

Waste & Recycling Trivia

1. Which of the following plastic items CANNOT be recycled in your curbside container?

- a. Water bottles
- b. Detergent/soap containers
- c. Grocery bags
- d. Shampoo bottles

C. Grocery Bags

Grocery bags often contaminate other recyclables. Grocery bags belong in the trash or they can be returned to the grocery store.

2. True or False: Yard waste can be placed inside your recycling container.

A. False

Yard waste belongs in the trash container.

3. What is the proper way to prepare your recyclables for recycling?

- a. Empty, Clean and Dry
- b. Recycle as is
- c. Empty and recycle

A. Empty, Clean and Dry

Empty the contents, clean with a quick rinse, and shake out any remaining liquid to ensure other recyclables like paper are not ruined by residual liquids.

4. What is the most common contaminant in the recycling stream?

- a. Baby diapers
- b. Yard waste
- c. Food waste
- d. Plastic grocery bags

D. Plastic Grocery Bags

While all of these are contaminants, plastic grocery bags are the most common items that contaminate the recycling stream.

5. If you find yourself questioning if something is recyclable or not, you should follow the motto "When in doubt..."

- a. Throw it out
- b. Recycle it anyways
- c. Do the Harlem Shake

A. When in doubt, throw it out!

The wrong items in the recycle container can actually hinder the recycling process!

6. Which of the following items should NEVER be placed in your recycling container?

- a. Baby diapers
- b. Food waste
- c. Yard waste
- d. All of the above

D. All of the above

Believe it or not, these items commonly are found in the recycling stream and ruin other recyclables.

Channel 8 Tips – Most Common Contaminants

- Always throw dirty diapers in the trash.
- Used tissue paper, paper towels and napkins should always be thrown away and never recycled.
- Take clothes and shoes to your local Goodwill.
- Do not place yard waste in your recycling container.
- Return grocery bags to the grocery store for reuse.
- Donate hardcover books to schools or academic institutions.
- Be sure to always throw out garden hoses, ropes and chains.
- After eating pizza, if the pizza box lid is clean, cut it off and recycle it.
- Be sure all your recyclables are empty, clean of any residue, and dry.
- Throw out styrofoam material.



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