

# Indepth Recycling Guide

Source:

<http://www.seattle.gov/util/MyServices/LookItUpWhatsAccepted/AZ/index.htm>

## A

### **Oxygen, Acetylene Tanks**

Recycle: No    Compost: No

Check with your supplier for return and refill options. Tanks that have held flammable compressed gasses (Oxygen, Acetylene, Propane) are **not** recyclable. They pose a fire hazard and must be disposed of as hazardous waste.

They cannot go into garbage and will **not** be accepted at the Transfer Station. Call the Business Waste Line for disposal options (206) 263-8899.

### **Acoustic Ceiling Tile** Recycle: Yes(at locations)    Compost: No

Some businesses accept ceiling panels for reuse or recycle, for a fee.

See the [King County website](#) for options. Otherwise, dispose of as garbage at the [Transfer Station](#). There is a fee.

For a fee, Seattle residents may dispose of mixed construction waste at the [Republic Services Recycling Center](#) in South Seattle, (weekends only for self-hauling) or at [Recovery 1](#) in Tacoma on weekdays.

If you believe the tile contains asbestos, view [what to do with asbestos](#).

### **Aerosol Cans** Recycle: No    Compost: No

All empty cans and non-empty cans go in the garbage.

Use up if possible. If the can contains hazardous material (solvents or other flammables), it should go to a [Household Hazardous Waste Facility](#).

### **Air Conditioners/Heat Pumps** Recycle: No    Compost: No

These items cannot go in the garbage.

Recycle them through the contractor repairing or replacing them, to prevent the release of freon. Freon is a chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) which is regulated under the federal Clean Air Act.

These items can be also be recycled at the [Transfer Station](#) for a fee.

**Aluminum** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Recycle at the curb. Maximum size is 2 feet X 2 feet X 2 feet. Nothing smaller than 3 inches. Do not recycle metal with plastic, wood, or rubber attached.

Rusted metal is okay to recycle unless the metal is falling apart.

Recycle large items by requesting a [Bulky Item Pickup](#) (there is a fee).

Recycle at the [Transfer Station](#): All metal except car parts is accepted. Maximum size is 8 feet long. There is a charge for appliances, limit 2 per load.

Look in the Yellow Pages under Scrap Metal for private recycling businesses.

**Aluminum Foil** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Clean aluminum foil and food pans can be recycled in your curbside cart. Please leave open; do not crumple up. Foil that is food-soiled or dirty cannot be recycled.

If food-soiled or dirty, put in the garbage.

Reuse foil whenever possible.

**Ammunition, Guns & Fireworks** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Not accepted in garbage or household hazardous waste facilities. For an emergency situation, call 911.

For disposal of unwanted [ammunition](#), firearms or [fireworks](#), call (206) 625-5011 (the Seattle police non-emergency line) for disposal help.

Both Seattle and King County residents may take small residential fireworks to the [Seattle Police Firing Range](#) at 11030 E. Marginal Way S., Wednesday-Sunday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., (206) 684-7470.

Roadside flares that do not contain an explosive charge can be taken to the [HHW locations](#).

**Anti-Freeze** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Take used antifreeze to the [HHW locations](#) for recycling or ask your local auto shop to recycle it for you.

**Do not** pour down drains, into toilet or stormdrains, or pour into soil. These all result in water pollution.

**Other Large Appliances** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Sell or donate usable items, see [Donate Seattle](#).

Request a [Bulky Item Pickup](#) to have this picked up at your curb. There is a fee.

Recycle at the [Transfer Station](#): Limit 2 per load. [There is a fee.](#)

**Asbestos** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Asbestos is not accepted at SPU transfer stations or at the HHW facilities. Asbestos can be hazardous, and demolition and renovation projects must comply with requirements.

See [Information for Homeowners](#) for removal and disposal options.

You may remove the asbestos yourself if you live in and own your single-family house.

New homeowners may remove asbestos prior to occupying their house.

**Aseptic / Tetra Pak** Recycle: Yes    Compost: No

Rinse, then recycle. No need to remove the plastic spout.

When possible, buy large sizes to reduce packaging waste.

**Ashes** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Dispose of in the garbage. Must be completely cooled, wetted, and placed in a sealed box or bagged.

**Asphalt Roofing** Recycle: Yes(at locations)      Compost: No

Some businesses accept asphalt roofing for reuse or recycle, for a fee. See the [King County website](#) for options.

Otherwise, dispose of as garbage at the [Transfer Station](#)(there is a fee).

For a fee, Seattle residents may dispose of mixed construction waste at the [Republic Services Recycling Center](#) in South Seattle, (weekends only for self-hauling) or at [Recovery 1](#) in Tacoma on weekdays.

**Aspirin Containers** Recycle: Yes    Compost: No

Pill bottles such as aspirin or vitamin bottles are recyclable.

Prescription medicine vials are **not** recyclable - the plastic is too brittle. Please discard the clear-plastic vials as garbage.

To prevent misuse of medicines and pollution of the environment, please do not put leftover medicines in the garbage or down the drain, unless no other option exists.

Seattle locations for medicine disposal will be available in summer 2016. Until Seattle locations are available, use [TakeBackYourMeds.org](#) to find locations outside of Seattle for proper medicine disposal.

**Stereo/Audio Equipment** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Electronics should not go in the garbage. For recycling locations for stereo and audio equipment see the [Take It Back Network](#) or call (206) 684-3000 to request curbside e-waste collection service. Both services charge a nominal fee. Donate usable items for reuse when possible.

**Auto Parts -- Starters, Carburetors, etc.** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Ask at an auto parts store about repair options. Trade in your old part when you buy a new one. Scrap dealers also take car parts - see the Yellow Pages under Scrap Metal-Process and Recycle.

Dispose of small items in your garbage can, large items at the [Transfer Station](#) for a fee. Car parts are **not** accepted for recycling at the curb or transfer station because of grease contamination.

## B

**Paper Bags** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Clean and dry paper bags can be recycled, food-soiled bags go in the food and yard waste cart.

Please help reduce waste: reuse your bags, or carry canvas shopping bags.

**Bread Bags** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Reuse or put in the garbage. Do not recycle: Plastic food bags often contain food residue and moisture that contaminate the rest of the plastic material.

**Grocery/Shopping Bags** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

You can recycle clean and empty grocery bags by bundling all bags into one bag. Single bags must go into the garbage, as they tangle up the machinery at the recycling facility. Produce bags are not recyclable.

Clean and dry paper bags can be recycled. Food-soiled paper bags go in your food and yard waste cart.

Please help reduce waste: reuse your bags, or carry canvas shopping bags.

**Produce Bags** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Reuse or put in the garbage. Do not recycle: Plastic food bags often contain food residue and moisture that contaminate the rest of the plastic material.

**Ziploc Bags** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Reuse or put in the garbage. Do not recycle: Plastic food bags often contain food residue and moisture that contaminate the rest of the plastic material.

**Barrels & Drums** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

For the [Transfer Station](#), empty barrels and drums must be cut in half. Clean metal can be recycled. Plastic and dirty metal go in the pit.

Sealed drums not accepted. Drums that held hazardous waste not accepted - call the Health Department at (206) 296-4633 for help. Look in the Yellow Pages under "barrels and drums" for a reuse/recycling dropoff location.

**Alkaline Batteries** Recycle: No      Compost: No

The [Household Hazardous Waste facilities](#) accept alkaline batteries for recycling. Alkaline batteries, including AAA, AA, C, D and 9v, may also go in the garbage.

If you are a business, call the Business Waste Line for disposal options (206) 263-8899.

Use rechargeable batteries to reduce waste! Ask about recycling where you buy batteries.

**Rechargeable Batteries** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Rechargeable and lithium-ion batteries are accepted at [household hazardous waste locations](#) and at [Call2Recycle](#) drop-off locations.

Rechargeable and lithium-ion batteries can't go in the garbage.

These batteries are found in cordless power tools, cellular and cordless phones, laptop computers, digital cameras, toothbrushes, and remote control toys. Remove the battery from the item if easy.

**Bed Frames** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Give away or resell usable items - consider [craigslist](#), [Freecycle](#), or a local thrift store.

For unusable items, metal bed frames can be recycled at the [Transfer Station](#) for free.

Unpainted wood can be recycled at the stations. Painted or treated wood must go to the transfer station.

You can also request a bulky pickup for a fee at (206) 684-3000

**Bedding and Linens** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Bedding, linens, and other household fabrics can go in the garbage, but local organizations in the [Threadcycle program](#) will take them for reuse or recycling.

Wet, mildewed, or heavily-soiled bedding and linens go in the garbage.

The following organizations have confirmed that they will take bedding, linens, and other household fabrics that are stained, worn out, ripped, or damaged.

- [Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound](#)
- [Northwest Center](#)
- [Salvation Army](#)
- [Seattle Goodwill](#)
- [SightConnection](#)
- [TexGreen](#)
- [USAgain](#)
- [Value Village](#)

Bedding, linens, and other household fabrics **do not** go into recycling bins.

**Berry Trays** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Plastic berry trays larger than 3" are recyclable. Please rinse first.

**Beverage Cans** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Recycle empty cans in your curbside cart.

Using recycled aluminum to make things takes 98% less energy than using new material!

This recyclable item is banned from Seattle's garbage

**Bicycles & Bike Parts** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Give away or resell usable bikes and parts. Or donate to community-oriented bike shops: [Bike Works](#), [Recycled Cycles](#).

Otherwise, recycle metal parts at the Curb (must be larger than 3 inches).

Bikes and parts can be recycled at the [Transfer Station](#) or take to a scrap metal dealer (see the Yellow Pages).

Small parts go in the garbage.

Mountain bike tubes can be recycled at your local bike shop. They are made into messenger bags by a local company called Alchemy Goods.

**Biodegradable Foam Peanuts** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Reuse, or ask a local private mailing business if they will accept them for reuse.

Otherwise, bag and put in garbage. They are not accepted in your food and yard waste cart.

**Bleach** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Unwanted flammable and hazardous products should be taken to a [HHW location](#).

Although local governments don't charge a fee at household hazardous waste collection sites, it is expensive to properly dispose of hazardous waste. Use up or give away that extra if you can! Better yet, minimize the use of hazardous products.

**Blister Packages** Recycle: No      Compost: No

These are the clear hard-to-open plastic packaging from items such as batteries and small electronics. They are **not** recyclable. Put in the garbage.

**Books, Hardback** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Paperback books go in your recycling cart.

Hardcover books go in the garbage as they cannot be recycled due to glue in the binding. You can cut pages out and recycle pages separately from the binding.

Donate or resell used books in decent condition.

**Books, Paperback** Recycle: Yes      Compost: Yes

Paperback books go in your recycling cart.

