



GET CART SMART

Everyone knows bottles and cans go in the recycling bin, but the following items are often mistaken as curbside recyclables.

When in doubt, throw it out!

STRAIGHT TO THE LANDFILL

Refuse, reduce, reuse, or re-purpose these items — otherwise put them in the trash.



Aerosol cans

Aerosol cans are a fire hazard. Take them to a hazardous waste drop-off center. If empty, send to the landfill.



Ceramic items

Ceramic is a hard material to sort and can't be remanufactured.



Pumps or tubes

They are made of multiple materials that can't be separated for recycling.



Receipts

This type of thin "paper" can contain non-recyclable layers and chemicals.



Styrofoam

Styrofoam breaks down into tiny pieces in the recycling machinery.



Tanglers

Cords, hoses, wires, plastic gloves, etc. get caught in the recycling machinery.

NON-CURBSIDE RECYCLABLES

While these items are **NOT** accepted in your curbside recycling, there are other ways to keep them out of the landfill. Call your local recycling convenience center to find out if they accept these items and more!



Appliances

Take appliances to a convenience center.



Electronics

Take computers, televisions and other electronics to a convenience center.



Clothing and textiles

Donate clothing and textiles to a convenience center or thrift store.



Hazardous waste

Take to a convenience center or call 877-623-6748 for other drop-off locations.



Medical waste

Call your local public health department for medical disposal information.



Plastic bags and wrap

Return clean, dry plastic bags, wraps and packaging to the grocery store.



Paper towels and napkins

Compost paper towels and napkins; this paper is too thin to recycle and often, too dirty.








Food waste

Place food waste in your compost.

IT'S ALL ABOUT SHAPE AND SIZE


Recycling sorting machines recognize the **shape** of containers and “see” bottles, tubs, jugs, jars, cans, cartons and paper. If it isn't one of these shapes, it doesn't belong in the recycling bin. **Size** matters, too. If the material is tiny, the machines have to filter it out. If it is too big, it hurts the machinery.

PLASTIC	METAL	GLASS	PAPER
<p>Bottles, tubs, jugs and jars</p>  <p>No pumps Empty and rinse</p>	<p>All cans</p>  <p>Empty and rinse</p>	<p>Bottles and jars</p>  <p>Empty and rinse</p>	<p>Paper, cartons and cardboard</p>  <p>Flatten cardboard</p>
<p>No lids, straws, single-use cups, six-pack rings, to-go containers or pouches</p> 	<p>No scrap/mixed metals such as ladders, pots or hangers</p> 	<p>No mirrors, windows or glassware</p> 	<p>No small paper pieces and packaging, or shredded paper</p> 

YES, PLEASE

NO, THANKS

Do you know **NOT** to bag your recyclables when placing them in the cart? Here are other actions you can take to prepare your recyclables for the recycling facility. Keep recycling right! Get Cart Smart!

 <p>Please screw on caps.</p>
 <p>Please recycle only <i>clean</i> pizza boxes.</p>
 <p>Please recycle <i>paper</i> egg cartons.</p>
 <p>Please recycle <i>clean</i> aluminum foil.</p>

<p>No lids. Place in trash.</p> 
<p>No greasy pizza boxes. Place in compost.</p> 
<p>No Styrofoam or plastic egg cartons. Place in trash.</p> 
<p>No dirty aluminum foil. Rinse and reuse, or place in trash.</p> 



The N.C. Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service (DEACS) is a non-regulatory division of N.C. DEQ offering technical and financial assistance to businesses, manufacturers, local governments, institutions, economic developers and citizens in environmental management. For questions, call 1-877-623-6748. www.recyclenc.org

