

Go Green Recycle

The A-to-Z guide to recycle almost anything:

- a) Aerosol Cans. Pull off the plastic cap and empty the canister completely then recycle with other cans.
- b) Backpacks. The American Birding Association accepts donated backpacks, which its scientists use while tracking neotropical birds (www.americanbirding.org).

Batteries. Recycling batteries keeps hazardous metals out of landfills. Many stores, like RadioShack and Office Depot, accept reusable ones, as does the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (www.rbr.org/call2recycle). Car batteries contain lead and can't go in landfills, because toxic metals can leach into groundwater, but almost any retailer selling them will also collect and recycle them.

Books. "Hard covers are too rigid to recycle, so you should remove the backs and recycle the pages. Good clean books can also be donated to the Sevier County Public Library System to be used in upcoming book sales.

- c) Cars, Jet skis, Boats, Trailers, RVs, and Motorcycles. If these are unusable-totaled, rusted-they still have metal and other components that can be recycled. Call junkyards in your area, or go to www.junkmycar.com, which will pick up and remove cars, trailers, motorcycles, and other heavy equipment for free.

Cell phones. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, fewer than 20 percent of cell phones are recycled each year, and most people don't know where to recycle them. Cell phones can be brought to the King Family Library, the Seymour Branch or the Kodak Branch to be recycled.

Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs. CFLs contain mercury and shouldn't be thrown in the trash. Ikea and the Home Depot operate CFL recycling programs; you can also check with you local hardware store or recycling center to see if it offers recycling services.

Computers. You can return used computers to their manufacturers for recycling (check www.mygreenelectronics.com for a list of vendors) or donate them to a charitable organization (log on to www.sharetechnology.org or www.cristina.org). Nextsteprecycling.org repairs your broken computers and gives them to underfunded schools, needy families, and nonprofits.

Crayons. Send them to the National Crayon Recycle Program (www.crazycrayons.com), which melts down crayons and reforms them into new ones. Leave the wrappers on: "When you have black, blue, and purple crayons together without wrappers, it's hard to tell them apart".

- d) DVDS, CDS, and Jewel Cases. Try swapping them with another music lover at

Each person in the US throws away an average of one ton of garbage per year!

The Sevierville Recycling Center is located between the Police Station and the Civic Center. They have bins for paper, plastic, cardboard & aluminum cans. (The cardboard should be broken down so that is flattened.)

The Sevier County Public Library System will recycle: ink jet cartridges, eye glasses, hearing aids, & cell phones.

Locations:

King Family Library
408 High Street
Sevierville, Tn 37862
Phone: 865-453-3532

Seymour Branch Library
137 W. Macon Ln.
Seymour, Tn 37865
Phone : 865-573-0728

Kodak Branch Library
319 W. Dumplin Valley Rd.
Kodak, TN 37764
Phone: 865-933-0078

Recycling Cheat Sheet

Plastic:

Most plastics are recyclable but not all plastics are recyclable everywhere. Almost all recycling programs accept plastics numbered 1 and 2. (Look for the number on the underside of a product, inside the triangle of arrows. )



No. 1: Polyethylene terephthalate (PET,

www.zunafish.com.

DVDs and jewel cases can also be sent to www.qgg.greendisk.com for recycling.

- e) Empty Metal Cans (cleaning products). Cut off the metal ends of cans containing powdered cleansers, such as Ajax and Bon Ami, and put them in with other household metals. (Use care when cutting them.) Recycle the tubes as you would any other cardboard.

Empty Metal Cans (Food Products). Many towns recycle food cans. If your town doesn't, you can find the nearest steel-can recycling spot at www.recycle-steel.org. Rinse out cans, but don't worry about removing the labels. Leaving them on doesn't do any harm. When the metal is melted the paper burns up. If you want to recycle the label with other paper, that's great, but it's not necessary.

Eyeglasses: Millions of people who need glasses and can't afford them. Old glasses can be dropped off at the King Family Library, the Seymour Branch or the Kodak Branch, a Lion's club, or 20/20 Optical.