Hardcover books go in the garbage as they cannot be recycled due to glue in the binding. You can cut pages out and recycle pages separately from the binding.

Donate or resell used books in decent condition.

**Bottle Caps & Jar Lids** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

**Bottle caps**

Screw plastic bottle caps back onto an empty plastic bottle and put in the recycling.

Metal bottle caps and single, loose plastic bottle caps go in the garbage.

**Lids**

Plastic and metal jar lids 3 inches or more in diameter go in the recycling.

Lids less than 3 inches in diameter go in the garbage.

**Brake, Transmission Fluid** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Liquids are not allowed in the garbage. Put unwanted or used product in a sealed container and take to a [HHW location](#).

No containers over five gallons in size and a 50 gallon over-all-limit. Call the Household Hazards Line at (206) 296-4692, 9 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, except holidays for further information.

**Do not** pour down drains, into toilet or stormdrains, or pour into soil. These all cause water pollution.

For more information see King County's [Hazardous Waste site](#).

### **Trees & Brush** Recycle: No    Compost: Yes

Put in curbside food and yard waste cart, or self-haul to the [Transfer Station](#). You can chipper these to use them for mulch or in your backyard compost.

For curbside pickup: wood scraps, branches and twigs can be up to 4 inches in diameter and 4 feet in length. Put pieces in cart or tie in bundles up to 2 feet in diameter (there is a fee for extra bundles).

For disposal at transfer station, wood pieces must not exceed 8 feet in length and 8 inches in diameter. Yard waste **cannot** be disposed of as garbage.

See [Christmas Trees](#).

### **Brick** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Reuse brick in your landscape or give to your neighbor. Some businesses accept brick for reuse or recycle, for a fee. See the [King County website](#) for salvage options.

Otherwise, dispose of as garbage at the [Transfer Station](#). (There is a fee).

For a fee, Seattle residents may dispose of mixed construction waste at the [Republic Services Recycling Center](#) in South Seattle (weekends only for self-hauling).

### **Bubble Wrap** Recycle: Yes    Compost: No

Bubble wrap can go in your recycle cart. Bundle it together in a plastic grocery bag first.

Better yet, reuse packaging materials for holiday gifts! Some mailing and shipping businesses accept bubble wrap and other packing material for reuse (clean, dry and in good condition). Look in the Yellow pages under "Shipping Services", and call first.

### **Buckets** Recycle: Yes    Compost: No

Look for reuse opportunities with neighbors or organizations.

Recycle at curb unless contained hazardous waste such as pool or spa chemicals. Then they go in the garbage.

### **Butter Boxes** Recycle: Yes    Compost: No

Rinse if needed, and recycle.

These cannot go into food and yard waste - the paper is poly-coated, and the thin plastic layer contaminates compost.

## C

### **Camera & Watch Batteries** Recycle: No (unless recyclable)    Compost: No



Button batteries (found in watches, hearing aids, cameras) may contain very small amounts of metals such as silver and mercury. Many watch, jewelry and photo stores recycle them.

The [HHW facilities](#) accept button batteries for recycling. Otherwise, these batteries can go in the garbage.

If it's rechargeable, it's recyclable. Check King County's [What do I do with...?](#) webpage for more information on where it can be recycled.

**Can Lids** Recycle: Yes    Compost: No

If the can lid is attached and pushed into can, these can be recycled.

Put loose lids into the garbage.

**Aerosol Cans** Recycle: No    Compost: No

All empty cans and non-empty cans go in the garbage.

Use up if possible. If the can contains hazardous material (solvents or other flammables), it should go to a [Household Hazardous Waste Facility](#).

**Car Auto Glass** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Give away or resell usable items - consider [Donate Seattle](#), [craigslist](#), [Freecycle](#), or look in the yellow pages under "Thrift Stores".

Some [building supply second use stores](#) may accept undamaged window glass.

Broken items go in the garbage.

Only glass bottles and jars can be recycled in your curbside cart or at the transfer stations. Other glass items have different melting points and must be recycled with special processes.

**Cars** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Seattle Public Utilities cannot accept vehicles for disposal.

Many charitable organizations accept unwanted vehicles and provide a receipt for a tax deduction. Vehicles are repaired or recycled. Use the Yellow Pages or search "Vehicle Donations" online.

**Cardboard, Boxes** Recycle: Yes    Compost: Yes

Flatten and put into or next to your recycling cart. Cardboard can also go in your backyard composting.

Wet cardboard goes into the Food & Yard Waste cart. Cardboard with grease or oil stains (like pizza boxes) goes into the Food & Yard Waste cart.

Cardboard is banned from Seattle's garbage.

**Cardboard, Corrugated** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Flatten boxes and put them in or next to your recycling cart.

This recyclable item is banned from Seattle's garbage.

**Cardboard, Soiled or Greasy** Recycle: No      Compost: Yes

Put greasy cardboard in your backyard compost or in your curbside food and yard waste cart.

Grease contaminates the recycling process, but is fine for composting.

**Cardboard, Waxed** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Put waxed cardboard boxes, such as large produce boxes, into your food and yard waste cart. Please break them down first. They are not accepted in your recycling cart. Paperboard boxes, such as butter or cereal boxes, go into your recycling cart. They are not true waxed cardboard.

**Carpet & Padding** Recycle: Yes(for some) Compost: No

If reusable or in good condition, resell, reuse, or donate. Some carpet and foam padding can be recycled, depending on the type. Ask about recycling options where you buy these products. Many sellers will take back their items but prefer not to advertise that service. Otherwise, dispose of as garbage.

**At the curb:** The garbage must fit into your can or cart or there will be an extra charge. Or use our [Bulky Item Pickup](#) service (there is a fee).

**At the Transfer Station:** [Transfer Station](#) garbage items can be up to 8 feet in length and 200 pounds in weight (there is a fee).

**Cast Iron**

Recycle at the curb. Maximum size is 2 feet X 2 feet X 2 feet. Nothing smaller than 3 inches. Do not recycle metal with plastic, wood, or rubber attached.

Rusted metal is okay to recycle unless the metal is falling apart.

Recycle large items by requesting a [Bulky Item Pickup](#) (there is a fee).

Recycle at the [Transfer Station](#): All metal except car parts is accepted. Maximum size is 8 feet long. There is a charge for appliances, limit 2 per load.

Look in the Yellow Pages under Scrap Metal for private recycling businesses.

**CD & DVD Cases** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Go into the garbage. For cases in good condition, contact a store that sells used CDs or DVDS to see if they can use them.

**CDs, DVDs, Floppies** Recycle: Yes(at locations) Compost: No

If CDs are in good condition, resell (see Compact Discs in the Yellow Pages) or donate through [Eco Encore](#) or to a local re-use/thrift store.

To recycle, check out [Green Disk](#). They recycle all forms of electronic items, including cords and cables, and media including CDs and DVDs and their cases. Some Best Buy stores also accept CDs for recycling in limited quantities.

You can also put unwanted CDs and DVDs, and their cases, in the garbage can - they do not go in curbside recycling.

**Cell Phones** Recycle: Yes(at locations) Compost: No

Find a [Take It Back location](#) to recycle cell phones, stereo systems, VCRs, printers, computer keyboards and mice. These items don't go in the garbage.

Many non-profits will also accept donated working cell phones. You may also mail or drop off cell phones to donate using [911 Cell Phone Bank](#).

**Cell Phone Batteries** Recycle: Yes(at Locations) Compost: No

Rechargeable and lithium-ion batteries are accepted at [household hazardous waste locations](#) and at [Call2Recycle](#) drop-off locations.

Rechargeable and lithium-ion batteries can't go in the garbage.

These batteries are found in cordless power tools, cellular and cordless phones, laptop computers, digital cameras, toothbrushes, and remote control toys. Remove the battery from the item if easy.

**Cereal & Cracker Boxes** Recycle: Yes Compost: No

Recycle - remove liners first. Liners go in the garbage.

This recyclable item is banned from Seattle's garbage.

**Child Car Seats** Recycle: No Compost: No

Old and expired car seats can go into the garbage.

Find locations in Seattle and King County to [recycle your car seat](#).

Reusing of broken car seats or car seats that have been in accidents can be a safety hazard.

**Chip Bags** Recycle: No Compost: No

Do not recycle. Put in garbage. Plastic food bags often contain food residue and moisture that contaminate the rest of the plastic material.

### **Lights, Holiday** Recycle: No Compost: No

Holiday lights can be disposed of in the garbage.

During the holiday season, holiday lights can also be recycled at several different [locations](#).

### **Christmas Trees** Recycle: Yes Compost: Yes

From 12/26/15 - 1/31/16, holiday trees and greens can be placed curbside for pickup on your regular collection day at no extra charge. They will be composted at a facility.

Trees must be trimmed to 6 feet or shorter. Trim branches to less than four feet to fit into the collection trucks. Bundle each section with sisal string or twine (not plastic). Flocked and plastic trees or wreaths are not recyclable and will be charged as extra garbage. Any other objects such as lights, metal clips, ornaments and bows must be removed before composting.

At apartments – One tree may be placed next to each food/yard waste cart at no extra charge each collection day.

At Recycling & Disposal Stations – Clean Christmas trees are accepted for free from 12/26/15 - 1/31/16. After that, regular fees apply (see [hours and locations](#)). Trees should not exceed eight feet in length and must be free of decoration. Trunks should not exceed four inches in diameter. The stations will accept up to three trees per vehicle.

### **Clam Shell Containers** Recycle: Yes Compost: No

Rigid plastic clam-shell containers and poly-coated paper box containers can go in your curbside recycling cart. Recycle clean containers only. Dirty non-compostable containers and Styrofoam containers and cups go in the garbage. To reduce waste, bring your own resealable container for take-out food or left-overs.

Plastic-like containers marked "Compostable" go in the garbage unless they are approved as compostable by Cedar Grove ([more information](#)). Then they can go in the food and yard waste cart.

### **Dirt & Soil** Recycle: No Compost: Yes

Small amounts of clean soil can go in your garbage can. Do not exceed weight limits. Large quantities are accepted at the [Transfer Station](#), for a fee.

Dirt & soil does not belong in Yard Waste (sod is accepted).

Other options:

- People often look for clean soil for home gardens. Put up a "Free Clean Soil" sign.
- Some businesses accept clean soil. See the King County "What Do I Do With?" website.

Clean soil contains no plastic, wood, metal, oil, or other materials. Learn more about [contaminated soil](#)

### **Cleaning Supplies** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Unwanted flammable and hazardous products should be taken to a [HHW location](#).

Although local governments don't charge a fee at household hazardous waste collection sites, it is expensive to properly dispose of hazardous waste. Use up or give away that extra if you can! Better yet, minimize the use of hazardous products.

