

RECYCLE RIGHT. EVERY TIME.

Use this guide to learn *What's IN* and *What's OUT* of your bin.

What's IN?

Follow these steps before placing acceptable items into your recycling bin.

DO: empty, clean, rinse, and repeat for each item. | **DON'T: shred, box, or bag items.**



PAPER & CARDBOARD



Newspapers & magazines, food and beverage cartons, mixed paper and flattened boxes



GLASS



Bottles and jars



METAL



Food and beverage cans, aluminum foil and foil containers



PLASTIC



Jugs, tubs and lids

What's OUT?



No plastic bags or plastic wrap
(Return to retailer)



No food or liquid
(Empty all containers)



No clothing or linens
(use donation programs)



No tanglers
(No hoses, wires, chains or electronics)



No combustibles
(No propane tanks, batteries, and non-food grade aerosol cans like spray paint and pesticides)

To learn more about What's In and What's Out of your bin, ask the RecycleCT Wizard at RecycleCT.com or download our new app.





RECYCLE VS. WISH-CYCLE



Do you Wish-Cycle? Wish-Cycling is tossing items into a single-stream recycle bin that should be thrown into the garbage. These items will contaminate full loads of recyclable materials resulting in all being trashed instead of recycled. Contamination rates of the curbside recycling from Trumbull, Easton, and Monroe have been as high as 40% (the industry standard is 10%). **How can you help?**

TO AVOID CONTAMINANTS IN TRUMBULL'S RECYCLING BINS, FOLLOW THESE BASICS:

- **Black Plastic:** Black plastics you might have include take-out containers (bottoms), rotisserie chicken trays (bottoms), and frozen food trays. These are not recyclable in your home bin. You can bring cleaned tops & bottoms to our monthly recycle drive and we'll share with a local food bank for reuse or they go in the trash. Plastic plant pots can be returned to your local nurseries or bring them to the monthly recycling drive.
- **Carpet:** Sizes less than 4' X 2' can be placed in the Bay State bins at Hillcrest or Madison Middle Schools, or via Helpsy curbside. Larger-sized rugs should be trashed unless there is an opportunity to donate.
- **Clothing/Textiles:** Drop into the Bay State Textile bins at Hillcrest or Madison Middle Schools or arrange for curbside pick-up from Helpsy.
- **Food Waste:** Trash or start composting. It's easy and is a great source of nutrition to add to your garden.
- **Garden hoses:** Put in trash.
- **Glass:** Never include lightbulbs, mirrors, or broken glass. Either separate and bring accepted glass to the collection container at the Transfer Station, or place accepted items curbside.
- **Organic Waste:** Grass clippings, leaves, and brush should be disposed of on your property or brought to the Transfer Station.
- **Paper drink/food containers that are plastic-lined:** Drinking cups and liquid-holding packaging such as frozen food containers are lined with a plastic coating and are not recyclable. Trash.
- **Plastic Bags:** Bring clean stretchy and flimsy plastic bags, bubble wrap, and saran wrap (#2 and #4) to Stop & Shop, Big Y, Kohl's, Target, or any participating retailer, or drop off at the monthly recycling drive at Trumbull High School.
- **Small Plastics:** Items that are less than 2 inches (like salad dressing to-go containers) are too small for CT recycling machinery to sort. Trash.
- **Styrofoam/foam to-go containers:** Throw into the trash (even if the item has a recycling symbol, it is not recyclable).

BEYOND SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING—HOW WE HELP

- **Monthly Recycling Drive:** The Sustainable Team collects many items that can't be recycled curbside including oral care items, beauty care tubes, and plastic film. Every 2nd Saturday from 9–12 at Trumbull High School.
- **Glass Recycling:** This pilot program aims to keep glass contamination in the stream to a minimum. Bring non-redeemable, rinsed glass bottles, jars, food & alcohol bottles with lids/corks removed to the "glass only" container located at the Transfer Station.
- **Electronics Recycling:** TVs, stereos, computers, telephone equipment, cell phones, cords, laptop batteries, and holiday lights are some of the items accepted in the electronics container located at the Transfer Station. See the complete list of accepted items at our website.
- **Textile Recycling:** Textiles are too worn to donate for reuse? Our program takes clothing, linens, shoes, and other home textiles at our Baystate bins, located at Hillcrest and Madison Middle Schools, or utilize curbside pickup with Helpsy. Items must be bagged.

For more information on recycling and sustainable practices: scan QR code to be brought to our website or email the Sustainable Team: sustainabletrumbull@gmail.com

<https://www.trumbull-ct.gov/903/Reduce-Reuse-Recycle>

Follow us on Social Media!

