Paper and Wall Boards.
Did you know? Over 5 years, the average school of 400 students serving lunch will save the equivalent of almost 1,500 reams of paper, 72 trees and 30,000 gallons of water.



GLASS BOTTLES & JARS

Recycled Glass Bottles can become: Highway marking beads, Countertops, flooring, tile and Landscaping stones and brick.
Did you know? 1 ton of recycled glass saves 5 gallons of oil.



EMPTY AEROSOL CANS

Recycled Aerosol Cans become: New aerosol cans and other metal containers.
Did you know? Recycling one small propane cylinder is equal to recycling one (1) pound of steel, saving 5,450 BTUs in subsequent steel production.

RECYCLE RIGHT

Do Not



PLASTIC BAGS & PLASTIC FILM

These are the most common item in the bin or cart that shouldn't be there, and they can be the most detrimental. When they get caught in the recycling sorter, they have to shut the whole system down and manually pull them out. Instead, consider recycling them by taking them back to grocery, pharmacy, or big-box stores where there are specially designated bins for recycling plastic bags.



STYROFOAM (POLYSTYRENE #6)

Although Styrofoam is recyclable, it requires highly specialized equipment that Mecklenburg County's Material Recovery Facility (MRF) is not equipped with.



SHREDDED PAPER

Shredded paper reduces its size so dramatically that it ends up mixed with the residue. Some retail locations will accept shredded paper for recycling. Mecklenburg County holds an annual shredding event in conjunction with America Recycle Day in mid November.



HOUSEHOLD GLASS

Light bulbs and household glass such as window panes, mirrors and dishes are dangerous and should not be placed in your recycling cart. Light bulbs and other household glass can be properly managed at any Mecklenburg County Full Service Recycling Center.



CERAMICS, POTTERY POTS & PANS

These items, including coffee mugs and old flower pots should be donated if they are in good shape. If not, they can be disposed of in your household trash or at any Mecklenburg County Full Service Recycling Center.



PAINT, PESTICIDES, AUTOMOTIVE FLUIDS, CAR & OTHER BATTERIES

Should not be put in your recycling cart. Please take these items to any Mecklenburg County Full Service Recycling Center for proper disposal.



AUTOMOTIVE PARTS & SCRAP METAL

Should not be put in your recycling cart. These items can be properly managed at any Mecklenburg County Full Service Recycling Center. Private recycling companies in the area offer cash for scrap metal.



CLOTHING & TEXTILES

Clothing, towels and rags should not be placed in your recycling cart. Please donate gently used clothing.



FOOD

Food can be collected and used in backyard composting. If not, please dispose of food in your household trash.



GARDEN HOSES & ELECTRICAL CORDS

Should be disposed of in your household trash.