### **Clock Radios** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Please donate items in good condition. [Donate Seattle](#) Broken items go in the garbage.

### **Clothes & Shoes** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Clothes, shoes, and household fabrics can go in the garbage, but local organizations in the [Threadcycle program](#) will take them for reuse or recycling.

Wet, mildewed, or heavily-soiled clothes go in the garbage.

The following organizations have confirmed that they will take clothing and shoes that are stained, worn out, ripped, or damaged. They also accept "singles" of items that are traditionally paired, such as shoes, socks, and gloves.

- [Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound](#)
- [Northwest Center](#)
- [Salvation Army](#)
- [Seattle Goodwill](#)
- [SightConnection](#)
- [TexGreen](#)
- [USAgain](#)
- [Value Village](#)

Clothes, shoes, and linens **do not** go into recycling bins.

### **Coffee Filters** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Plain paper coffee filters can go in your curbside food and yard waste cart, or can be put in backyard compost bin.

Plastic, cloth, or plastic-coated coffee filters go into the garbage. To reduce waste, consider buying reusable coffee filters, such as natural fiber filters, or use a french press.

## **Compostable Food Service Items** Recycle: No      Compost: Yes

The following go in your food and yard waste cart:

- Plastic-like containers, cups, plates, and items marked "Compostable," "PLA," or "Cedar Grove Compostable"
- Plain, uncoated paper plates and bowls such as Chinet brand
- Utensils (forks, spoons, and knives) marked "Compostable"
- Brown straws

If in doubt, throw it in the garbage. Do not recycle plastic-like compostable food service products (plastics labeled with a #7 PLA symbol). Such products are also not recommended for backyard composting.

See photos and more information: [Compostable Packaging Guide](#) (pdf)

## **Computers/Laptops** Recycle: Yes(at locations)      Compost: No

Computers and laptops are **not** accepted at the HHW facilities or in the garbage.

Computers and laptops from residents are recycled for free through businesses listed on the [Take It Back Network](#).

It is best to give away or resell usable items whenever possible.

## **Computer Batteries** Recycle: Yes(at locations)      Compost: No

Rechargeable and lithium-ion batteries are accepted at [household hazardous waste locations](#) and at [Call2Recycle](#) drop-off locations.

Rechargeable and lithium-ion batteries can't go in the garbage.

These batteries are found in cordless power tools, cellular and cordless phones, laptop computers, digital cameras, toothbrushes, and remote control toys. Remove the battery from the item if easy.

## **Computer Monitors** Recycle: Yes(at Locations)      Compost: No

Computer monitors are **not** accepted at the HHW facilities or in the garbage.

Computer monitors are recycled for free through businesses listed on the [Take It Back Network](#) (some locations may charge a fee).

It is best to give away or resell usable items whenever possible.

## **Concrete & Asphalt** Recycle: Yes(at locations)      Compost: No

Some businesses accept concrete and asphalt for reuse or recycle, for a fee. See the [King County](#) website for options. Otherwise, dispose of as garbage at the [Transfer Station](#). There is a fee.

For disposal at transfer station, must not exceed 200 pounds and/or 2 cubic feet per piece.

**Mixed C & D (Construction Waste)** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Dispose of as garbage at the [Transfer Station](#). There is a fee.

For a fee, Seattle residents may dispose of mixed construction waste at the [Republic Services Recycling Center](#) in South Seattle, (weekends only for self-hauling) or at [Recovery 1](#) in Tacoma on weekdays.

**Dirt & Soil – Contaminated** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Contaminated dirt/soil is not 100% soil. It is either contaminated with materials like plastic, wood, or metal, or hazardous materials like oil or chemicals.

**Soil without Hazardous Material**

Small amounts of soil can go in your garbage if it contains no hazardous material. Do not exceed weight limits. Large quantities are accepted at the Transfer Station, for a fee.

Remove recyclables and garbage from the soil and Dispose of them appropriately.

View [other disposal options](#) once soil has been cleaned.

**Cooking Oil** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Recycle cooking oil at no charge.

**Recycle at the curb.** To recycle residential cooking oil collected on your collection day:

1. Pour cooled oil into a plastic jug with a tight-fitting, screw-on lid.
2. Label the jug with your name and address.
3. Set the labeled, tightly-closed jug next to your recycling cart on your recycling collection day.

**Recycle at a drop-off location.** To find a drop-off location contact General Biodiesel (206) 932-1600 or Standard Biodiesel (206) 388-3869.

To dispose of used cooking oil in the garbage, put in sealed containers and place in the trash. Uncontained liquids are not allowed in the garbage.

Don't bring cooking oil to Seattle or King County transfer stations for disposal.

**Copiers/Fax Machines** Recycle: Yes(at locations)      Compost: No

For recycling locations for copiers and fax machines see the [Take It Back Network](#) or call (206) 684-3000 to request curbside e-waste collection services. Both services charge a nominal fee. Electronics are not accepted in the garbage.

Donate usable items for reuse when possible.

## **Copper, Bronze, Brass** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Donate or sell reusable items.

Recycle at the curb: Maximum size: 2 feet X 2 feet X 2 feet. Minimum size- nothing smaller than 3 inches please. Do not recycle metal with plastic, wood or rubber attached. Wrapped wire or cable cannot be recycled at the curb. Recycle large items by requesting a [Bulky Item Pickup](#). (There is a fee.)

Recycle at the [Transfer Station](#). All metal except car parts is accepted. Maximum size: 8 feet long. There is a charge for appliances, limit 2 per load. See Appliance section for more information.

Another option: look in the Yellow Pages under Scrap Metal for drop-off locations, dealers may pay market prices.

## **Corks** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Corks go in the garbage; they are too dense to compost.

Corks can also be recycled through the [Cork ReHarvest Program](#), which has [drop boxes](#) at PCC, Whole Foods Markets, and Wine World Warehouses.

Or save them for a crafts project.

## **Cups & Utensils** Recycle: Yes(unless Styrofoam) Compost: No

Empty and clean plastic cups go in your recycling cart.

Dirty items, plastic utensils, and Styrofoam cups go in the garbage.

The following go in your food and yard waste cart:

- Plastic-like containers marked "Compostable" or "Cedar Grove Compostable"
- Utensils (forks, spoons, and knives) marked "Compostable"
- Brown straws

## **D**



## **Dirt & Soil** Recycle: No Compost: Yes

Small amounts of clean soil can go in your garbage can. Do not exceed weight limits. Large quantities are accepted at the [Transfer Station](#), for a fee.

Dirt & soil does not belong in Yard Waste (sod is accepted).

Other options:

- People often look for clean soil for home gardens. Put up a "Free Clean Soil" sign.
- Some businesses accept clean soil. See the King County "What Do I Do With?" website.

Clean soil contains no plastic, wood, metal, oil, or other materials. Learn more about [contaminated soil](#)

## **Disposable Diapers** Recycle: No Compost: No

Flush excrement down toilet. Put disposable (even if marked "compostable") diapers in a bag and place in garbage.

## **Drinking Glasses** Recycle: No Compost: No

Sell or donate usable items, see [Donate Seattle](#). Some [building supply second use stores](#) may accept undamaged window glass.

Broken items go in the garbage. Only glass bottles and jars can be recycled in your curbside cart or at the transfer stations. Other glass items have different melting points and must be recycled with special processes.

## **Barrels & Drums** Recycle: Yes(read text) Compost: No

For the [Transfer Station](#), empty barrels and drums must be cut in half. Clean metal can be recycled. Plastic and dirty metal go in the pit.

Sealed drums not accepted. Drums that held hazardous waste not accepted - call the Health Department at (206) 296-4633 for help. Look in the Yellow Pages under "barrels and drums" for a reuse/recycling dropoff location.

## **Drywall** Recycle: No(at locations) Compost: No

Some businesses accept drywall for reuse or recycle, for a fee. See [King County Construction/Demolition Debris](#) for options.

Otherwise, dispose of as garbage at the [Transfer Station](#)(there is a fee).

For a fee, Seattle residents may dispose of mixed construction waste at the [Republic Services Recycling Center](#) in South Seattle, (weekends only for self-hauling) or at [Recovery 1](#) in Tacoma on weekdays.

## **Dry Cleaner Bags** Recycle: Yes (read) Compost: No

To recycle, stuff clean and dry plastic bags into one bag and put in recycling cart. Grocery, dry cleaning, and newspaper bags are all okay. Frozen food, produce, bread, and Ziploc bags are not okay.

Clean and dry paper bags can be recycled, food-soiled bags go in the food and yard waste cart.

Please help reduce waste: reuse your bags, or carry canvas shopping bags.

**Ducts** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Not accepted at SPU Transfer Stations.

For furnaces, furnace parts, ducting, or boilers - Contact the [Puget Sound Clean Air Agency](#) or (206) 343-8800 for disposal information.

Use a search engine to look up "Scrap Metal-Process & Recycle" for salvage operations that may accept asbestos-free heating systems.

## E

**Edible Food to Donate** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Unserved, commercially-prepared food that has been kept hot or cold can be legally donated. Unserved perishable foods are best donated to meals programs, shelters, or senior centers. (Call first.)

Food banks generally distribute non-perishable foods.

Fruit from your home trees can be donated to your local food bank.

**Foam Egg Cartons** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Foam ones go in the garbage.

Clean paper egg cartons can be recycled.

Food-soiled paper egg cartons go into your food and yard waste cart.

Save clean ones to give to farmers who sell eggs at farmer's markets.

**Paper Egg Cartons** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Clean paper egg cartons can be recycled.

Food-soiled paper egg cartons go into your food and yard waste cart.

Save clean ones to give to farmers who sell eggs at farmer's markets.

## **Engines/Motors & Car Parts** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Ask at an auto parts store about repair options. Trade in your old part when you buy a new one. Scrap dealers also take car parts - see the Yellow Pages under Scrap Metal-Process and Recycle.

Dispose of small items in your garbage can, large items at the [Transfer Station](#) for a fee.

Car parts are **not** accepted for recycling at the curb or transfer station because of grease contamination.

## **Envelopes** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Recycle all paper envelopes, including plastic windows. This recyclable item is banned from Seattle's garbage.

Bubble envelopes must be discarded in the garbage.

## **E-waste** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Residents can recycle televisions, monitors, and computers for free through businesses listed on the [Take It Back Network](#). Some locations may charge a fee for other electronics or peripherals.

Or, call (206) 684-3000 to request curbside e-waste collection service for all items, for a fee.

E-waste means electronic waste such as unwanted televisions, computers, cell phones and keyboards. (It does not include appliances.)

Computers, laptops, and monitors are banned from the garbage.

## **Eyeglass Frames** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Donate good used frames to a local non-profit thrift store.

