

City of Iowa City

Curbside Recycling Program

Curbside recycling is single stream. This means **you do not need to sort** your recyclables. All accepted materials can go in the same blue bin.

Not sure if an item is recyclable? Ask before tossing it in the blue bin!



What you can (and can't) recycle at the curb:

Please rinse cartons and plastic/metal containers.

Paper

- ⇒ Waxy packaging + cartons
Remove lids.
- ⇒ Cardboard egg cartons
- ⇒ Cereal boxes
- ⇒ Envelopes (windows are OK)
- ⇒ File folders
- ⇒ Greeting cards (no glitter or metallic designs)
- ⇒ Junk mail
- ⇒ Magazines and catalogs
- ⇒ Newspapers, including ads
- ⇒ Office paper (staples are OK)
- ⇒ Paper towel tubes
- ⇒ Telephone books, soft cover and paperback books

Metal

- ⇒ Clean aluminum foil crumpled into two-inch ball
- ⇒ Aluminum pans/pie pans
- ⇒ Steel/aluminum cans + lids

Plastic

- ⇒ Plastics accepted: #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #7
- ⇒ Plastic bottles and jars
- ⇒ Food containers and lids
- ⇒ **NO plastic bags**

Cardboard (not allowed in trash, must be recycled)

- ⇒ Breakdown and flatten cardboard. Make sure pieces are no larger than 2x2 ft. Place in bin, or if you have a lot of cardboard, place the 2x2 ft. pieces under your bin.

Not accepted:

- ⇒ Plastic bags
- ⇒ Glass
- ⇒ Styrofoam, including foam egg cartons
- ⇒ Plastic wrap and film
- ⇒ Toys
- ⇒ Motor oil bottles
- ⇒ Clothing/shoes
- ⇒ Hardcover books, shredded paper, napkins, paper cups/plates, wrapping paper, tissues, photographs

For more info, visit
icgov.org/recycle

Recycling and Disposal Tips

If you receive curbside garbage pickup from the City of Iowa City, you receive recycling and organics curbside pickup, too!

- ⇒ You do not need to sort anymore, but the accepted materials are the same. **NO plastic bags or glass** are allowed in curbside collection. You can recycle these materials at your local recycling drop-off locations.
- ⇒ Do not use bags to separate recyclables. Sorting is no longer required, and bags will not be returned.
- ⇒ Set your bins out only when full (bin must be 50 pounds or less), and collect your bins from the curb after pickup.
- ⇒ Use as many bins as needed for recycling. Additional bins can be purchased at the City Hall cashier.

Organics: Yard Waste and Food Scraps

Yard waste cannot be put in your trash. Since yard waste and food scraps are organic materials, they can be composted. You can:

- ⇒ **Compost in your backyard.**
- ⇒ **Compost at the Landfill's compost facility.** Take materials to the Landfill for free.
- ⇒ **Bag or bin organics for curbside pickup.** For more info, go to icgov.org/foodwaste.
- ⇒ **Bundle wood and brush.** Bundles of wood and brush must be 18 inches around or less, tied securely with a string, and weigh less than 50 pounds. Wood must be 4 inches in diameter or less, and less than 48 inches in length.

Other recycling and disposal:

- ⇒ **Appliances and electronics** These items cannot go into the trash. For a fee, these items can be picked up at the curb for recycling.
- ⇒ **Tires** cannot go into the trash. For a fee, these items can be picked up at the curb for recycling.
- ⇒ **Other bulk items** like furniture that is unusable can be picked up at the curb for a fee.

Take these items to the Iowa City Landfill and Recycling Center for recycling and disposal, OR to schedule a pickup appointment, call 319-356-5151. For fees, visit icgov.org/garbage.

- ⇒ **Clothing** can be donated or sold to local secondhand shops. For a list of shops, visit icgov.org/recycle.
- ⇒ **Oils and hazardous waste** These require special handling and recycling. For more info visit icgov.org/hazardouswaste.



Questions?

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