YOUR SNOHOMISH COUNTY
Residential Recycling Guide

Waste Management is pleased to provide these guidelines to help make it easier to use our services.

Please save and post for easy reference.

www.wmnorthwest.com/snohomishcounty

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Place containers at curb by 6AM
- Two (2) feet apart with lids opening toward street
- At least three (3) feet from cars, trees and mailboxes, fences and utility boxes
- Please remove containers as soon as possible after collection.

Waste Management
Monday-Friday 7 a.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Our Customer Service Center is here to help:
- Missed collection
- Missing/damaged containers
- Sign up or change collection services
- Rates, billing and service information
- Bulky item pick-up service
- Construction/demolition containers
- Disabled service
- Información en Español

Weather Delay?
If weather conditions prevent safe collection, up to twice as much material will be collected at no extra charge on your next regular collection day for each container not emptied. No credits are issued for collection delays due to weather.

Visit wmnorthwest.com/weatherboard for information on weather-related service delays.
Recycling is an easy way to keep valuable natural resources out of the landfill, but recycling only works with your help.

To keep the recycling system healthy, follow these simple steps:

1. **Is it recyclable??** Check your Snohomish County Recycling Guide.

   **Yes! It’s on the list!** Proceed to Step #2

2. **Prepare your recyclables for a new life:**
   - Rinse or empty recyclables of all food and liquids
   - Separate newspaper from plastic delivery bag
     *Reuse bags, discard in the garbage or bring plastic bags back to a grocery store for recycling*
   - Remove plastic wrap and any packaging foam from cardboard
     *Place plastic wrap and foam packaging in garbage. Visit the Community Recycling Resources pages for foam reuse and recycling options*
   - Flatten boxes

3. **Do not put bagged recyclables into cart** — empty out recyclables into cart loose
   *Empty paper bags are okay in the recycling cart; empty plastic bags go in the garbage or back to a grocery store for recycling*

**Thank you for doing your part to recycle right!**

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**www.wmnorthwest.com/snohomishcounty**  
1-800-592-9995
WHY CAN’T I RECYCLE EVERYTHING?

Recycling starts when you put the right stuff in your recycling cart. Next, a truck takes it away and then many people, machines and technology work together to sort, transport and incorporate your recycled metal, glass, paper or plastic into new products.

Just because you put something in a recycling bin, it does not mean it can be turned into something new. When the wrong stuff goes in the bin, staff at the recycling center have to remove these items by hand, and throw them in the garbage.

For a recyclable item to be made into a new product, all of these things must be true:

✓ **Preparation:** Each recyclable item must be clean and empty of all debris, food or liquids.

✓ **Separation:** A recycling facility must be able to separate the item into its own material group so each type of item — cardboard, aluminum, tin, steel, paper, glass, plastic containers — can be properly distributed to the correct manufacturers.

✓ **Markets:** A manufacturer must be willing to buy this material.

✓ **Manufacturing:** A manufacturer must be able to make a new product out of the recycled item.
RECYCLING MYTH BUSTERS

MYTH: All plastics can be recycled.
FACT: Not all plastics can be successfully recycled. At this time only some plastics can be made into new things. Recycle plastics by shape - bottles, jugs, dairy tubs and cups.

MYTH: A recycling symbol stamped on plastic means it is recyclable.
FACT:
• There are thousands of plastic products and packaging, and each one has its own unique chemical recipe.
• The number only tells us what the primary ingredient is in the plastic recipe. Many plastics cannot be made into new products at this time.

MYTH: It doesn’t matter if something belongs in the recycling - the recycling center will sort everything anyway.
FACT:
• There is a lot of garbage sent to the recycling center, and each non-recyclable item is removed by hand by trained staff.
• Garbage placed in the recycling increases the cost of the recycling process and will increase the cost of garbage and recycling service.

We’re here to help!
When in doubt, check your Recycling Guide, call the Waste Management Customer Service Center or email recycling experts at recyclenw@wm.com.

Garbage and Other Things We Find in the Recycling
• loose plastic bags
• hoses
• light bulbs
• needles
• toys
• hangers
• straws
• snack wrappers
• cleaning wipes
• food-soiled containers and paper
• non-recyclable plastic

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Waste Prevention is Even Better Than Recycling

- Buy locally produced items to reduce the amount of natural resources needed for shipping, packaging and transportation.
- Choose reusable items such as water bottles, cloth cleaning rags, shopping bags and rechargeable batteries.
- Use durable dishes, cutlery and napkins, instead of disposable paper or plastic.
- Carry your own travel mug, water bottle and cloth napkin.
- Reuse containers for storage.
• Buy bulk foods and other supplies to use less packaging.

• Shop at, and donate items to secondhand stores.

• Repair furniture and tools, rather than replacing.

