

# Focus on Recycling Quality – **The Do's and Don'ts of Recycling**

The recycling industry is experiencing high levels of contamination – trash in the recycling – at a time when the requirements for quality (clean recycling) have increased significantly.

In 2017, China began to limit the quality and quantity of material it accepts for recycling, impacting the recycling industry world-wide. **As a result, our focus on quality is higher than ever, as we work to ensure the long-term sustainability of our recycling programs.**




When non-recyclable items (contamination) end up in your recycling, they have the potential to turn the entire load into trash, resulting in contamination or increased costs.

**We want to provide you with tools for recycling success.** Just flip this over for easy tips that will help you recycle the right way, every time.



Printed on Recycled Paper.

# Follow these simple do's and don'ts:

| Recycling Do's  |   |
|---|---|
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Do</b> recycle all empty bottles, cans, paper and cardboard.</li></ul> |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Do</b> keep foods and liquids out of recycling.</li></ul>              |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Do</b> keep plastic bags out of recycling.</li></ul>                   |

| Recycling Don'ts  |  |
|---|--|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Don't</b> bag your recyclables. Plastic bags and film get tangled in the machinery.</li></ul>                             |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Don't</b> include food-soiled items – they can turn an entire load of recycling into trash.</li></ul>                     |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Don't</b> add sharp or dangerous materials like needles and electronics – they can cause injury to our workers.</li></ul> |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Don't</b> toss in “tangles” like rubber hoses and wires – they can shut down an entire recycling center!</li></ul>        |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Don't</b> include bulky items like propane tanks or construction debris.</li></ul>  |

Share these tips and post them as a reminder of Waste Management's recycling guidelines. For more tools, visit [www.RecycleOftenRecycleRight.com](http://www.RecycleOftenRecycleRight.com)