



Multifamily Recycling Guide

Recycling for Duplexes, Apartments, Condominiums, and Mobile Home Parks

Save Money and the Environment

It's easy to recycle at apartments, condominiums, duplexes, and mobile home parks! Just take a few steps out the door to the on-site recycling containers. Most recyclables are comingled—no sorting! One exception is glass, which goes in a separate container.

Recycling helps protect the environment. It also reduces trash-disposal costs for your complex, which might mean savings for you too!

Where Do I Put Recyclables?

Most complexes have recycle bins located next to each garbage dumpster. Sometimes, a complex might have a recycle area separate from the garbage area. Please take a minute to find out where the garbage and recycle bins are located.

Quick Tips

- Be sure items are recyclable before placing them in the bin.
- Recyclables must be free of food waste and other contaminants.
- Place glass in a separate container – do not mix with other recyclables.
- There is no need to remove labels, staples, envelope windows, or sticky notes.
- If the bins are full, please do NOT leave materials on the ground. Inform the site manager when the bins are full so the bins can be emptied.

When in Doubt, Leave it Out

If you are unsure which items go in the recycle bins, the rule of thumb is "When in doubt, leave it out." When recyclables are contaminated with other materials, the processing costs increase. If you are unsure which items go in the recycle bins, visit www.ThurstonSolidWaste.org and click on "Recycling & Reuse."

Contact Information

If you have questions or comments about the recycling program, please contact the owner or manager of your residence. The owner or manager will contact the hauling company or Thurston County Solid Waste directly.

For general information about waste reduction, disposal, and recycling programs, visit www.ThurstonSolidWaste.org or call (360) 867-2491. The TDD number is (360) 754-2933.



Watch Those Plastics

Knowing which plastics to place in the recycle bin can be tricky. It all depends on which types of plastics the recycling facilities will accept – regardless of the numbers featured on the bottom of the containers. Please follow these guidelines for recycling in Thurston County:

✓ Yes

- Plastic bottles and jars with a top more narrow than the base. No lids or caps.
- Plastic tubs that originally held dairy items such as yogurt, butter, or sour cream. No lids.
- Plastic buckets, including kitty litter or detergent buckets. Buckets must be clean. No lids or handles.
- Rigid plastic plant pots that are clean. No dirt or soil.

✗ No

- No plastic bags. Bags can be recycled at local grocery stores and at the Waste and Recovery Center, 2418 Hogum Bay Road N.E. in the Hawks Prairie area.
- No plastic take-out containers or frozen food trays. This includes the trays, tubs, and clamshell containers that hold take-out food, deli items or produce.





YES! These Items Go in the Recycle Bins



Aluminum & tin cans



Pots & pans



Newspapers



Paper bags



Paperback books



Magazines, catalogs & mail
(windows, staples and sticky notes ok)



Cereal & food boxes



Phone books



Cardboard
(flattened – your location may have a separate bin for cardboard)



Plastic bottles, jugs & jars
(neck must be narrower than the base, no lids or caps)



Dairy tubs & yogurt cups



Plastic buckets
(must be clean, no lids or handles)



Rigid plant pots
(empty, no dirt)

Put Glass in a Separate Bin



Rinse glass bottles & jars and place in a separate bin

All items must be free of food and other contaminants. Please rinse properly.

Only the items shown above go in the recycle bin. Remember: When in doubt, throw it out.

This list may be different than what you've seen in the past. These changes are based on a study done by a regional group of local governments, haulers, recycling facilities, and manufacturers.

Electronics

Working electronics can be donated, sold or given away. Many local businesses also accept electronics. Visit www.WhereDoITakeMy.org for a list. Televisions, monitors, laptops, TVs, and E-book readers (such as the Kindle and the Nook) can be recycled free through Washington State's E-Cycle program. For collection locations, visit www.ecyclewashington.org or call 1-800-RECYCLE.

Household Hazardous Waste

If you're thinking about moving, don't waste time and energy boxing up all those old household chemicals. They can spill during the move and harm you or the environment. Take products that say DANGER, WARNING or CAUTION to HazoHouse at the Thurston County Waste and Recovery Center. From I-5, take Exit 111, head north on Marvin Road, and follow the signs to HazoHouse.

HazoHouse is open Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. except on major holidays. Service is free for residents.

Hazardous chemicals should never be placed in the trash.

Where Do I Take My? ...

Wondering what to do with those unwanted bikes, bricks and lawn chairs? Visit www.WhereDoITakeMy.org for a list of reuse and recycling locations. Also visit the following free materials-exchange websites to buy, sell, or give away items.

- www.2good2toss.com – all items are \$200 or less
- <http://seattle.craigslist.org/oly> – no price limits
- www.freecycle.org – all items must be free

Managers Toolkit Available

Tenants appreciate having an easy-to-use recycling program available on-site. Thurston County Solid Waste offers on-site assistance to help property managers provide a successful recycling program and reduce costs. A guide is also available on the "publications" link near the top of our website, www.ThurstonSolidWaste.org.



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