Otherwise, put in the garbage

## **Eyeglasses** Recycle: No      Compost: No

There are several organization that take and redistribute used eye glasses. [The Lions Club](#) collects used glasses; the lenses are reground and given to people in need.

Or, return un-needed eyeglasses to your local LensCrafters, Pearle Vision, Sears Optical, Target Optical, Sunglass Hut store. These centers are affiliated with a program called Give the Gift of Sight.

If they are damaged, they can go in the garbage.

## **F**

## **Fabric/Textiles** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Fabric scraps and other textiles can go in the garbage, but local organizations in the [Threadcycle program](#) will take them for reuse or recycling.

Wet, mildewed, or heavily-soiled fabrics go in the garbage.

The following organizations have confirmed that they will take fabric scraps and other textiles that are stained, worn out, ripped, or damaged.

- [Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound](#)
- [Northwest Center](#)
- [Salvation Army](#)
- [Seattle Goodwill](#)
- [SightConnection](#)
- [TexGreen](#)
- [USAgain](#)
- [Value Village](#)

Fabrics **do not** go into recycling bins.

**Facial Tissue (Kleenex)** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Facial tissue such as Kleenex goes in the garbage.

**Fats, Oils & Grease** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Uncontained liquids are not allowed in the garbage. Two firms accept residential used cooking oil for recycle: General Biodiesel (206) 932-1600 and Standard Biodiesel (206) 388-3869. Please call them for information on their residential cooking oil drop-off sites.

To dispose of used cooking oil in your curbside pickup, you may:

- Pour fats, oils and grease into a covered disposable container — such as glass, plastic or a sturdy Ziploc bag — that will seal and hold F.O.G. waste and place it in the trash.
- Mix the oil with an absorbent such as kitty litter or dirt to make the oil solid, and place in the trash.

F.O.G. waste cannot be recycled or composted. The benefit of throwing F.O.G. waste in the garbage to protect pipes and water outweighs the cost of disposing possible recyclable containers in the garbage.

If you have a large amount, do this over several collection days. Do **not** bring it to the Seattle or King County transfer stations for disposal.

**Copiers/Fax Machines** Recycle: No (bring to location)      Compost: No

For recycling locations for copiers and fax machines see the [Take It Back Network](#) or call (206) 684-3000 to request curbside e-waste collection services. Both services charge a nominal fee. Electronics are not accepted in the garbage.

Donate usable items for reuse when possible.

**Fiberglass** Recycle: No Compost: No

Dispose of waste fiberglass as garbage - at the curb or the [Transfer Station](#). There is a fee.

The primary health effect and hazard associated with fiberglass fibers involve skin and eye irritation. Wear gloves, goggles and other protective clothing.

For a fee, Seattle residents may dispose of mixed construction waste at the [Republic Services Recycling Center](#) in South Seattle (weekends only for self-hauling).

**Fire Extinguishers** Recycle: Yes(at locations) Compost: No

Bring non-empty fire extinguishers to either Seattle [HHW location](#).

Empty CO2 and halon (bromo difluoromethane) extinguishers can also be recycled.

Look in the yellow pages of the phone book under "Fire Extinguishers" for companies that recycle them. See [Local Hazardous Waste Management Program](#) for more information.

In Seattle and King County, empty fire extinguishers can go in the garbage.

**Flares** Recycle: No Compost: No

Roadside flares that do not contain an explosive charge can be taken to the [HHW locations](#).

**Light bulbs, Fluorescent** Recycle: No Compost: No

All fluorescent lights, such as tubes and compact (CFL) bulbs, contain mercury and are **banned** from Seattle's garbage.

Find light bulb collection sites via [LightRecycle](#) or [Take It Back Network](#).

You can also take up to 10 bulbs per trip to a [Household Hazardous Waste location](#).

**Do not break!**

**Flushable Wipes** Recycle: No Compost: No

All types of wipes – baby, surface, disinfecting, cleaning, “flushable” – go in the garbage.

Do not flush any kind of wipes down the toilet. They can [clog sewer pipes](#).

Do not put wipes in recycling or food and yard waste.

**Foam Blocks/Packing Sheets** Recycle: No (unless Bubble Wrap)

Compost: No

Some mailing and shipping businesses accept packing material for reuse (clean, dry and in good condition). Look in the Yellow pages under Shipping Services, and call first. Otherwise, foam blocks go in the garbage. You can recycle bubble wrap in your curbside recycling cart, but it must be bagged and bundled together.

Reuse if possible!

## **Foamcore**

Reuse for art projects, or put in your garbage.

## **Foil Pie Pans** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Clean aluminum foil and food pans can be recycled in your curbside cart. Please leave open; do not crumple up. Foil that is food-soiled or dirty cannot be recycled.

If food-soiled or dirty, put in the garbage.

Reuse foil whenever possible.

## **Food Box Liners** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Liners go in the garbage. You can reuse cereal box liners to store food or for sandwich bags.

## **Meat/Food Trays** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Bioplastic meat, poultry and fish trays colored brown, light brown or tan are approved compostable and can go in your food and yard waste cart. They are not recyclable.

Paper-based trays can go in your food and yard waste cart.

All other trays and soaker pads from any kind of tray go in the garbage, including Styrofoam and natural fiber trays like Bagasse. Bagasse does not pass compostability testing here, despite claims the manufacturer may put on the package.

## **Food Scraps – All** Recycle: No      Compost: Yes

**All** types of food waste can go in your food and yard waste cart, to be made into valuable compost. This includes meat, fish, bones, egg shells, fruit pits, and dairy. [Learn more.](#)

You can also home [compost](#) all food except for meat and dairy.

Garbage disposals use a lot of water, and also take up valuable capacity at the sewage treatment plant.

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Garbage disposals use a lot of water, and also take up valuable capacity at the sewage treatment plant.

### **Food Scraps -- Home Composting** Recycle: No      Compost: Yes

Food waste can easily be [composted in your backyard](#). Be sure to use a rodent-proof method, and do not home-compost meat, fish or dairy. These items can go in your food and yard waste cart.

SPU recommends home composting and/or the curbside food and yard waste cart, instead of the garbage disposal, for environmental and cost reasons. Garbage disposals use a lot of water, and take up valuable capacity at the sewage treatment plant.

### **Frozen Food Boxes** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Rinse if needed, and recycle.

These cannot go into food and yard waste - the paper is poly-coated, and the thin plastic layer contaminates compost.

### **Furnaces** Recycle: No      Compost: No

**Not** accepted at SPU Transfer Stations. For furnaces, furnace parts, ducting, or boilers - Contact the [Puget Sound Clean Air Agency](#) or (206) 343-8800 for disposal information.

See the Yellow Pages under "Scrap Metal-Process & Recycle" for salvage operations that may accept asbestos-free heating systems.

## **G**

### **Gas Canisters, Small** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Small empty gas canisters under two pounds (lbs)

must be taken to a [HHW location](#).

### **Gas Cans** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Empty gasoline cans smaller than five gallons may be placed in your garbage can. Leave the lid off of empty gasoline containers for two to three days prior to putting them in the garbage.

Empty gasoline cans are **not** accepted at the Household Hazardous Waste facilities.

Empty metal gas containers may be taken to scrap metal companies that take empty underground storage tanks. Look in the Yellow Pages of the phone book under "Scrap Metal Recyclers."

**Gasoline** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Includes gas mixed with oil, diesel. Take contaminated gasoline to [HHW location](#).

Must use gasoline-compatible containers (no food jugs, milk cartons, etc).

No more than 30 gallons and no containers over five gallons in size without approval.

Call the Household Hazards Line at (206) 296-4692, 9 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, except holidays for further information.

**Gift Wrap** Recycle: Yes    Compost: No

Paper gift wrap can be recycled.

Plastic, foil, or gift tissue paper similar to facial tissue paper must go in the garbage.

Better yet, reuse paper or wrap gifts in fabric, reusable gift bags, baskets or tins. Create your own gift wrap from comics or old calendars.

**Glass Bottles & Jars** Recycle: Yes    Compost: No

All clean bottles and jars go in your recycling cart.

Jars coated with oily food (like peanut butter) can be wiped first with a paper towel then cleaned. Please do not dump cooking oil or grease down the drain.

Glass bottles and jars are banned from Seattle's garbage.

Do not recycle other glass items - they have different melting points, and can ruin recycling.

Lids 3 inches or larger go into the recycling cart. Smaller lids go in the garbage.

Metal foil (from the top of wine bottles) goes in the garbage.

**Glass, Broken** Recycle: Yes    Compost: No

You may put broken bottles into your recycling cart (but small pieces go in the garbage).

All other broken glass including ceramics, glasses, and windows goes in the garbage.

**Glass/Ceramic Household Items** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Give away or resell usable items - consider [Donate Seattle](#), [craigslist](#), [Freecycle](#), or look in the yellow pages under "Thrift Stores".

Sell or donate usable items, see [Donate Seattle](#).



Broken items go in the garbage. Only glass bottles and jars can be recycled in your curbside cart or at the transfer stations. Other glass items have different melting points and must be recycled with special processes.

**Gold, Silver, etc.** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Please put small items (under 3 inches) in the garbage - they can jam the recycle equipment.

See the Yellow Pages under "jewelry buyers".

**Glues & Adhesives** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Unwanted flammable and hazardous products should be taken to a [HHW location](#).

Although local governments don't charge a fee at household hazardous waste collection sites, it is expensive to properly dispose of hazardous waste. Use up or give away that extra if you can! Better yet, minimize the use of hazardous products.

**Grass Clippings & Sod** Recycle: No      Compost: Yes

Compost at home, put in curbside food and yard waste cart, or self-haul to the [Transfer Station](#) (there is a fee.)

If you're putting it in your food and yard waste cart, be sure not to exceed [cart weight limits](#). Yard waste **cannot** be disposed of as garbage.

**Greeting Cards** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Can be recycled, or... use to make gift tags!

**Grocery/Shopping Bags** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

You can recycle clean and empty grocery bags by bundling all bags into one bag. Single bags must go into the garbage, as they tangle up the machinery at the recycling facility. Produce bags are not recyclable.

Clean and dry paper bags can be recycled. Food-soiled paper bags go in your food and yard waste cart.

Please help reduce waste: reuse your bags, or carry canvas shopping bags.

**Gutters** Recycle: Yes (at transfer Station)      Compost: No

Aluminum gutters can be recycled at the [Transfer Station](#).

Dispose of plastic gutters as garbage at the Transfer Station. (There is a fee).

Also see Scrap Metal dealers in the yellow pages.

H

**Hand Tools** Recycle: Yes(if metal)    Compost: No

Give away or resell usable items - consider [Donate Seattle](#), [craigslist](#), [Freecycle](#), or look in the yellow pages under "Thrift Stores".