- f) Fake Plastic Credit Cards. They aren't recyclable, so you can't just toss them along with their paper junk-mail solicitations. Remove them first and throw them in the trash.

Fire extinguishers. There are two types of extinguishers. For a dry-chemical extinguisher, safely relieve the remaining pressure, remove the head from the container, and place it with your bulk-metal items (check with your local recycler first). Or call the fire-equipment companies (listed in the phone book) and request that they dispose of your extinguisher. Carbon Dioxide extinguishers are refillable after each use.

- g) Gadgets. There are many ways to recycle PDAs, MP3 players, and other devices so that any money from the parts goes to worthy causes. www.Recycleforbreastcancer.org will send you prepaid shipping labels, recycle your item. The proceeds can be donated to breast cancer charities.

Glue. Many schools have recycling programs for empty containers of Elmer's glue and glue sticks. Students and teachers rinse out the bottles, which are then sent to Wal-Mart for recycling. Find out more at www.elmersgluecrew.com.

Glue Strips and Inserts in Magazines. Lotion samples and non-paper promotional items affixed to glue strips in magazines should be removed because they can jam up recycling equipment (scented perfume strips, on the other hand are fine).

- h) Hearing Aids. The Lions Clubs collect these as well as eyeglasses for reuse. (www.donateglasses.net/hearingaids.html) to find collection centers near you or bring them to the King Family Library in Sevierville, the Kodak Branch Library or the Seymour Branch Library and they will see that a Lions Club member gets them.
- i) iPods. Bring in an old iPod to an Apple store and get 10 percent off a new

PETE), the most widely recycled plastic, is used for soft-drink bottles.

 No. 2: High-density polyethylene (HDPE) is used for detergent bottles and grocery bags.

 No. 3: Polyvinyl chloride (PVC or vinyl) is what salad-bar containers are made from.

 No. 4: Low-density polyethylene (LDPE) is used for dry-cleaning and fresh-produce bags.

 No. 5: Polypropylene (PP) is what makes bottle caps, yogurt cups, and drinking straws.

 No. 6: Polystyrene (PS) is also known as Styrofoam.

 No. 7: These "other" plastics, such as polycarbonate baby bottles, are generally not recyclable at most centers.

Paper:

Paper needs to be cleaned of all food. Food particles can contaminate the paper product.

Glass:

Recyclable glass almost always refers to "container" glass or bottles and jars. They need to be clean. Other types, like windshields and Pyrex, have different melting points and are not accepted by most recyclers.

Ink jet/toner cartridges:

Every year over 300 million cartridges are thrown away.

If you stacked 105 laser toner cartridges end-to-end, it would equal the height of the Statue of Liberty.

one. Your out-of-date iPod will be broken down and properly disposed of. The discount is valid only that day, so be prepared to buy your new iPod.

- j) Juice Bags: Because most are a combination of a plastic polymer and aluminum, these are not recyclable. But TerraCycle will donate 2 cents for each Honest Kids, Capri Sun, and Kool-Aid Drink pouch and 1 cent for any other brand you collect and send in to the charity of your choice. The organization provides free shipping, too. TerraCycle turns them into colorful purses, totes, and pencil cases that are sold at Target and Walgreens stores throughout the country. Go to www.terracycle.net/brigades to get started.
- l) Leather Accessories. If your leather goods are more than gently worn, take them to be fixed. If they're beyond repair, they have to be thrown in the trash, Donate shoes in decent condition to www.soles4souls.org, a nonprofit that collects used footwear and distributes it to needy communities.
- m) Nikes and other Sneakers. Nike's Reuse-a-Shoe program (mikereuseashoe.com) accepts old sneakers (any brand) and recycles them into courts for various sports so kids around the world have a place to play. You can drop them off at a Nike store, or other participating retailers, athletic clubs, and schools around the country (check the website for locations), or mail them to Nike Recycling Center, c/o Reuse-a-Shoe, 26755 SW 95th Avenue, Wilsonville OR 97070. If your sneakers are still in reasonable shape, donate them to needy athletes in the United States and around the world through oneworldrunning.com. Mail them to One World Running, P.O. Box 2223, Boulder CO 80306.

