

CURBSIDE RECYCLING REFERENCE SHEET

Recycle clean. The right materials, the right way.



THE BACKGROUND

In 2018, the global recycling markets collapsed as a result of too much contamination in the recycling stream, and caused major issues throughout the US recycling industry.

In less than two years, Philadelphia went from receiving between \$4-7 million a year for recycling material to **PAYING** over \$9 million a year to process recycling.

After temporarily diverting half of its recycling material to other facilities, **the City now sends ALL material to a traditional recycling processor, a Materials Recovery Facility.**

THE PROBLEM

Non-recyclable and contaminated materials are ending up in the recycling stream.

Recycling the wrong way is worse than not recycling at all.

It only takes one bad bin to contaminate a truckload of good material. **It's up to each of us to do our part.**

THE SOLUTION

Take a minute before you bin it.

Make sure you only recycle the right materials. **Not everything with a recycling symbol can go in your bin.** Only recycle plastics numbered 2-1-5, remember 215 Philly! **When in doubt, keep it out.**

Make sure you recycle the right way. Flatten your cardboard. Empty and rinse your recyclables and let them dry before putting them in your bin. Remember to never bag your recyclables or put plastic bags in your bin.

THE REASONS

It's not just a good idea or the right thing to do—**it's the law.** Recycle the right way and avoid potential SWEEP fines.

Recycling the right way **reduces contamination and costs** so the City is not wasting valuable resources.

It's good for the environment, reduces litter and pollution, and keeps our communities clean and healthy.



ALWAYS RECYCLE CURBSIDE

PLASTIC BOTTLES & CONTAINERS



METAL CANS



GLASS



PAPER



CARTONS



CARDBOARD



NEVER RECYCLE CURBSIDE

NO FOODS OR LIQUIDS



NO PLASTIC BAGS



NO CLOTHING, HANGERS, FURNITURE OR CARPET



NO FOAM CUPS OR CONTAINERS



NO BATTERIES OR NEEDLES



NO GREASY CARDBOARD



KEY TAKEAWAYS

Take a minute before you bin it. Only recycle the right materials, the right way.

Rinse out recyclables and let them dry before putting them in your bin.

Keep your recycling bin covered and only set out at proper times.

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