RECYCLING REMINDERS

What to include in your curbside recycling cart

plastic containers
PREPARATION
empty • quick rinse • no lids
recycle plastics by shape
ignore numbers
plastic bottles milk jugs plastic tubs plastic jars buckets plant pots

paper and cardboard
PREPARATION
clean • dry • quick rinse for milk and juice cartons
milk and juice cartons paper or frozen food boxes cardboard

aluminum and tin cans
PREPARATION
empty • quick rinse • no loose lids • do not crush
aluminum cans metal cans

NO GLASS
NO PLASTIC BAGS OR WRAP
NO DANGEROUS MATERIALS

piercecountywa.org/recycle
Questions?

Murry's Disposal
American Disposal
DM Disposal
murreysdisposal.com
(888) 806-7048

LeMay Enterprises
Lakewood Refuse
Pierce County Refuse
lemaypiercecountyrefuse.com
(253) 537-8687

University Place Refuse
Westside Disposal
uprefuse.com
(253) 564-3212

Pierce County
Public Works & Utilities
piercecountywa.org/recycle
(253) 798-2179

Good to Know

Milk and Juice Cartons
You can recycle milk and juice cartons. Please give them a quick rinse. Plastic spouts are fine, but toss the lid in the trash.

Aseptic packaging is NOT accepted. This means shelf-stable items like juice boxes, soy milk, soups and stocks.

Shredded Paper
Put shredded paper in a paper bag and roll down the top before putting in your recycle cart.

Glass
Glass is not collected curbside in Pierce County. Glass has very little market value and makes up a small percentage of our waste stream. Throw glass in the trash or take it to drop-off sites for recycling.

Find a site near you at piercecountywa.org/glass

Contamination
Food residue is a contaminant that ruins the recyclability of materials. If you can’t empty and rinse a container please don’t put it in your recycle cart.

Safety
Needles, sharps, ammunition and other dangerous materials turn up at sorting facilities every day. These are all safety hazards for employees and should never be put in recycling carts.

Recycling Resources

Electronics Recycling
ecyclewashington.org
1-800-RECYCLE

Household Hazardous Waste Disposal
piercecountywa.org/hhw

Plastics

Recycle Plastics By Shape
Numbers on the bottom don’t tell you if an item is recyclable. That’s why we ask you to look at the shape. The types of plastic we collect have the best chance of being recycled into new products.

We accept:
- Plastic bottles
- Plastic jars, tubs and buckets

Plastic Items NOT Accepted:
- Lids
  Throw lids in the trash. Plastic lids and caps are too small to be sorted properly and don’t get recycled.
- Bags and Wrap
  Grocery bags and plastic wrap get tangled in machinery at sorting facilities. Throw plastic wrap in the trash. Reuse plastic bags or take back to participating grocery stores for recycling.
- Crinkly and Lightweight Plastic
  Items like plastic drink cups, clamshell packaging for produce, and packaging around toys and electronics are not recyclable because they flatten during collection and processing and get sorted incorrectly as paper. Throw these items in the trash.

What to do on recycling day
- Cart should be at the curb by 6 am
- All items must fit in cart with the lid closed
- Lid opening toward street—handle toward house
- See diagram below for cart distances
- Remove empty cart from curb as soon as possible

More recycling options:
piercecountywa.org/recycle