

Because of global changes to recycling, the industry has changed how they describe what can and cannot be recycled in residential programs. They have moved away from the “look for the symbol,” and “1-7” terminology, and instead spell out the TYPES of items that are included in the program. **ONLY** the items listed below should go in your household recycling bin. If you’re unsure, please don’t risk contaminating the load, and place the item in the trash.



“Can I Recycle This?” Know When It’s a **NO!**



METAL: Food & Beverage Cans



GLASS: Bottles & Jars



PLASTIC: Bottles, Jars, Jugs, & Tubs



PAPER & CARDBOARD:

Mixed Paper, Newspaper, Magazines, & Boxes

The list below illustrates many of the items we find in recycling carts that **ARE NOT** included in the residential recycling program. This is **NOT** an exhaustive list; remember that if it’s not listed to the left, it’s not part of the program. By tossing items into your cart that you think **SHOULD** be recyclable, you are actually contaminating the load and possibly causing recyclable items to be disposed of as trash.

When in doubt, check this out! www.RecycleSmartMA.org. Enter in the item & find out if it’s recycling or trash!

METAL ITEMS:

NO

- Aluminum Foil
- Aluminum Trays/Pans
- Pots or Pans
- Silverware
- Scrap Metal
- Wires or Cords
- Electronics
- Batteries
- Toys
- Sinks
- Shelves
- Clothes Hangers
- Paint Cans

GLASS ITEMS:

NO

- Ceramics
- Baking Glass
- Drinking Glasses
- Plate/Window Glass
- Light Bulbs
- Candle Jars
- Eyeglasses

PLASTIC ITEMS:

NO

- Plastic Bags (of ANY kind)
- Plastic Wrap
- Films
- Tarps
- Plastic Utensils
- Straws
- Colored Cups
- Flower Pots
- Cell Phone Cases
- Toys
- Rubber
- Clothes Hangers
- Hoses

PAPER ITEMS:

NO

- Coated Papers (ie soda cups)
- Paper Towels
- Napkins
- Tissues
- Paper Plates

The following are not allowed if dirtied with food:

- Pizza Boxes
- Take Out Containers

OTHER PROHIBITED ITEMS:

NO

- Styrofoam (of ANY kind)
(even if imprinted with a recycling logo)
- Wood or Construction Debris
- Food or Liquid
- Hazardous Waste

NO

- Motor Oil Container
- Medical Waste
- Prescription Pill Bottles
- Clothing or Linens
- Shoes
- Diapers



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