

Wish-Cycling

Many Americans may be "**wishful recyclers**" when they place items that won't get recycled into their curbside bins. These might be items that need to be recycled through other methods or they may think there is a component that is recyclable and someone at the recycling center will figure it out. *This is not true.*

This act is unknowingly creating more harm than good by contaminating recycling streams, which unfortunately sends everything to the landfill.



Items received at recycling centers need to be readily sorted into glass, plastic, metal or paper/cardboard without being dis-assembled.



Recycling Plastic Bags and Film

Plastic bags tangle up and get stuck in recycling sorting equipment – which can shut down an entire plant!

Keep plastic bags and film out of your recycling bin.

Instead, gather your plastic bags and plastic films separately and **bring into your local grocery store, Target or Walmart for recycling.**

These are **stretchy plastics** such as: grocery bags, bread and produce bags, newspaper bags, zip-lock bags, plastic liners from cereal boxes, bubble wrap, deflated air pillows, plus film wrap from water bottles, paper products). Keep clean and dry.

Crunchy plastic bags or film go in the trash.

Curbside recycling is not the only option.

- **For other items that need to be recycled, but are not accepted in your curbside cart** - go to St. Croix County's recycling web page: sccwi.gov/Recycling
- Click on the **A-Z Recycling & Disposal Guide** (*on the left*) for many disposal resources
- **Appliances/Scrap Metal, Electronics, and Tire collection events** are hosted by the County - check the website for details: sccwi.gov/Collection-Events
- **Dispose of your hazardous waste for free any time of year.** An on-line voucher is available for residents to coordinate disposal of their hazardous waste through a local vendor.

RECYCLING SPECIALIST

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St. Croix County Recycling & Conservation



RECYCLING



GUIDELINES



Aluminum and Metal Cans

- Beverage and food cans, pet food cans, metal lids from jars
- **NO** foil or food trays (*because of food residue*)



Corrugated Cardboard (*break down and flatten*)

- Food/baking boxes (*remove plastic liners*), paper bags, manila envelopes, file folders, broth/juice/milk cartons
- **NO** contaminated pizza boxes, detergent boxes

Glass Bottles & Jars

(*keep metal lids off glass jars*)

- Beverage and food containers
- All colors are accepted
- **NO** windows, dishes, light bulbs, Pyrex or ceramics



Plastics #1, #2 + #5

Bottles, jugs, jars, tubs & containers

(*put caps back on*)

- **NO styrofoam** egg cartons, cups, plates or packaging material



Mixed Paper (*clean/dry or it will mold*)

- Newspaper, envelopes, magazines, catalogs, office paper, paperback and phone books, etc.
- Shredded paper (*put in paper bag, fold top, tape or staple closed, label "shredded paper"*)
- **NO USED** paper plates, napkins, tissues, cups, paper towels, etc. (*can be composted*)

People have good intentions, but RECYCLING RIGHT is just as important

Preparing Your Recyclables

- All containers need to be empty
- Rinse off food residue
- Labels do not have to be removed
- Do NOT crush cans or plastic bottles
- Put plastic caps back on bottles

Dispose of recyclables loosely in the bin

KEEP OUT of CURBSIDE or DROP-OFF RECYCLING:

- **NO Used Paper Products** – plates, napkins, etc.
- **NO Plastic Bags and Film**
- **NO Yard Waste or Food Waste** – organics can be composted but not recycled
- **NO Clothing** – shoes or textiles (donate)
- **NO Tangles** – hoses, wire, cords, string of lights