

Recycling News

Recycling is Required

Municipal and state regulations require that residents, commercial establishments and non-residential establishments recycle all recyclable materials. Commonly recycled materials include:

- Paper – newspaper, office/copy paper, glossy paper, color paper, cardboard, junk mail, phone books, cereal/cracker boxes
- Plastic – bottles and jugs No. 1-7
- Glass – clear, green and brown containers
- Metal – aluminum, steel, tin, and bimetal cans and containers

You should check with your hauler for a complete list of acceptable recyclable materials.

Interesting Facts about Glass Recycling

- Glass almost never wears out – it can be recycled forever. It takes approximately one million years for a glass bottle to break down at the landfill.
- Bottles and jars made from glass are 100% recyclable and can be recycled endlessly without loss of quality.
- We save over a ton of resources for every ton of glass recycled — 1,330 pounds of sand, 433 pounds of soda ash, 433 pounds of limestone, and 151 pounds of feldspar.
- Most bottles and jars contain at least 25% recycled glass.
- In 2011, 34% of all glass containers were recycled.
- Approximately 8 out of 10 households recycle, and of those that do, 82% recycle glass bottles and jars.
- An estimated 80% of recovered glass containers are made into new glass bottles, and it can happen quickly. A glass container can go from a recycling bin to a store shelf in as little as 30 days.
- The use of recycled glass is more environmentally friendly than new. Recycling just one glass bottle saves enough energy to light a 100-watt light bulb for four hours, or power a television for 20 minutes.
- For every six tons of recycled container glass used in the manufacturing process, one ton of carbon dioxide creation is avoided.
- There are 48 glass manufacturing plants operating in 22 states. On average, a typical glass processing facility can handle 20 tons of color-sorted glass per hour.
- About 39% of beer and soft drink bottles were recovered for recycling in 2009, according to the U.S. EPA. Also recovered were about 18.1% of wine and liquor bottles as well as almost 18% of food jars. In total, 31.1% of all glass containers were recycled.