



Director of Public Works
201 E Broadway
Excelsior Springs, MO 64024

Phone: (816) 630-0755
Fax: (816) 630-9528

Dear Excelsior Springs Resident:

The trash company has notified us of a continuing problem with the curb side recycling collection being contaminated. The recycle cart is the one with a **yellow (or light blue) lid**. Republic Services/Allied Waste will be monitoring the carts and if there is contamination (or any prohibited material found in the cart), they will leave the cart and **place a green sticker on it**. The contaminated material will need to be removed prior to the next week's route – or it will not be picked up. **If the problem persists – the cart may be removed and your recycle privileges will be suspended. Please note we are at risk of losing our recycling program – so your cooperation in this matter is VERY important.**

Also enclosed is a flyer with the “Do’s and Don’ts of Recycling”. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact the Public Works Office at 630-0755 ext. 421.

The Do's and Don'ts of Recycling

From [Republic Services](#), your refuse collection service

As a leader in the waste industry, we understand the importance of recycling and we love helping our customers do their part. The recycling industry is facing a real problem with contamination, and we'd like to help clear up any misconceptions.



Acceptable items:

- Paper
- Magazines
- Cardboard
- Milk cartons
- Poster board
- Plastic bottles
- Aluminum beverage cans
- Small metal food cans

Unacceptable items:

- Aerosol cans
- Aluminum foil
- Batteries
- Food waste
- Glass
- Stickers and labels
- Styrofoam
- Tissues/napkins/paper towels
- Metals
- Plastic bags



Things to keep in mind:

- Contamination in our recycle has become a big issue in America. As a result, it is important to not put your recyclables in plastic bags. Each item you recycle is handled by workers at the recycling center who have to tear open each bag in order to process the contents. Please leave your recycle items loose in the cart.

-The equipment used at recycling centers separates "flats" (paper) from "rounds" (containers). When you flatten containers like juice cartons, the equipment mistakenly sends these items to the paper side of the facility, significantly contaminating the paper meant to be recycled.

-Shredded paper should not go in your recycle, as it falls through the cracks of the sorting machines and sticks to the belts.

-Frozen food containers, such as pizza and entrees, have a plastic polymer sprayed on them to protect against freezer burn. This coating prevents the box from breaking up in the recycling process OR becoming compostable.

These Items can be recycled!



Plastic bottles
(necks smaller than base)



Plastic jugs



**Paper Cartons -
Milk cartons
and juice boxes**



Plastic tubs



**Mail, mixed paper,
and catalogs**



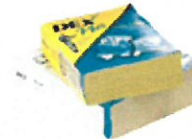
Clean metal food cans



Aluminum cans



Corrugated cardboard
(flattened)



Phone books



**Newspaper
& Inserts**

These items **CANNOT** be recycled!



Aerosol cans



**Hazardous or toxic
product containers**



Glass jars & bottles



**Plastic and metal
hangers**



Shredded paper



**Styrofoam containers,
styrofoam peanuts
or packing**



**Plastic bags (trash
bags, chip bags,
ziplock, etc.)**



**Batteries or
electronics**



Flower pots, plastic toys



**Light bulbs, drinking
glasses, other glassware**



Propane tanks



Frozen food bags



**Food & wet waste,
food contaminated paper
plates and napkins**