

Wish-Cycling

Many Americans may be "**wishful recyclers**" in that 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.*

All items received at recycling centers need to be readily sorted into glass, plastic, metal or paper/cardboard.

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



Recycling Plastic Bags and Film

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

Keep plastic bags and film out of your recycling bin.

Gather your plastic bags and plastic films separately (**stretchy plastics** like grocery, zip-lock, dry-cleaning bags, along with films around water bottles and paper products). Keep clean and dry.

Bring into your local grocery store, Target or Walmart.

Curbside recycling is not the only option

Not all recyclable items can go in your curbside container.

#1 Curbside: provided by your local hauler – ask for their guidelines

Drop-off: provided by your town or municipality (check with your town for their recycling guidelines)

#2 Collection Events: St. Croix County has collection events twice a year for Tires, Appliances, Electronics and Hazardous Waste

#3 Take-back: programs at retail locations for recycling plastic bags, printer cartridges, light bulbs, batteries, electronics

#4 Mail-In or Re-claim: manufacturer's may offer programs to reclaim materials used in their products or packaging

Additional recycling information is found on our website:
www.sccwi.gov/Recycling

- Recycling options for items NOT ACCEPTED curbside, go to: **A-Z Recycling & Disposal Guide**
- Collection event dates and details for Appliance, Electronics, Tires and Hazardous Waste

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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)



Mixed Paper (clean/dry or it will mold)

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

Plastics #1 and #2

- Ask your hauler if they take plastics #3-7
- Bottles, jugs, jars & tubs (put caps back on)
- **NO** styrofoam egg cartons, cups, plates or packaging material



Glass Bottles & Jars

- Food jars and beverage bottles
- Clear, brown and green
- **NO** windows, dishes, Pyrex, ceramics or light bulbs



Corrugated Cardboard

(break down and flatten)

- Food/baking boxes (remove plastic liners), paper bags, manila envelopes, file folders
- **NO** pizza boxes, detergent boxes, waxy frozen or refrigerated food boxes

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

KEEP OUT of your CURBSIDE RECYCLING BIN:

- **NO Plastic Bags and Film** (the stretchy kind of plastic) bring to your local grocery store, Target or Walmart
- **NO Yard Waste** or **Food Waste** – organics can be composted but not recycled
- **NO Used Paper Products** – plates, napkins, etc.
- **NO Clothing** – shoes or textiles (donate)
- **NO Tangles** – hoses, wire, cords, string of lights



Preparing Your Recyclables

- All containers need to be empty
- Rinse off food residue
- Labels do not have to be removed
- No need to crush cans or plastic bottles (small items are difficult to process)
- Put plastic caps back on bottles

Do not put recyclables in plastic bags – dispose of them loosely in the container.