Unusable all-metal items can be recycled in your curbside cart. Put unusable tools made of more than one material (wood, plastic and metal) in the garbage.

**Hearing Aid Batteries** Recycle: No            Compost: No

Some locations that sell hearing aid batteries take them back for recycling- check with your local supplier.

Otherwise, these batteries can go in your garbage.

**Helium Tanks** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Check with your supplier for return and refill options.

Tanks of helium gas (such as for blowing up balloons) can not be recycled. They can be emptied and discarded as garbage. Helium gas does not pose a fire hazard (unlike propane and oxygen)

**Hobby Chemicals** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Unwanted flammable and hazardous products should be taken to a [HHW location](#).

Although local governments don't charge a fee at household hazardous waste collection sites, it is expensive to properly dispose of hazardous waste. Use up or give away that extra if you can!

Better yet, minimize the use of hazardous products.

**Hot/Coffee Cups** Recycle: Yes            Compost: No

Well-rinsed or unused paper beverage cups for coffee or tea go into the recycling bin.

Styrofoam beverage cups go into the garbage.

**House Plants** Recycle: No    Compost: Yes

Compost at home or put in curbside food and yard waste cart.

No plant pots in with compost, please!

**Household / Alkaline Batteries** Recycle: No    Compost: No

The [Household Hazardous Waste facilities](#) accept alkaline batteries for recycling.

Alkaline batteries, including AAA, AA, C, D and 9v, may also go in the garbage.

If you are a business, call the Business Waste Line for disposal options (206) 263-8899.

Use rechargeable batteries to reduce waste! Ask about recycling where you buy batteries.

### **Household Furniture** Recycle: No Compost: No

Give away or resell usable items - consider [craigslist](#), [Freecycle](#), or a local thrift store.

For unusable items: take to the [Transfer Station](#). There is a fee.

Or have the item picked up from your home with a [Bulky Item Pickup](#) for a fee. Call (206) 684-3000.

## I

### **Ice Cream Cartons** Recycle: Yes Compost: No

Rinse and recycle ice cream cartons and lids.

These cannot go into the food and yard waste cart - the paper is poly-coated and the thin plastic layer contaminates compost.

### **Light bulbs, Incandescent** Recycle: No Compost: No

Put broken and burned-out incandescent light bulbs in the garbage.

Only glass bottles and jars can be recycled in your curbside cart or at the transfer stations. Other glass items have different melting points and must be recycled with special processes.

Fluorescent lights are handled differently. See [Light Bulbs, Fluorescent](#).

### **Iron & Steel** Recycle: Yes Compost: No

Recycle at the curb. Maximum size is 2 feet X 2 feet X 2 feet. Nothing smaller than 3 inches. Do not recycle metal with plastic, wood, or rubber attached.

Rusted metal is okay to recycle unless the metal is falling apart.

Recycle large items by requesting a [Bulky Item Pickup](#) (there is a fee).

Recycle at the [Transfer Station](#): All metal except car parts is accepted. Maximum size is 8 feet long. There is a charge for appliances, limit 2 per load.

Look in the Yellow Pages under Scrap Metal for private recycling businesses.

## J

### **Bottle Caps & Jar Lids** Recycle: Yes Compost: No

#### **Bottle caps**

Screw plastic bottle caps back onto an empty plastic bottle and put in the recycling.

Metal bottle caps and single, loose plastic bottle caps go in the garbage.

### **Lids**

Plastic and metal jar lids 3 inches or more in diameter go in the recycling.

Lids less than 3 inches in diameter go in the garbage.

### **Jewelry & Coins** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Give away or resell usable items - consider [Donate Seattle](#), [craigslist](#), [Freecycle](#), or look in the yellow pages under "Thrift Stores".

### **Juice Box** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Rinse, then recycle. No need to remove the plastic spout.

When possible, buy large sizes to reduce packaging waste.

### **Milk, Juice Cartons** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Rinse, then recycle in your curbside recycling cart.

These cannot go into food and yard waste - the paper is poly-coated, and the thin plastic layer contaminates compost.

Foil and plastic pouches are not recyclable. These go in the garbage.

Buy beverages in bulk to reduce packaging waste.

### **Plastic Milk/Juice Jug** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Ignore the numbers, you can recycle all plastic food containers: bottles, dairy tubs, jugs, and jars.

Rinse containers, put caps and small lids less than 3 inches in diameter in the garbage.

This recyclable item is banned from Seattle's garbage.

Reuse containers if you can.

### **Junk Mail** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Goes in curbside recycling. Envelopes with windows are okay to recycle.

This recyclable item is banned from Seattle's garbage.

Remove yourself from junk mailing lists.

- [Catalog Choice](#) - manage what mail you receive.
- [DMAchoice](#) - keep your name off prospect lists.
- [Opt-out Prescreen](#) - stop receiving pre-approved credit or insurance offers.

# K

## **Keys** Recycle: No Compost: No

Items smaller than 3 inches, including keys, cannot be recycled at the curb - they fall through the machinery at the recycling plant.

Put keys in the garbage or use for an art/craft project.

## **Facial Tissue (Kleenex)** Recycle: No Compost: No

Facial tissue such as Kleenex goes in the garbage.

# L

## **Computers/Laptops** Recycle: No Compost: No

Computers and laptops are **not** accepted at the HHW facilities or in the garbage.

Computers and laptops from residents are recycled for free through businesses listed on the [Take It Back Network](#).

It is best to give away or resell usable items whenever possible.

## **Laundry Detergent Boxes** Recycle: Yes Compost: No

Empty and flatten box for recycling.

**This recyclable item is banned from Seattle's garbage.**

## **Laundry Detergent Jugs** Recycle: Yes Compost: No

Ignore the numbers - you can recycle most plastic bottles and jugs, tubs, and jars.

Bleach and laundry soap jugs can be recycled. They must be thoroughly rinsed first and be empty, clean, and dry.

Exceptions: **no** containers that held pesticides, motor oil, or hazardous materials. These go in the garbage.

## **Lawn Mowers & Power Equipment** Recycle: Yes(read) Compost: No

Give away or resell usable items - consider [craigslist](#), [Freecycle](#), or a local thrift store.

Before you recycle the lawn mower, first drain the gas and oil. You can dispose of gas and oil at a [HHW location](#).

Recycle the lawn mower at the [Transfer Station](#).

**Lead** Recycle: No    Compost: No

**Do not** put in the garbage!

Lead is potentially hazardous, especially for children. Handle with care.

Look in the Yellow Pages under Scrap Metal for drop-off locations. Dealers may pay market prices.

**Leaves & Non-Woody Yardwaste** Recycle: No    Compost: Yes  
[Compost at home](#), put in curbside food and yard waste cart, or self-haul to [Transfer Station](#), there is a fee.

Yard waste can **not** be disposed of as garbage.

Contact the Garden Hotline (206) 633-0224 for more information.

**Lids – Plastic** Recycle: Yes    Compost: No

Plastic lids 3" or larger are recyclable. This includes lids for: yogurt, margarine tubs, deli containers, brittle drink cups and coffee cups.

Plastic lids smaller than 3" go in the garbage.

**Light bulbs, Fluorescent** Recycle: No    Compost: No

All fluorescent lights, such as tubes and compact (CFL) bulbs, contain mercury and are **banned** from Seattle's garbage.

Find light bulb collection sites via [LightRecycle](#) or [Take It Back Network](#).

You can also take up to 10 bulbs per trip to a [Household Hazardous Waste location](#).

**Light bulbs, Incandescent** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Put broken and burned-out incandescent light bulbs in the garbage.

Only glass bottles and jars can be recycled in your curbside cart or at the transfer stations. Other glass items have different melting points and must be recycled with special processes.

Fluorescent lights are handled differently. See [Light Bulbs, Fluorescent](#).

**Light bulbs, LED** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Put broken and burned-out LED light bulbs in the garbage.

Only glass bottles and jars can be recycled in your curbside cart or at the transfer stations. Other glass items have different melting points and must be recycled with special processes.

Fluorescent lights are handled differently. See [Light Bulbs, Fluorescent](#).

## **Lights, Holiday** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Holiday lights can be disposed of in the garbage.

During the holiday season, holiday lights can also be recycled at several different [locations](#).

## **Lumber & Boards** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Clean, unpainted lumber can be taken to the [Transfer Station](#) and disposed of as clean wood. There is a fee.

Painted wood and treated wood **cannot** be composted or recycled. Dispose of it as garbage at the Transfer Station.

There are many companies that deal in salvaged building parts and materials. Some will remove the items for you. See the [King County website](#) for salvage companies and options.

# M

## **Magazines** Recycle: Yes    Compost: No

Put magazines in your recycling, or pass your magazines on to friends or nursing homes, senior centers, clinic waiting rooms, schools or child care centers.

This recyclable item is banned from Seattle's garbage.

## **Mattresses & Futons** Recycle: Yes(read)    Compost: No

### **Recycle Your Mattress**

Mattresses can be recycled. Many mattress stores will take your old mattress- ask where you buy. Or, residents can find drop off or pick up service at [Take it Back Network](#).

Dispose of your old one at the curb using our [Bulky Item Pickup](#) (a fee is charged) or at the [Transfer Station](#) for the regular garbage rate.

## **Meat/Food Trays** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Bioplastic meat, poultry and fish trays colored brown, light brown or tan are approved compostable and can go in your food and yard waste cart. They are not recyclable.

Paper-based trays can go in your food and yard waste cart.

All other trays and soaker pads from any kind of tray go in the garbage, including Styrofoam and natural fiber trays like Bagasse. Bagasse does not pass compostability testing here, despite claims the manufacturer may put on the package.

**Medicine** Recycle: No    Compost: No

To prevent misuse of medicines and pollution of the environment, please do not dispose of leftover medicines in the garbage or down the drain.

Seattle locations for medicine disposal will be available in summer 2016. Until Seattle locations are available, use [TakeBackYourMeds.org](http://TakeBackYourMeds.org) to find locations outside of Seattle for proper medicine disposal.

**Mercury Thermometers & Items** Recycle: No            Compost: No

Take these items to a [HHW location](#).

Do **not** put in the garbage: mercury is hazardous. Do not handle with bare hands! Mercury can harm the nervous, digestive and respiratory systems, and the kidneys. If mercury is disposed of improperly, it can make its way into the environment, where it may harm fish and water quality.

**Microwaves** Recycle: Yes(read)            Compost: No

Recycle metal ovens as scrap metal for free at the Transfer Station. Plastic microwaves go into the garbage.

