Recycling Guide

Paper
- Mail, office and school papers
- Magazines and catalogs
- Newspapers and inserts
- Phone books

Boxes:
- Cardboard
- Cereal and cracker boxes
- Shoe boxes, gift boxes and electronics boxes
- Toothpaste, medication and other toiletry boxes

Cartons
- Milk cartons
- Juice boxes
- Soup, broth and wine cartons

Glass
- Food and beverage bottles and jars

Plastic
Bottles and jugs:
- Water, soda and juice bottles
- Milk and juice jugs
- Ketchup and salad dressing bottles
- Dishwashing liquid bottles and detergent jugs
- Shampoo, soap and lotion bottles

Cups and containers:
- Yogurt, pudding and fruit cups
- Clear disposable cups and bowls
- Margarine, cottage cheese, and other containers
- Produce, deli and take out containers

Packaging:
- Clear, rigid packaging from toys and electronics

Metal
- Food and beverage cans

Not accepted: plastic bags, film, and wrap • plastic foam (Styrofoam™) • food waste • paper cups and plates • glass dishes, drinking glasses, window glass, and ceramics • garbage • containers that held hazardous products
Recycling beyond the cart

Donate, drop off and recycle more

Not everything can be conveniently recycled at home. Although these items may be more challenging to keep out of the trash, it is important to reuse and recycle them because they make up a significant portion of our waste stream.

Donate

Donating reusable items to charitable organizations is a great way to reduce waste and help your community. For example, the average person throws away 70 pounds of clothing and other textiles each year. You can donate clothing, toys, sporting goods, books, music, and more. Find donation opportunities near you at hennepin.us/choosetoreuse.

Use Hennepin County drop-off facilities

Hennepin County has two drop-off facilities where residents can get rid of electronics, appliances, household hazardous wastes, and more. The facilities are open year round. For more information visit hennepin.us/dropoffs.

Visit your city’s drop-off day

Most cities host a special drop-off event where many hard-to-recycle items are accepted. Although acceptable items and fees vary by city, items commonly accepted at city cleanup events include appliances, batteries, carpet, construction materials, furniture, mattresses, scrap metal and tires. Check with your city for details.

Recycle at participating retailers

Plastic bags and film are not accepted in curbside recycling programs, but most grocers and large retailers now accept them for recycling. Look for a bin near the front of the store.