



Recycle RIGHT in Nahant

EVERYTHING you SHOULD

And NOTHING ELSE

Zero Waste is one of the fastest, easiest, most cost-effective ways a community can reduce its climate impact.

<http://ecocyclesolutionshub.org/>

“Everyone thinks of changing the world, but no one thinks of changing himself.”

— [Leo Tolstoy](#)





Agenda

- Two sides of the coin
 - Why Bother?
 - Recycling Too Much....
- What does NOT go in
 - And what Does go in
- Other diversion opportunities – Beyond curbside



Why bother?

- Recycling costs less
- Recycling saves material resources
- Bother? Single stream – really?
 - [Kamikatsu](#), Japan with 34 streams
 - 80% diversion rate!
- Recycling saves incinerator capacity
 - Solid Waste Master Plan





“New Pants” are:

- Expensive
- Permanent infrastructure
- Disgusting – and still require landfill space

Dieting is the right thing to do



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BUT – before we jump in....

- Single-use sucks
- Evolution - *Can you believe humans used to:*
 - Used dump sewage in the streets
 - Outhouses
 - DDT
 - Litter
 - Cigarette butts and smoking

“We know better....” 50 years from now....

Wishful Recycling – and the Consequences

- Putting in “extra” with hope
- Inefficiencies
 - Higher costs = Lower returns
- Equipment damage
- Worker injury

These do NOT belong in Curbside Recycling

- Film plastics
- Styrofoam
- Metal and Glass
 - Only from the kitchen!
- To-go coffee cups, ice cream containers
- Pizza boxes – Tricky!
- Shredded paper
- Drinking straws
- Juice/drink packs
- Textiles
- Electronics and accessories
- Rigid plastics with no recycle symbol
- Wood
- Balloons, etc.
- Hazardous waste
- Food residue - Rinsed-not-washed
- Napkins, tissues and paper towels

Film Plastics - NEVER



Film Plastics

NO NO NO NO NO



Film Plastics



Grocery store bin

NEVER in curbside recycling bin!



Film Plastics

- Trex



Other “Tanglers” – NO



Styrofoam (EPS - extruded polystyrene)

NEVER



Possible
diversion
with
ReFoamIt

Glass and metals – From food storage ONLY!



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No No No No No No No No



Scrap metals – NO

- Your town DPW

Glass types

- **SODA-LIME GLASS**
 - If glass is recyclable in your area, it's likely limited to this. But 90% of all glass is soda-lime glass, and you'll find plenty just by opening the pantry—jars and bottles are often this glass.
- **LEAD GLASS**
 - Found in decorative crystal and artwork, this glass is costly, contains lead, and is usually not recyclable. On the plus side, it produces brilliant refraction and is good for electrical insulation.
- **BOROSILICATE GLASS**
 - Used in lenses, light bulbs and cookware, this type of glass can withstand high temperatures and chemical corrosion. The price tag is usually higher and it isn't a recyclable material, though
- **ALUMINOSILICATE GLASS**
 - Chances are you use this type of glass everyday (maybe even right now): it's found in touch screens all over the world, though it is trademarked, expensive and can't go in the recycling bin
- **96% SILICA GLASS AND FUSED SILICA GLASS**
 - Among the costliest types of glass—and the most difficult to make—these are usually spotted on space orbiters and shuttle windows (so you probably won't be recycling it, let alone using it).

<https://livegreen.recyclebank.com/because-you-asked-what-kinds-of-glass-can-i-recycle>

To-go coffee cups, ice cream containers:
anything sprayed with a polymer plastic lining - **NO**



Pizza boxes – Tricky!