Private recyclers of electronics may accept metal microwave ovens for a small fee - see King County [What Do I Do With tool?](#)

Give away or resell usable items - consider [Donate Seattle](#), [craigslist](#), [Freecycle](#), or look in the yellow pages under "Thrift Stores".

**Milk, Juice Cartons** Recycle: Yes    Compost: No

Rinse, then recycle in your curbside recycling cart.

These cannot go into food and yard waste - the paper is poly-coated, and the thin plastic layer contaminates compost.

Foil and plastic pouches are not recyclable. These go in the garbage.

Buy beverages in bulk to reduce packaging waste.

**Mirrors** Recycle: No            Compost: No

Sell or donate usable items, see [Donate Seattle](#). Some [building supply second use stores](#) may accept undamaged window glass.



Broken items go in the garbage. Only glass bottles and jars can be recycled in your curbside cart or at the transfer stations. Other glass items have different melting points and must be recycled with special processes.

### **Motor Oil** Recycle: Yes Compost: No

Recycle used motor oil at no charge.

**Recycle at the curb.** To recycle used motor oil on your collection day:

1. Pour cooled oil into a plastic jug with a tight-fitting, screw-on lid.
2. Label the jug with your name and address.
3. Set the labeled, tightly-closed jug next to your recycling cart on your recycling collection day.

**Recycle at retail locations.** Find your nearest [motor oil recycling location](#) or call (206) 296-4692.

**Recycle at a [Transfer Station](#).** 5 gallon limit per each trip.

Never pour motor oil on the ground or down the drain.

If the motor oil is contaminated with other automotive fluids, solvents, bleach, or other waste, take it to a [household hazardous waste location](#).

### **Motor Oil Containers** Recycle: No Compost: No

Empty containers go in the garbage - Don't recycle.

### **Motor Oil Filters** Recycle: No Compost: No

Puncture filter and drain oil for 24 hours. Recycle filters for free at any Schucks store.

Thoroughly drained oil filters may also be recycled at the [Transfer Station](#) (limit 2 per trip) or disposed of in the garbage.

### **Mugs, Plates, Bowls** Recycle: No Compost: No

Sell or donate usable items, see [Donate Seattle](#). Some [building supply second use stores](#) may accept undamaged window glass.

Broken items go in the garbage. Only glass bottles and jars can be recycled in your curbside cart or at the transfer stations. Other glass items have different melting points and must be recycled with special processes.

# N

**Napkins** Recycle: No      Compost: Yes

Paper towels used for food preparation or cleanup go into your food and yard waste cart.

If paper towels are used with any chemicals such as cleaning products or have body fluids on them, please bag them and put them into the garbage.

**Sharps, Needles & Syringes** Recycle: No      Compost: No

**Do not** put in the garbage!

No syringes or sharps, even if clipped, can be disposed of in the garbage. Used syringes should be placed in a puncture resistant container with a tight fitting lid, labeled "SHARPS, DO NOT RECYCLE" and taken to the [Transfer Station](#) and put in the special collection bin for disposal - free (limit one gallon per trip).

**More options**

- Check with your pharmacy. Many stores that sell sharps containers accept the full containers for disposal.
- Ask your health care provider if you can return used sharps to his/her office or clinic.
- Dispose of sharps at the [Recycling and Disposal Stations](#) for no charge. See instructions below.
- Public Health Center patients can dispose of sharps 24 hours a day in syringe drop boxes located outside public clinics. See [Seattle/ King County Public Health Sharps Disposal Options](#) for locations.
- People who use illegal drugs can drop off sharps at a [Seattle/ King County Public Health Needle Exchange](#).
- Businesses that need to dispose of sharps should call the Seattle & King County Department of Public Health at (206) 263-9566.

**Newspaper Bags** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

To recycle, stuff clean and dry plastic bags into one bag and put in recycling cart.

Grocery, dry cleaning, and newspaper bags are all okay. Frozen food, produce, bread, and Ziploc bags are not okay.

Clean and dry paper bags can be recycled, food-soiled bags go in the food and yard waste cart.

Please help reduce waste: reuse your bags, or carry canvas shopping bags.

**Newspapers** Recycle: Yes      Compost: Yes

Put in your recycle cart.

This recyclable item is banned from Seattle's garbage.

**Notebooks - Spiral Bound** Recycle: Yes(read) Compost: Yes(read)

Please remove the metal or plastic spiral binding and recycle the paper. Spiral binding should go in the garbage.

## O

**Office Furniture & Equipment** Recycle: No Compost: No

Give away or resell usable items - consider [craigslist](#), [Freecycle](#), or look in the yellow pages under "Thrift Stores".

Unusable items can be disposed of as garbage using our [Bulky Item Pickup](#) service (for a fee).

Or can be dropped off at the [Transfer Station](#).

All-metal items can be recycled at the Transfer Station or Scrap Metal dealers.

**Office Paper** Recycle: Yes Compost: Yes

Goes in recycling cart.

Reduce waste and cost! Print double-sided on your home printer, or use the clean side of paper before recycling.

This recyclable item is banned from Seattle's garbage.

**Motor Oil Filters** Recycle: No Compost: No

Puncture filter and drain oil for 24 hours. Recycle filters for free at any Schucks store.

Thoroughly drained oil filters may also be recycled at the [Transfer Station](#) (limit 2 per trip) or disposed of in the garbage.

**Oil Tanks** Recycle: No Compost: No

Some scrap metal companies take empty underground storage tanks. Look in the yellow pages of the phone book under "Scrap Metal Recyclers."

These are not accepted at the Transfer Stations.

Oil must be drained from tank and disposed of at a [Household Hazardous Waste Facility](#).

Or call the Household Hazards Line at (206) 296-4692, 9 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday for disposal information.

## **Oxygen, Acetylene Tanks** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Check with your supplier for return and refill options. Tanks that have held flammable compressed gasses (Oxygen, Acetylene, Propane) are **not** recyclable. They pose a fire hazard and must be disposed of as hazardous waste.

They cannot go into garbage and will **not** be accepted at the Transfer Station. Call the Business Waste Line for disposal options (206) 263-8899.

## **P**

## **Packing Peanuts** Recycle: No            Compost: No

These go in the garbage - please put inside a plastic bag.

Reuse packaging materials! Many mailing and shipping businesses accept clean packing peanuts for reuse, and some take bubble wrap and other packing material (clean, dry and in good condition). Look in the Yellow pages under Shipping Services, and call first.

Free [drop-off](#) is available in Renton for clean, uncontaminated block packaging and packing peanuts or call the Peanut Hotline at (800) 828-2214 to find a recycle location near you.

## **Foam Blocks/Packing Sheets** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Some mailing and shipping businesses accept packing material for reuse (clean, dry and in good condition). Look in the Yellow pages under Shipping Services, and call first. Otherwise, foam blocks go in the garbage. You can recycle bubble wrap in your curbside recycling cart, but it must be bagged and bundled together.

Reuse if possible!

## **Paint -- Latex**

Uncontained liquids are not allowed in the garbage.

For disposal of unwanted **latex paint only**, you may leave the can open to dry out the paint (outdoors, under cover, away from kids and pets), then throw in the garbage with the lid off.

If you have large amounts of unwanted latex paint, harden it by adding cat litter to the can, then put it in the garbage.

Latex paint is no longer accepted at the HHW facilities.

Best: Use up or give away excess paint to friends, neighbors, community groups.

## **Paint -- Oil-Based** Recycle: No            Compost: No

Uncontained liquids are not allowed in the garbage.

**Do not** dry out oil-based paint - the vapors are flammable and harmful to your health. Try to use it up or give away excess paint to friends, neighbors, community groups. Take left-over paint to a [Household Hazardous Waste Facility](#).

For empty cans, take the lid off and let the fumes evaporate, then put the can in the garbage with the lid off.

Use latex paint instead of oil-based paint as it is safer for the environment and healthier for you and your family.

**Paint Cans** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Empty paint cans can be disposed of in the garbage.

Take the lid off and let them dry out, then throw them in the garbage with the lids off. Removing the lid lets the garbage collector know that the can(s) are empty.

Uncontained liquids are not allowed in the trash.

See [Paint - Latex](#) or [Paint - Oil-based](#).

**Painted/Treated Wood** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Painted wood and treated wood cannot be composted or recycled.

Offer to friends or neighbors for reuse.

Dispose of it as garbage at the [Transfer Station](#). There is a fee.

Painted or treated wood waste can be disposed of in your curbside garbage if it fits into your container.

**Pallets** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Offer pallets for reuse at a local thrift store or online, or take to the [Transfer Station](#) and dispose of as clean wood. There is a fee.

**Paneling, Composite Woods** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Unpainted plywood, oriented strandboard (OSB), and particleboard are acceptable at the [Transfer Station](#) as clean woodwaste. There is a fee.

Painted and/or treated wood, including paneling, must be disposed of as garbage.

**Paper Bags** Recycle: Yes      Compost: Yes

Clean and dry paper bags can be recycled, food-soiled bags go in the food and yard waste cart.

Please help reduce waste: reuse your bags, or carry canvas shopping bags.

## **Paper Plates & Cups** Recycle: Yes Compost: Yes

If clean, all paper cups and plates can be recycled.

Dirty paper bowls and plates that are uncoated (not-shiny) or are listed as approved for composting can be put into the food and yard waste cart. Many paper cups and plates have a thin plastic (shiny) layer so they can't be composted.

Food-soiled coated-paper items go in the garbage.

Plastic lids from brittle drink cups and coffee cups should be recycled if they are 3" or larger. Smaller than 3", they go in the garbage.

Avoid the need for a throw-away items, and use your own mug or washable dishes to reduce garbage.

## **Paper Punch Holes** Recycle: No Compost: Yes

Too small to recycle!

Put in your backyard compost bin or your curbside food and yard waste cart, or put in the garbage.

## **Paper Towels** Recycle: No Compost: Yes

Paper towels used for food preparation or cleanup go into your food and yard waste cart.

If paper towels are used with any chemicals such as cleaning products or have body fluids on them, please bag them and put them into the garbage.

## **Paper Towel Rolls** Recycle: Yes Compost: Yes

Recycle, or... wrap up small gifts inside.

## **Pesticide Containers** Recycle: No Compost: No

**Do not recycle!**

Empty pesticide containers should be disposed of in the garbage. Do not recycle or rinse the container. For disposal of pesticides, see entry in Hazardous.

Learn healthy yard care techniques to minimize your use of pesticides.

## **Pesticides** Recycle: No Compost: No

Take unwanted pesticides to a [HHW location](#).

Empty pesticide containers should be disposed of in the garbage. Do not recycle the container.

Learn garden practices that minimize or [eliminate the need for pesticides](#).

**Pet Food** Recycle: No    Compost: Yes

Pet food waste can go in your food and yard waste cart, to be made into valuable compost. This includes dry and wet pet food.

