## CVSWMD Recycling How-To

**Material** | 🎁 YES | PREPARATION | ❌ NO |
---|---|---|---|
Glass bottles & jars | Food and beverage bottles & jars only. | Rinse clean. Remove all lids. Recycle plastic lids over 2" in diameter in blue bin; Labels & neck rings OK. | No light bulbs, dishes, Pyrex, drinking glasses, window panes, candle jars, vases, or ceramics. |
Aerosol cans | Cans must be completely empty. Only cans that contained non-hazardous products are recyclable in blue bins. | Empty. Do not puncture. Separate caps from container. Recycle plastic caps over 2" in blue bin. | No full or partially full containers. Bring paint, cleansers, automotive sprays, and other hazardous fluids to a household hazardous waste collection. |
Aluminum | Cans, foil, and pie plates. | Rinse clean. Wad smaller bits into 2” ball. | No stuck-on food or grease. |
Metal cans | Food and beverage cans only. | Rinse clean. Labels OK. Lids OK placed inside cans for safety. | No oil filters, propane tanks, batteries, bottle caps, or scrap metal. |
Rigid plastic containers & packaging | Minimum size: 2” on any 2 sides. Max: 2’ on any one side. Bottles, jugs & trays, and blister-pak for foods, beverages, and non-hazardous cleaning & personal care products only; dairy tubs (yogurt, sour cream, etc.), 5-gallon pails, take-out containers, etc. | Rinse clean. Separate paper inserts from plastic packaging. Plastic lids over 2” in diameter are recyclable. Remove metal handles from pails and recycle as scrap metal. | No filmy or pliable plastic (grocery bags, bubble wrap, etc.). No Styrofoam. No laundry baskets, housewares, office products, etc. No containers for hazardous products (motor oil, pesticides, etc.). No electronics housing. No biodegradable plastics (PLA). |
Boxboard | Shoe & clothing boxes, 6- & 12-pack soda & beer carriers, egg cartons, dry-food boxes, tissue boxes, paper towel & toilet paper cores. | Empty and flatten. Remove and discard plastic liners. Metal pour spouts can be recycled as scrap metal. | No laundry detergent boxes, refrigerated- or frozen-food boxes, drink boxes, or milk, juice, or other beverage cartons. No paper plates or cups. |
Corrugated cardboard | Boxes with a wavy center layer. | Empty and flatten. Staples, tape, and labels OK. | No oil-, paint-, or chemical-stained; wet; unclean; or wax-coated cardboard. No strapping or string. No plastic, filmy, or foam packing materials. |
Envelopes & opened mail | White, manilla, colored, gummed, and window envelopes; glossy paper and colored ink OK. | Remove nonpaper enclosures (batteries, CDs, plastic cards, etc.) and strings. | No Tyvek, plastic, or foil "paper," or metallic inks. No padded mailers or metallic-ink greeting cards. |
Magazines, catalogs, & soft-cover books | Glue- or staple-bound publications, paperback books, phone books, etc. | Must be clean and dry. Remove paper from binders. | No plastic wrapping, non-paper inserts, spiral or 3-ring notebooks, or plastic covers. |
Newspaper | All sections and inserts. | Must be clean and dry. Remove from plastic bags. Do not tie with string. | None that are soaking wet or contaminated with food, paint, oil, pet waste, etc. No plastic bags. |
Paper bags | All colors. | Must be clean and dry. Remove twine and plastic handles. | No waxed or plastic-coated or -lined bags. No animal food or kitty-litter bags. |
Shredded paper | Confidential documents. | Place in clear plastic bag and tie bag shut. Can also go in home compost. | No shredded plastic or pressure-sensitive paper. |
White & colored paper | Printed, letterhead, copier paper, glossy flyers & brochures, file folders, kraft paper, manilla folders, index cards, construction paper, non-metallic wrapping paper, tissue paper & cards. | Must be clean and dry. Remove plastic tabs, paper clips & metal hanging-file strips. Staples OK. | No pressure-sensitive or slick/thermal receipts. No foil or Tyvek “paper.” No paper towels, facial tissue, napkins, paper plates, or cups. No stickers or sticker backing material. |
These materials must be recycled:

- empty rigid plastic bottles, tubs, trays & jugs
- glass food & drink containers
- cardboard
- aluminum/steel/tin cans & foil (Minimum size: 2 inches... on any 2 dimensions for all materials!)

Some items are NOT recyclable:

- NO propane or gas cylinders • NO dishes
- NO wet or soiled paper • NO pill bottles
- NO biodegradable plastics (PLA)
- NO wood-pellet or feed bags
- NO items less than 2” on any 2 dimensions

In 1 year, you helped keep 80 million pounds of recyclables out of the landfill. THANK YOU!