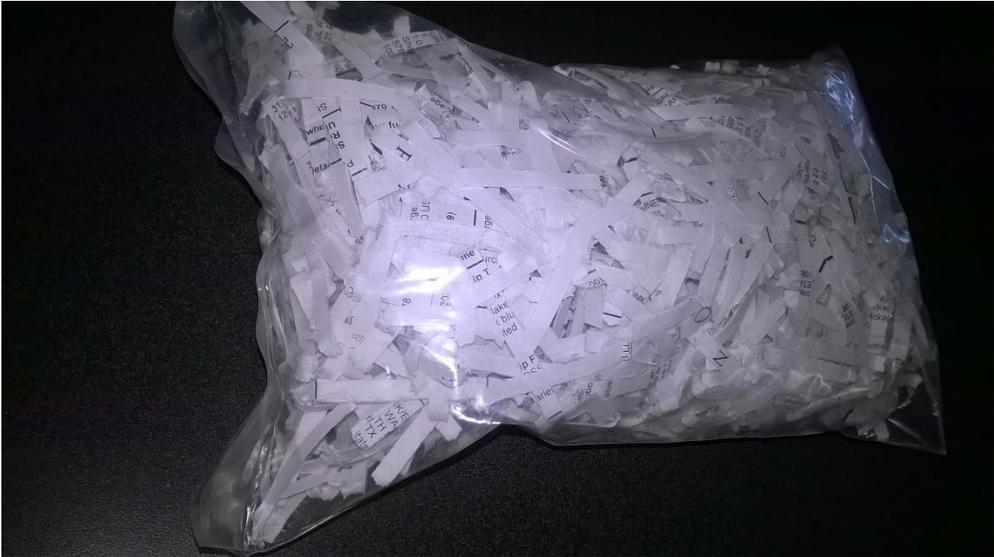
Shredded paper - **NO**



Becomes...



Shredded paper - Alternatives



Drinking straws - **NO**

- Composite plastic often not recyclable
- Blow out during collection
- Too light and jam machinery

Just say NO

- Top 10 in marine debris
- Miami
- London
- Burlington – “ask first”



Juice/Drink pouches- **NO**



TerraCycle???

Textiles - **NO**

- Destroy machinery
- NOT in garbage either!

So many alternatives

- Local charitable organizations
- Local thrift and consignment store
- So many bins – non profit and for profit



Want it ALL! Torn, ripped, stained?
GREAT!
Just no grease or mildew!



Electronics - **NO**

- Even if it has metal
- No coffee carafes either! (see *glass* before)
- NO CORDS!



Rigid plastics (with no recycle symbol) - **NO**



Plastics – Resin codes

- THE RESIN IDENTIFICATION CODE
- In 1988, the Society of Plastics Industry created the Resin Identification Code [RIC] to identify different types of plastics. That's why there's a number set inside a triangle on almost all of the plastic products you purchase.
- #1 PET / #01 PETE (POLYETHYLENE TEREPHTHALATE)
 - One of the most common types of plastic, #1 plastics are used for things like water bottles or peanut butter jars, and can be recycled into things like fiberfill for sleeping bags or carpet fibers.
- #2 HDPE / #02 PE-HD (HIGH DENSITY POLYETHYLENE)
 - Milk jugs, butter tubs, detergent bottles and motor oil bottles are all #2 plastic. It's another common plastic and can be made into flowerpots, trash cans, new bottles and more after recycling.
- #3 V / #03 PVC (POLYVINYL CHLORIDE)
 - Often used to make shampoo bottles, cooking oil bottles and fast food service items or takeout containers, this type of plastic can be recycled into durable products like drainage or irrigation pipes.
- #4 LDPE / #04 PE-LD (LOW-DENSITY POLYETHYLENE)
 - This thin, pliant plastic can be found as grocery or bread bags, shrink wrap and margarine tub tops. Though not all types can be recycled at the curb, they are often turned into new grocery bags.
- #5 PP / #05 PP (POLYPROPYLENE)
 - Great for food storage, this plastic makes most yogurt containers, syrup bottles, straws and bottle caps. When recycled, it's used for things like plastic lumber, manhole steps and car battery cases.
- #6 PS / #06 PS (POLYSTYRENE)
 - Solid #6 plastics can be used to make impact-resistant things like furniture. Foamed #6 plastics are more commonly known as Styrofoam™. It's technically recyclable, but rarely accepted curbside.
- #7 OTHER / #7 O (OTHER RESINS)
 - Plastic squeeze ketchup bottles and other microwaveable plastics are often #7. They're made from a mixture of resins, and while convenient for production, they aren't usually recyclable as a result.

Wood – of any type - **NO**



And not in trash either!

Balloons – **NO NO NO NO**



Balloons Blow!



Napkins, tissues, paper towels – **NO NO NO**



Um, Duh....

- Diapers
- Syringes
- Needles

Household Hazardous Wastes – NO NO NO

- Mark your calendars for Household Hazardous Waste Days in Lynn – and other towns and cities!

What about the **YES** list?

Some things to keep in mind –

- Rinsed but not washed
- Dry (if possible)
- All food residue removed

- **Green/Red**