Wrapping the pet food waste in newspaper, brown paper sack, or compostable bag will help keep your cart clean.

**Pet Food Bags** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Pet food bags are not recyclable and can't be composted. Please fold them to reduce bulk and place in your garbage can.

**Pet Waste & Litter** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Put dog poop and used kitty litter into the garbage. Double bag, tie off tightly to prevent air inside. This prevents bags from "exploding" near workers, when compacted.

Pet waste **cannot** be composted in the food and yard waste cart or in backyard composting bins.

Do not flush kitty litter down the toilet.

**Phone Books** Recycle: Yes    Compost: Yes

You can recycle both yellow and white pages.

Learn how to [stop getting phone books](#) you don't want.

This recyclable item is banned from Seattle's garbage.

**Photographs** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Photographs are not recyclable due to chemicals and short fibers. Discard in garbage.

**Pizza Boxes** Recycle: No    Compost: Yes

Put greasy cardboard in your backyard compost or in your curbside food and yard waste cart.

Grease contaminates the recycling process, but is fine for composting.

**Plants & Tree Salvage** Recycle: No    Compost: Yes

Give unwanted plants to your friends and neighbors, donate them for sale at a community plant sale or list them for "adoption" with [Plant Amnesty](#).

Otherwise, they go in the food and yard waste cart.

**Plant Pots** Recycle: Yes    Compost: No

Plastic pots can go in curbside recycling, please rinse out the dirt.

Dirty or ceramic plant pots go in the garbage.

Ask about reuse and recycling where you buy these products, or contact the Garden Hotline 206-633-0224 to find locations that accept plant pots and trays for reuse and recycling. Many sellers will take back their items but prefer not to advertise that service.

**Plastic Bottles: Water, Soda** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Ignore the numbers - you can recycle most plastic bottles and jugs, tubs, and jars.

Bleach and laundry soap jugs can be recycled. They must be thoroughly rinsed first and be empty, clean, and dry.

Exceptions: **no** containers that held pesticides, motor oil, or hazardous materials. These go in the garbage.

**Plastic Cups & Utensils** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Empty and clean plastic cups go in your recycling cart.

Dirty items, plastic utensils, and Styrofoam cups go in the garbage.

The following go in your food and yard waste cart:

- Plastic-like containers marked "Compostable" or "Cedar Grove Compostable"
- Utensils (forks, spoons, and knives) marked "Compostable"
- Brown straws

**Plastic Jars: Peanut Butter** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Ignore the numbers, you can recycle all plastic food containers: bottles, dairy tubs, jugs, and jars.

Rinse containers, put caps and small lids less than 3 inches in diameter in the garbage.

This recyclable item is banned from Seattle's garbage.

Reuse containers if you can.

**Plastic Milk/Juice Jug** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Ignore the numbers, you can recycle all plastic food containers: bottles, dairy tubs, jugs, and jars.

Rinse containers, put caps and small lids less than 3 inches in diameter in the garbage.



This recyclable item is banned from Seattle's garbage.

Reuse containers if you can.

### **Plastic - No Recycle Symbol** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

Seattle does not recycle by number or symbol. Clean rigid plastic food packaging such as yogurt containers, deli containers, bottles, jugs, and microwave trays are all accepted. Clean plant pots and certain bundled bags (grocery, dry cleaner, and newspaper) are also accepted.

However, many types of plastic cannot be recycled in the curbside bin, such as toys, plastic molding around electronic equipment, CD jewel cases, rubber, and molded plastic parts, etc.

Non-food related consumer plastic parts and packaging are usually garbage.

Some plastic items can be donated and reused if still working, such as toys and tableware. Bicycle inner-tubes can be taken to bicycle stores for recycling.

### **Pool & Spa Chemicals** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Unwanted flammable and hazardous products should be taken to a [HHW location](#). For packaging and transportation guidelines, see [King County Hazardous Waste instructions](#).

Uncontained liquids are not allowed in the garbage.

Although local governments don't charge a fee at household hazardous waste collection sites, it is expensive to properly dispose of hazardous waste. Use up or give away that extra if you can! Better yet: minimize the use of hazardous products.

### **Sinks, Toilets & Tubs – Porcelain** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Unwanted porcelain is not recyclable at SPU Transfer Stations - it can be disposed of as garbage.

Find possible [salvage options](#).

Give away or resell usable items - consider [Donate Seattle](#), [craigslist](#), [Freecycle](#), or look in the yellow pages under "Thrift Stores".

For a fee, Seattle residents may dispose of mixed construction waste at the [Republic Services Recycling Center](#) in South Seattle (weekends only for self-hauling).

### **Pots & Pans** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Unusable pots and pans go in the garbage.

Give away or resell usable items - consider [Donate Seattle](#), [craigslist](#), [FreecycleSeattle](#), or look in the yellow pages under "Thrift Stores".

## **Prescription Drug Containers** Recycle: Yes Compost: No

Prescription medicine vials are **not** recyclable - the plastic is too brittle. Please discard the clear-plastic vials as garbage.

To prevent misuse of medicines and pollution of the environment, please do not put leftover medicines in the garbage or down the drain, unless no other option exists.

Seattle locations for medicine disposal will be available in summer 2016. Until Seattle locations are available, use [TakeBackYourMeds.org](http://TakeBackYourMeds.org) to find locations outside of Seattle for proper medicine disposal.

Pill bottles such as aspirin or vitamin bottles are recyclable.

## **Printer Cartridges & Toner** Recycle: No Compost: No

Empty printer and toner cartridges can go in the garbage.

Many stores that sell printer cartridges will refill and recycle them. Most companies that make cartridges also provide instructions, packaging materials, and free postage to recycle your empty cartridge. Look for recycling instructions on the box of your new laser or inkjet cartridge, or check the manufacturer's website.

## **Printers/Peripherals** Recycle: Yes(read) Compost: No

Electronics should not go in the garbage. For recycling locations for printer/peripherals see the [Take It Back Network](http://TakeItBackNetwork) or call (206) 684-3000 to request curbside e-waste collection services. Both service charge a nominal fee.

Donate usable items for reuse when possible.

## **Produce/Bulk Food Bags** Recycle: No Compost: No

Reuse or put in the garbage. Do not recycle: Plastic food bags often contain food residue and moisture that contaminate the rest of the plastic material.

## **Propane Tanks** Recycle: No Compost: No

See the AmeriGas and BlueRhino websites for propane cylinder exchange locations around Seattle.

Empty gas canisters less than two pounds (small camping canisters) may be placed in the garbage.

Larger canisters, up to five gallons (barbecue size), either empty or containing gas, may go to a [Household Hazardous Waste Facility](http://HouseholdHazardousWasteFacility).

For approval of tanks larger than five gallons in size, call the Household Hazards Line at 206-296-4692.

Q

R

### **Rechargeable Appliances** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Rechargeable and lithium-ion batteries are accepted at [household hazardous waste locations](#) and at [Call2Recycle](#) drop-off locations.

Rechargeable and lithium-ion batteries can't go in the garbage.

These batteries are found in cordless power tools, cellular and cordless phones, laptop computers, digital cameras, toothbrushes, and remote control toys. Remove the battery from the item if easy.

### **Rechargeable Batteries** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Rechargeable and lithium-ion batteries are accepted at [household hazardous waste locations](#) and at [Call2Recycle](#) drop-off locations.

Rechargeable and lithium-ion batteries can't go in the garbage.

These batteries are found in cordless power tools, cellular and cordless phones, laptop computers, digital cameras, toothbrushes, and remote control toys. Remove the battery from the item if easy.

### **Refrigerators/Freezers** Recycle: Yes(read)      Compost: No

These items contain CFCs and **cannot** go in the garbage and must be recycled. Remove food and any doors that have latches for safety for children and animals.

#### **Recycle at the curb:**

- [Bulky Item Pickup](#) - Recycle large appliances by requesting a pickup. There is a fee.
- [\\$30 rebate and free pickup](#) - You may be eligible for Seattle City Light's free pickup and rebate of your older working refrigerator.

**Recycle at the [Transfer Station](#):** There is a charge for appliances, limit 2 per load.

**Recycle through private businesses:** View the [list](#). There is a charge for appliances, limit 2 per load.

**Give away or resell usable items** - consider [Donate Seattle](#), [craigslist](#), [Freecycle](#), or look in the yellow pages under "Thrift Stores".

### **Reusable Lumber** Recycle: No      Compost: No

There are many companies that deal in salvaged building parts and materials. Some will remove the items for you. See the [King County website](#) for salvage companies and options.

### **Rock & Gravel** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Small amounts of gravel can go in your garbage can - be sure not to exceed [weight limits](#).

Use in your landscape or give to neighbors - stacks of rocks provide homes for beneficial insects.

Some businesses accept rocks and gravel. See the [King County website](#).

Otherwise, dispose of as garbage at the [Transfer Station](#) There is a fee.

For a fee, Seattle residents may dispose of mixed construction waste at the [Republic Services Recycling Center](#) in South Seattle (weekends only for self-hauling).

## S

### **Salvaged Materials** Recycle: No    Compost: No

There are many companies that deal in salvaged building parts and materials. Some will remove the items for you. See the [King County website](#) for salvage companies and options.

### **Scrap Metal** Recycle: Yes    Compost: No

Recycle at the curb: Maximum size: 2 feet X 2 feet X 2 feet. Minimum size- nothing smaller than 3 inches please.

Do not recycle metal with plastic, wood or rubber attached. Wrapped wiring and small appliances cannot be recycled at the curb.

Recycle large items by requesting a [Bulky Item Pickup](#). There is a fee.

Recycle at the [Transfer Station](#) : All metal except car parts is accepted. Maximum size: 8 feet long. There is a charge for appliances, limit 2 per load.

Another option: Look in the Yellow Pages under "Scrap Metal" for drop-off locations, dealers may pay market prices.

### **Screws, Nails, Nuts & Bolts** Recycle: No    Compost: No

Items smaller than 3 inches, including keys, cannot be recycled at the curb - they fall through the machinery at the recycling plant.

Put keys in the garbage or use for an art/craft project.

### **Shampoo, Lotion Bottles** Recycle: Yes    Compost: No

Ignore the numbers - you can recycle most plastic bottles and jugs, tubs, and jars.

Bleach and laundry soap jugs can be recycled. They must be thoroughly rinsed first and be empty, clean, and dry.

Exceptions: **no** containers that held pesticides, motor oil, or hazardous materials. These go in the garbage.

**Wood Scraps/Shavings/Sawdust** Recycle: No      Compost: Yes

**Clean wood (untreated and not painted)**

Shavings and scraps of **clean** wood are food and yard waste. Wood scraps can be up to 4 inches in diameter and 4 feet in length.

