

# PROPER RECYCLING

## CURBSIDE RECYCLING IN LAWRENCE COUNTY

A Guide to doing it right in Lawrence and Mercer Counties.

### What is "Curbside Recycling?"

Curbside recycling is simply having recyclables picked up at your home. It does not mean that a physical "curb" is required.

### Am I Required to Recycle Curbside?

All residents and businesses of the following municipalities are required by state and local laws to recycle curbside: *City of New Castle, Ellwood City Borough, Neshannock Township, Shenango Township, and Union Township.*

These are called "Mandated Municipalities." Residents and businesses in New Wilmington Borough are required to recycle curbside by local laws. Residents and businesses of all other Lawrence County municipalities are not required to recycle curbside, but are encouraged to do so voluntarily. See "I live in a Municipality where I am not required to Recycle Curbside, but I would like to do so. What options do I have for curbside recycling?" for more information.

### What Can I Recycle?

Most curbside recycling programs in Lawrence County collect recyclables via "single stream" recycling. Single stream recycling is designed to make recycling as easy as possible for residents. All of the materials listed below can be mixed together in the same container. There is no need to separate them. The following materials are usually included in single stream recycling programs:

- #1, #2, and sometimes #5 Plastic Bottles & Jugs
- Aluminum Cans
- Steel/Tin Cans
- Magazines
- Corrugated Cardboard
- Newspaper
- Paperboard (cereal boxes, etc.)
- Junk Mail

There may be differences in programs depending on where you live. Always check with your recycling hauler or municipality if you have questions about your program.

If it is not on the list - it belongs in the trash. When in doubt, throw it out or recycle it elsewhere. Acceptable materials may differ between haulers. Be sure to follow the guidelines provided by your hauler!

### What are the advantages of curbside recycling over a drop-off recycling program?

Curbside Recycling is:

**EASY** - All materials can be mixed together in the same container.

**CONVENIENT** - You can do it at your own home without making a special trip to a recycling site.

**ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY** - No more using your gas to go to a recycling site. We estimate that 400,000 cars use the county recycling drop-off sites annually consuming about 48,000 gallons of fuel in the process.

 [www.mercercountypa.gov/recycling](http://www.mercercountypa.gov/recycling)

[www.lawrencecountypa.gov/recycling](http://www.lawrencecountypa.gov/recycling)

This publication is funded in part through a grant from the PA Department of Environmental Protection.



Recycling/Solid Waste Department  
(724) 658-6925





### **I live in a municipality where I am not required to recycle curbside, but I would like to do so. What options do I have for curbside recycling?**

Effective October 9, 2014, all haulers providing regular trash collection services are required to provide recycling services to residents that request it but do not live in a Mandated Municipality. This requirement is for haulers only. Residents are not required to request the service and may decline it if offered. There may be additional fees for recycling. To summarize: if you want to recycle curbside at your home, your hauler must provide you with the service.

### **What kind of recycling bin can I use for curbside recycling?**

Recycling bins vary. Some haulers and municipalities will provide you with a container. You can also purchase your own container through a local hardware or department store. Wheeled containers and carts are easy to move and provide adequate room for all your recyclables. Additionally, wheeled carts have lids that prevent litter and keep recyclables dry. Traditional bins may be used as well but are prone to accidental littering in windy conditions.

### **What about Plastic Bags, Toys, Windows, etc.?**

These items do not belong in your recycling bin. Plain and simple. Plastic bags can be recycled at some local stores. Items such as plastic toys, chairs, and food containers and glass windows, ceramics, and Pyrex all go into your trash. If it is not a bottle, jug, can, jar or clean piece of paper, it does not belong in your bin.

Including items not listed for recycling contaminates your recyclables and significantly increases the cost because all contaminates must be removed before the material can be recycled.

### **What about Leaves?**

All Mandated Municipalities, including New Wilmington, offer leaf waste collection. Contact your municipality for details.

### **What about Electronics, Paint, Chemicals, Fluorescent Lights, Tires, etc.?**

Local options do exist for these items. Check out the Lawrence-Mercer Recycling Solid Waste Department website, [www.co.lawrence.pa.us/recycling](http://www.co.lawrence.pa.us/recycling) for information about these materials. Click the "Calendar of Events" link for a listing of planned events that serve our area.

### **Recycling Hauler & Municipal Contact Information**

#### **Haulers**

- Aiken Refuse – 724-758-9400
- Allied Waste/Republic Services - 800-437-1123
- Tri-County Industries - 724-748-4705
- Valley Waste - 724-843-9373
- Vogel Disposal - 724-625-1511
- Waste Management - 800-451-3060

#### **Municipalities**

- Ellwood City Borough - 724-758-7777
- New Castle - 724-656-3568
- Neshannock Township - 724-658-4972
- New Wilmington Borough - 724-946-8167
- Shenango Township - 724-658-4460
- Union Township - 724-658-7921

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