



Sustainability in Action

## Commercial & Multifamily Newsletter

### Important Guidelines for Collection Services

To ensure smooth and efficient service, please review and follow these important do's and don'ts.

#### ✓ Do's:

- **Separate Waste Properly:** Ensure that recyclables, organics, and general waste are placed in the correct dumpsters.
- **Clean Recyclables:** Ensure containers and bottles are empty and dry before placing them in the recycling dumpster to avoid contamination.
- **Flatten Cardboard:** Break down cardboard boxes to save space in the recycling dumpster.

#### ✗ Don'ts:

- **Don't Contaminate Recycling Dumpsters:** Avoid placing non-recyclable items, such as plastic bags, in the recycling dumpsters. Recyclables should never be placed in plastic bags. Please collect your recyclables loose, and return plastic bags to your local grocery store for proper recycling.
- **Don't Place Hazardous Materials:** Do not dispose of hazardous materials, like batteries or chemicals, in regular waste or recycling dumpsters.
- **Don't Overfill Dumpsters:** Ensure dumpsters are not overfilled to prevent spillage and make collection easier.
- **Don't Mix Organics With Plastics:** Do not place plastic items in organic waste dumpsters, as they are non-compostable.

### What is accepted in the recycling dumpster?

#### PAPER (clean and un-soiled)

- Paperback books
- Boxes, packages (please flatten)
- Carbon-less paper
- Cardboard (must fit in container)

#### METAL (empty, clean, and dry)

- Aluminum cans
- Aluminum foil (clean)
- Food cans (clean)
- Steel cans

#### GLASS (empty, clean, and dry)

- All colors; lids, caps
- Bottles and jars
- CRV beverage containers

#### PLASTIC (empty, clean, and dry)

- Empty containers only
- CRV beverage containers (soda, water, juice)
- Detergent bottles
- Food containers (no Styrofoam™)

Non-recyclables contaminate recycling loads, and need to be removed during the sorting process. Some items may also contaminate clean recyclable items. For example, a pasta sauce jar that still has sauce in it can soak onto clean office paper, which then makes the paper non-recyclable.

If our drivers notice a lot of contamination in your recycling cart or dumpster, we may not be able to service it as recycling and instead tag the container to have it serviced as trash (in which case, you may be charged).

### What is accepted in the organics dumpster?

#### Yard trimmings

- Flower trimmings
- Tree trimmings (twigs/branches must be 4 ft. or less in length, and less than 6 in. in diameter)
- Leaves, grass, brush and weeds
- Untreated and un-painted wood

#### Food scraps (raw or cooked):

- Fruits and vegetables
- Dairy products
- Breads, grains, pastas
- Meat and seafood (including bones)
- Prepared or processed foods (chips, sandwiches, etc. – remove packaging)

#### Unacceptable materials for the organics dumpster:

- Dog poop or pet waste from any animal
- Diapers
- Wood that has been treated, coated or painted
- Glass, metal, plastic
- Hot ashes or briquettes
- Large amounts of soil or sod
- Plastic bags or plastic of ANY kind
- Rocks, concrete, dirt or sand
- Particle board

Compostable plastics are NOT allowed in the organics dumpster.

- The compost facility is not able to accept "compostable plastic" items (such as corn-based utensils, GreenStripe cups, etc.) even if they are BPI-certified because these items do not break down completely or quickly enough.

Be mindful of "green-washing," which is a misleading marketing tactic where products are categorized as being better for the environment, but are not actually compostable or recyclable. For example, items may be labeled "biodegradable" or "bio-based", but this does NOT necessarily mean compostable or accepted in your organics container.

- Compostable plastics are also not recyclable. These items need to be thrown in the trash container.

Scan this QR code, and visit our website for more information.

