

WHAT NOT TO RECYCLE*

PAPER products NOT to put in recycle :

- Anything smaller than a credit card (e.g., old business cards);
- Envelopes with plastic windows, unless you remove the plastic;
- Glossy or waxy paper whose coating is thick enough that you cannot poke a hole in it, such as advertising post cards; or paper with a protective layer of plastic on it; waxed juice or milk cartons. Most glossy paper in magazines and catalogues is ok: *If it rips easily, it's naturally coated and, thus, recyclable. If it's difficult to tear or doesn't stay crumpled when you ball it up in your palm, it's likely coated in plastic and therefore can't be recycled.*
- Sheets of stickers (e.g., all those free return address stickers you are sent from solicitors for charity contributions);
- Cardboard or paperboard with plastic liners or “windows” unless you remove the plastic (e.g., Kleenex boxes);
- Boxes for food or toiletries that are coated, shiny or glossy (use the “rip and crumple test” described above);
- Store receipts (e.g., the 2’ long receipt you get from purchasing just 1 thing at CVS!)
- Envelopes with bubble wrap liners;
- Cardboard with traces of food or grease (e.g., pizza boxes, donut boxes, etc.).

PLASTICS products NOT to put in recycle

- Anything smaller than a credit card (e.g., bottle caps, put them in trash instead);
- Although plastics numbered 1-7 technically are collected, the ones that are most valuable and readily recycled are: 1 (PET), 3 (HDPE), and 5 (PP);
- While Republic will accept #5 plastics, try to return plastic gardening pots to garden centers.
- Plastic foam (e.g., Styrofoam; packing peanuts; polyurethane foam).

Tips:

- Break down corrugated cardboard boxes, such as Amazon, by removing the tape (and putting that in trash) and flattening the boxes.
- Rinse containers enough so that there is no food residue and you cannot detect the smell of what they contained; if you can’t do this, throw the containers in the trash.
- Aluminum pie plates and aluminum foil are acceptable, only if no food on them.
- NO TRASH BAGS!! Filled or otherwise – NONE!
- NO plastic film, bubble wrap, dry cleaning bags, plastic bags that vegetables are packed in, plastic bags from cereal or cracker boxes, etc.
- Be sure recyclables are dry; if you have an open bin that gets rained on while it is sitting at the curb, the contents essentially are contaminated. Use a covered bin; be sure there is not liquid in containers.

*Takeaways from the Republic Services presentation on April 7, 2022.