Put scraps in your food and yard waste cart or tie in bundles up to 2 feet in diameter using natural fiber twine (not plastic) and set next to your cart. Fees apply for materials that don't fit in your cart with the lid closed.

Clean wood can also be brought to a [Transfer Station](#) for a fee.

**Painted or treated wood**

Shavings or scraps of **painted** or **treated** wood goes in your garbage or can be brought to a [Transfer Station](#) for a fee.

Put sawdust in a closed bag and place it in the garbage.

**Shredded Paper – Confetti** Recycle: No      Compost: Yes

Confetti and cross-cut shred can go in backyard composting, or in the food and yard waste cart.

Only long shred fibers can be recycled (bag it in clear plastic bag before recycling).

Please only shred what you have to to preserve recycling value.

**Shredded Paper – Long** Recycle: No      Compost: Yes

Only long shred fibers can be recycled (bag it in clear plastic bag before recycling).

Confetti and cross-cut shred can go in backyard composting, or in the food and yard waste cart.

Please only shred what you have to. Shredding lowers the quality of the paper fiber for recycling, and confetti and cross-cut shred can't be recycled.

**Shrink Wrap** Recycle: Yes      Compost: No

You can recycle **clean and dry** shrink wrap only. Put into a plastic bag, with other plastic bags.

**Silverware** Recycle: No      Compost: No

Unusable pots and pans go in the garbage.

Give away or resell usable items - consider [Donate Seattle](#), [craigslist](#), [FreecycleSeattle](#), or look in the yellow pages under "Thrift Stores".

**Sink, Tubs & Fixtures – Metal** Recycle: Yes Compost: No

Recycle at curb: Maximum size: 2 feet X 2 feet X 2 feet. Must be 3 inches or larger. Do not recycle metal with plastic, wood or rubber attached.

Recycle large items by requesting a [Bulky Item Pickup](#). There is a fee.

Recycle at the [Transfer Station](#): Maximum size: 8 feet long.

See [salvage options](#). Or use the Yellow Pages or search the web under "Scrap Metal" for drop-off locations. Dealers may pay market prices.

**Small Household Appliances** Recycle: No Compost: No

Give away or resell usable items - consider [Donate Seattle](#), [craigslist](#), [Freecycle](#), or look in the yellow pages under "Thrift Stores".

For repair vendors, see the Yellow Pages under Appliances-Small.

Small appliances **cannot** be recycled in your curbside container.

Recycle as scrap metal for free at the [Transfer Station](#).

Otherwise, put it into the garbage can.

**Smoke Detectors** Recycle: No Compost: No

These can go in the garbage.

Some manufactures may have a return option - check the package when you buy new.

**Solvents** Recycle: No Compost: No

Uncontained liquids are not allowed in the garbage.

You can reuse paint thinner by letting solids settle out and pouring off the clear liquid.

To dispose of unwanted flammable and other hazardous liquids: take to a [HHW location](#).

**Soup Box** Recycle: Yes Compost: No

Rinse, then recycle. No need to remove the plastic spout.

When possible, buy large sizes to reduce packaging waste.

**Aerosol Cans** Recycle: No Compost: No

All empty cans and non-empty cans go in the garbage.

Use up if possible. If the can contains hazardous material (solvents or other flammables), it should go to a [Household Hazardous Waste Facility](#).

### **Stainless Steel Recycle: Yes   Compost: No**

Recycle at the curb: Maximum size: 2 feet X 2 feet X 2 feet. Minimum size- nothing smaller than 3 inches please.

Do not recycle metal with plastic, wood or rubber attached. Wrapped wiring and small appliances cannot be recycled at the curb.

Recycle large items by requesting a [Bulky Item Pickup](#). There is a fee.

Recycle at the [Transfer Station](#) : All metal except car parts is accepted. Maximum size: 8 feet long. There is a charge for appliances, limit 2 per load.

Another option: Look in the Yellow Pages under "Scrap Metal" for drop-off locations, dealers may pay market prices.

### **Steel/Tin Cans Recycle: Yes   Compost: No**

Rinse and recycle cans. No need to remove labels.

For safety, leave can lids attached and push into can before recycling. Put loose lids in the garbage.

Do not recycle cans that have contained hazardous materials - these go in the garbage.

This recyclable item is banned from Seattle's garbage.

### **Steel/Tin Cans & Lids Recycle: Yes   Compost: No**

Rinse and recycle cans. No need to remove labels.

For safety, leave can lids attached and push into can before recycling. Put loose lids in the garbage.

Do not recycle cans that have contained hazardous materials - these go in the garbage.

This recyclable item is banned from Seattle's garbage.

### **Stereo/Audio Equipment Recycle: Yes(read)   Compost: No**

Electronics should not go in the garbage. For recycling locations for stereo and audio equipment see the [Take It Back Network](#) or call (206) 684-3000 to request curbside e-waste collection service. Both services charge a nominal fee. Donate usable items for reuse when possible.

**Stoves Recycle: Yes(read)      Compost: No**

Give away or resell usable items - consider [Donate Seattle](#), [craigslist](#), [Freecycle](#), or look in the yellow pages under "Thrift Stores".

**Recycle at the curb:** Recycle large appliances by requesting a [Bulky Item Pickup](#). There is a fee.

**Recycle at the [Transfer Station](#):** There is a charge for appliances, limit 2 per load.

**Styrofoam (TM) Blocks Recycle: No Compost: No**

Styrofoam blocks go in the garbage. Free [drop-off](#) is available in Kent for clean, uncontaminated block packaging and packing peanuts.

## T

**Take-Out Containers Recycle: Yes      Compost: No**

Rigid plastic clam-shell containers and poly-coated paper box containers can go in your curbside recycling cart. Recycle clean containers only. Dirty non-compostable containers and Styrofoam containers and cups go in the garbage. To reduce waste, bring your own resealable container for take-out food or left-overs.

Plastic-like containers marked "Compostable" go in the garbage unless they are approved as compostable by Cedar Grove ([more information](#)). Then they can go in the food and yard waste cart.

**Televisions Recycle: No      Compost: No**

Televisions are **not** accepted at the HHW facilities and are banned from the garbage.

Televisions from residents are recycled for free through businesses listed on the [Take It Back Network](#). You may also arrange for curbside collection for a fee by calling (206) 684-3000.

It is best to give away or resell usable items whenever possible.

**Aseptic / Tetra Pak Recycle: Yes      Compost: No**

Rinse, then recycle. No need to remove the plastic spout.

When possible, buy large sizes to reduce packaging waste.

**Receipts Recycle: Yes      Compost: No**

Paper receipts go in recycling.



Thermal paper, often used for receipts and carbonless copies, go in your recycling cart.

**Tires Recycle: Yes(read)      Compost: No**

Recycle used tires at the [Transfer Station](#) - limit 4 per trip. [There is a fee.](#)

Reduce tire wear by proper inflation.

**Toys & Sporting Goods Recycle: Yes      Compost: No**

Recycle metal or rigid plastic toys and sporting equipment that are 3 feet or smaller on all sides. Place items in or next to your recycling cart.

Items that are not all metal or all plastic go in the garbage.

Repair, donate or resell items in good condition.

**Trees & Brush Recycle: No      Compost: Yes**

Put in curbside food and yard waste cart, or self-haul to the [Transfer Station](#). You can chipper these to use them for mulch or in your backyard compost.

For curbside pickup: wood scraps, branches and twigs can be up to 4 inches in diameter and 4 feet in length. Put pieces in cart or tie in bundles up to 2 feet in diameter (there is a fee for extra bundles).

For disposal at transfer station, wood pieces must not exceed 8 feet in length and 8 inches in diameter. Yard waste **cannot** be disposed of as garbage.

See Christmas Trees.

**Tubs: Margarine, Yogurt, etc. Recycle: Yes      Compost: No**

Ignore the numbers, you can recycle all plastic food containers: bottles, dairy tubs, jugs, and jars.

Rinse containers, put caps and small lids less than 3 inches in diameter in the garbage.

This recyclable item is banned from Seattle's garbage.

Reuse containers if you can.

## U

**Cups & Utensils      Recycle: Yes      Compost: Yes**

Empty and clean plastic cups go in your recycling cart.

Dirty items, plastic utensils, and Styrofoam cups go in the garbage.

The following go in your food and yard waste cart:

- Plastic-like containers marked "Compostable" or "Cedar Grove Compostable"
- Utensils (forks, spoons, and knives) marked "Compostable"
- Brown straws

## V

### **VCRs            Recycle: No            Compost: No**

Electronics should not go in the garbage. For recycling locations for VCRs see the [Take It Back Network](#) or call (206) 684-3000 to request curbside e-waste collection service. Both service charge a nominal fee. Donate usable items for reuse when possible.

### **Vitamins Recycle: No    Compost: No**

Place in a plastic bottle with the lid tightly shut and put them in the garbage.

For the best disposal protection, please take vitamins to a [designated location](#).

### **Vehicle Batteries Recycle: No    Compost: No**

Recycle car batteries at the automotive store where you purchased your new battery or recycle at a [Seattle Transfer Station](#).

Car and other vehicle batteries are illegal in the garbage

### **Other Vehicle Fluids Recycle: No    Compost: No**

Please use up or give away left-over product.

Uncontained liquids are not allowed in the garbage. Non-hazardous products in sealed containers may go in the garbage can.

Take unwanted or used hazardous products to a [HHW location](#) in a suitable sealed container (such as the original container, no milk jugs, etc).

Do **not** pour down drains, into toilet or stormdrains, or pour into soil. These all cause water pollution.

## W

### **Window & Picture Glass Recycle: No            Compost: No**

Give away or resell usable items - consider [Donate Seattle](#), [craigslist](#), [Freecycle](#), or look in the yellow pages under "Thrift Stores".

Some [building supply second use stores](#) may accept undamaged window glass.

Broken items go in the garbage.

Only glass bottles and jars can be recycled in your curbside cart or at the transfer stations. Other glass items have different melting points and must be recycled with special processes.

- Flushable Wipes    Recycle: No    Compost: No

All types of wipes – baby, surface, disinfecting, cleaning, “flushable” – go in the garbage.

Do not flush any kind of wipes down the toilet. They can [clog sewer pipes](#).

Do not put wipes in recycling or food and yard waste.

**Wire Clothes Hangers    Recycle: No    Compost: No**

Put them into your garbage can. They jam the machinery at the recycling facility. Donate or give away when possible to thrift stores or other organizations.

X

Y

Z

**Ziploc Bags    Recycle: No    Compost: No**

Reuse or put in the garbage. Do not recycle: Plastic food bags often contain food residue and moisture that contaminate the rest of the plastic material.