Notebooks (spiral): these can be tossed into the paper recycling bin. The machinery will pull out smaller non-paper items. Note: if the cover is plastic, rip that off and put it in the trash.

- n) Office Envelopes. Envelopes with plastic windows: These can be recycled with regular office paper. The filters will take out the plastic, and the glue strip on the flaps.

FedEx: Paper FedEx envelopes can be recycled, and there's no need to pull off the plastic sleeve. FedEx Paks made of Tyvek are also recyclable (see below).

Goldenrod: Those mustard-colored envelopes are not recyclable, because goldenrod paper (as well as dark or fluorescent paper) is saturated with hard-to-remove dyes.

Jiffy Paks: Many Jiffy envelopes-even the paper-padded ones filled with that material resembling dryer lint-are recyclable with other mixed papers, like cereal boxes. The exception: Goldenrod colored envelopes must be tossed. Padded envelopes with Bubble Wrap: These can't be recycled. The best thing you can do is reuse them.

Tyvek: DuPont, the maker of Tyvek, takes these envelopes back and recycles them into plastic lumber. Turn one envelope inside out and stuff others inside it. Mail them to Tyvek Recycle, Attention: Shirley B. Wright, 2400 Ellingham Avenue #A, Richmond VA 23237. If you have large quantities (200 to

In the next 7 years, if all of the laser and inkjet cartridges were saved from landfills, a bridge could be built from the Earth to the Moon! (Image Source, Inc at <http://isi-supplies.com/recyclingfacts.html>)

Cans:

Most of us toss cans in the recycling bin and never give them a second thought. But they are big business to the country's thriving recycling industry with 56,000 operations (according to the most recent study by the National Recycling Coalition), which collectively make \$236 Billion a year and employ 1.1 million people. That's more than the trash-disposal industry brings in.

500), call 866-338-9835 to order a free pouch.

- o) Packing materials: Styrofoam peanuts cannot be recycled in most areas, but many packaging stores (like UPS and Mail Boxes Etc.) accept them. Packing pillows marked "Fill-Air" can be deflated (poke a hole in them), then mailed to Ameri-Pak, Sealed Air Recycle Center, 477 South Woods Drive, Fountain Inn SC 29644. They will be recycled into things like trash bags and automotive parts.

Paint: Keep Sevier Beautiful will take paint cans on their Household Hazardous Recycle Day.

Pendaflex folders: place these in the paper bin. But first cut off the metal rods and recycle them as scrap metal.

Pizza boxes: If cheese and grease are stuck to the box, rip out the affected areas and recycle the rest as corrugated cardboard. Food residue can ruin a whole batch of paper if it is left to sit in the recycling facility and begins to decompose.

Plastic wrap: Toss this in the regular trash. It isn't recyclable.

Post-its: The sticky stuff gets filtered out, so these office standbys can usually be recycled with paper.

- s) Shopping bags (paper): Even those with metal grommets and ribbon handles can usually be recycled with other paper.

Shopping bags (plastic): these can be dropped off at your local grocery store or Walmart for recycling.

Six-pack rings: See if your local school participates in the Ring Leader Recycling Program (ringleader.com); kids collect six-pack rings to be recycled into other plastic items, including plastic lumber and plastic shipping pallets.

- t) Takeout-food containers: Most are not recyclable. Paper ones (like Chinese-food containers) aren't accepted because remnants can contaminate the paper bale at the mill. Plastic versions like those at the salad bar aren't recyclable either.

Tinfoil: It's aluminum, not tin. So rinse it off, wash it up, and toss it in with the beer and soda cans.

- w) Writing implements: You can't recycle pens, pencils, and markers, but you can donate usable ones to schools that are short on these supplies.

- z) Zippered plastic bags: These can be recycled with plastic bags as long as they are clean, dry, and the zip part has been snipped off.

