



Recycling Guide for Businesses

A deep dive into recycling, including why it's important, benefits and guidelines.

- ✓ What recycling is and why it's important
- ✓ Recycling contamination
- ✓ Guidelines for services offered
- ✓ What's recyclable and what's not



REPUBLIC
SERVICES

Sustainability in Action

About Us

Republic Services is a leader in environmental services.
We are focused on delivering solutions for a more sustainable world.



79

Recycling
Centers in North
America



6.4M

Tons of Recyclable
Materials
Managed in 2024



\$1B

Invested in Recycling
Technology and
Infrastructure
since 2018



2.2B

Pounds of Food
and Yard Waste
Processed in 2024



866K

Gallons of Oil
Recycled in 2024

Benefits

Conserves Natural Resources

Reusing materials reduces the need to mine and process new raw materials. The more paper we recycle, the fewer trees need to be replenished. Repeatedly recycling aluminum helps prevent the excess mining of ores.

Conserves Energy

It takes more energy to make something out of raw materials than something that has already been used. For example, recycling one ton of paper could save enough energy to power a home in the U.S. for six months.¹

Reduces Pollution

When manufacturers use recycled materials to make their products, it creates less pollution than making them from raw materials. It also reduces the amount of greenhouse gases produced in the manufacturing process.

Saves Landfill Space

In the U.S., we produce roughly 292 million tons of trash each year.² Slightly more than half of that is going to landfills. By recycling, we help to conserve space inside the landfill for those items that can't be recycled.



Our Recycling Services Include:

- ✓ Curbside Collection
(Paper, Plastic Jugs and Bottles, Cardboard, Metal Cans)
- ✓ Organics Recycling
- ✓ Bulb & Battery Recycling
- ✓ Electronics Recycling
- ✓ Metals Recycling
- ✓ Glycol Recycling
- ✓ Used Oil Recycling
- ✓ Thermal Desorption
- ✓ Specialty Solvent Recycling



Recycling Guidelines



Know what to throw.

Proper waste sorting improves recycling. If it's not paper, cardboard, metal cans, or plastic bottles, put it in the trash.



Empty. Clean. Dry.

Be sure your recyclables are empty, clean and dry before placing them into recycling containers. Dirty recyclables cause contamination and can result in extra charges.



Don't bag it.

Recyclables should be placed loose in the container. Flexible plastic bags jam recycling machinery.

What's recyclable and what's not?

These common materials by industry are accepted for recycling.³

Retail Recycling



- ✓ Cardboard packaging
- ✓ Gift bags and most wrapping materials
- ✓ Paper



- ✗ Metal hangers
- ✗ Clothing
- ✗ Plastic wrap

Office Recycling



- ✓ Manila folders and paper
- ✓ Bottles and cans from the lunchroom
- ✓ Cardboard boxes
- ✓ Mail
- ✗ Plastic utensils,



- straws and polystyrene
- ✗ Shredded paper (unless contained in a paper bag)
- ✗ Soiled coffee cups

Restaurant Recycling



- ✓ Clean plastic and cardboard takeout containers
- ✓ Boxes from food and other supplies
- ✓ Clean bottles from kitchen ingredients
- ✓ Plastic cups



- ✗ Soiled takeout containers
- ✗ Plastic utensils, straws and polystyrene
- ✗ Used napkins or paper towels

Services Recycling



- ✓ Empty product bottles
- ✓ Cardboard boxes
- ✓ Paper



- ✗ Product bottles with product still inside
- ✗ Plastic wrap and plastic grocery bags
- ✗ Used aluminum foil

1 www.EIA.gov/EnergyExplained/Energy-and-the-Environment/Recycling-and-Energy.php

2 www.EPA.gov/Facts-and-Figures-About-Materials-Waste-and-Recycling/National-Overview-Facts-and-Figures-Materials

3. Recycling rules and services may vary by location. Check with your local provider to determine what's recyclable in your area.

Visit **RepublicServices.com** or call **844-REPUBLIC** (844.737.8254) for more information, or contact your Sales Representative.

