



# School Solid Waste Management Systems Review

## Recycling (“Blue Bin” or “Regular” Recycling)



Vermont public schools, as public spaces, are required by the VT Universal Recycling Law to have recycling receptacles paired with any trash receptacle on-campus, indoors and outdoors, including:

Classrooms \_\_\_\_\_

Library \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher lounges \_\_\_\_\_

Offices \_\_\_\_\_

Copy rooms \_\_\_\_\_

Hallways \_\_\_\_\_

\*Cafeteria \_\_\_\_\_

Kitchen \_\_\_\_\_

Entrance \_\_\_\_\_

Outdoor areas, including athletic fields \_\_\_\_\_

Gym or “all-purpose room” \_\_\_\_\_

Auditorium \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

\***In the case of cafeterias**, to address the issue of keeping single-use food-contaminated plastic food containers (i.e., yogurt containers) out of recycling receptacles, a recycling receptacle does not have to be placed directly next to a trash bin at a cafeteria sorting station. Rather, it can be placed off to the side and possibly labeled as being for empty bottles and cans.

Any **miscellaneous notes**, regarding where trash receptacles are found that are not paired with a recycling receptacle in your school:

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**Closing Outdoor Recycling Bin Lids:** To protect the quality of recyclable materials, particularly paper-based recyclables (printer paper, cardboard, mail remainders, etc.) and to support the process of recyclables separation at Vermont’s Material Recovery Facilities, whenever possible, keep outdoor bin lids closed to prevent rain, snow, etc., from entering.

**Avoiding Filmy Plastics in Recycling Bins**, including plastic bags used to line recycling receptacles. Filmy plastics impair the recycling process at Vermont’s Material Recovery Facilities, when they become entangled in moving parts of materials separation machinery. In the image below, workers at a Materials Recovery Facility painstakingly remove entangled filmy plastics. This is preventable!



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