• Rent, borrow or share infrequently used items such as trailers, power tools, ladders and lawn equipment.

See www.wm.com/thinkgreen for more ideas.
# RECYCLING

Rinse all containers. When placing recyclables into cart, please do not use bags (plastic or paper). Empty clean recyclables loose into your blue recycling cart so everything can be properly sorted at the recycling center.

## Clean paper
- Newspaper, inserts
- Mail, envelopes
- Cereal and dry food boxes
  - Remove liners
- Paperback books
- Magazines, catalogs, phone books
- Non-foil wrapping paper
- Frozen food boxes
- Paper cups
- Juice boxes, milk, soy milk and broth containers
- Ice cream cartons

## Plastic bottles, jugs, tubs and cups
- Milk, juice and soda bottles
- Yogurt, dairy and margarine tubs
- Shampoo and conditioner bottles
- Window, bathroom and kitchen cleaner bottles
- Detergent and fabric softener bottles
- Pill bottles
  - No prescription vials

**NEW!** Plastic plant pots, 5-gallon buckets.
- No soil
Cardboard
Flatten all boxes

Glass jars and bottles
Empty of all food or liquid

Aluminum and tin cans
Beverage cans
Metal food cans
Labels OK
Empty aerosol cans

Scrap metal and clean foil
Small non-working metal appliances, pots, tools
Limit 2 ft. x 2 ft. x 2 ft., 35 lbs.
No sharp or greasy metal
Ball clean foil together

Recycling Tips

• Empty and rinse out all food residue. Labels do not need to be removed.
• Empty recyclables out of bags and boxes into the cart so they can be easily sorted at the recycling center.
• Extra recyclables? At no extra charge, place extra recyclables in a bin or cardboard box at the curb next to your recycling cart.

Aerosol cans that are not empty should be taken to a hazardous waste drop-off site. Visit [www.snoco.org](http://www.snoco.org) and search “hazardous waste” or call 425-388-3425 for details.
COMPOST | FOOD SCRAPS AND YARD DEBRIS

These items go in your compost cart.

No plastic, glass, metal, liquids, cooking oil or pet waste.

Plants, flowers and yard debris

- Houseplants
  - No pots
- Grass clippings, weeds
  - Remove plastic twine, gardening tape or twist ties
- Twigs, branches, roots from pruning
- Leaves, tree branches
  - Under 4 feet long, 4 inches in diameter
- Holiday trees
  - Cut trees into 4 foot sections
- Jack-o-lanterns
  - Remove candles

Food scraps and leftovers

- Fruit and vegetable scraps
- Leftovers
- Bread, pasta, grains and beans
- Eggshells, nutshells
- Coffee filters and grounds
- Tea bags and tea leaves
- Meat, fish, poultry
- Dairy products such as yogurt and cheese

Sign up for compost service by phone or online at wmnorthwest.com/snohomishcounty • 1-800-592-9995
Monday-Friday 7 a.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

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Uncoated paper
Greasy paper or pizza boxes
Food-soiled paper towels
Napkins
Shredded paper
Soiled paper containers

Uncoated non-shiny paper plates
Waxed paper, waxed cardboard
Paper bags
Approved compostable packaging
See gogreenscene.com for details

Be a Foodcycler! It’s easy to do!
Find a kitchen collection method that works for you:

1. A stylish compost pail.
2. A reusable kitchen container, such as an old pitcher.
3. A paper bag or an approved compostable bag.

Empty collected food scraps into your compost cart. Your compost cart will be picked up on your next collection day. Visit wmnorthwest.com/snohomishcounty for a list of approved compostable bags to use in your kitchen compost pail.

Extra Yard Waste? There is a charge for extra yard waste. Put extra yard waste in Kraft paper bags or 32-gallon containers with handles and lids (65 lb. limit); label “yard.” Use Kraft bags to store extra yard debris only. Food scraps and uncoated paper must be placed in the compost cart.

Did you know?
Food scraps and yard debris are processed into compost, sold locally at home and garden stores and used by local farms.

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GARBAGE
Bag all garbage and put in your garbage cart.

Non-recyclable plastic
- Foam take-out containers
- Foam packaging and peanuts
- Caps and small lids
- Empty motor oil and antifreeze containers
- Plastic plates and utensils
- Empty prescription vials
- Garden hoses
- Disposable diapers
- Hangers
- Straws
- Shiny snack wrappers, condiment packets
- Bows and ribbons
- Ziptop bags

Non-recyclable glass
- Mirrors, window glass
- Ceramics, dishes
- Incandescent and halogen light bulbs only
- Fluorescent light bulbs and tubes need special disposal
  See Hazardous Waste page

Non-recyclable paper
- Disposable wipes
- Hardcover books
  TIP: Remove pages from the cover and recycle the paper
- Foil wrapping paper
- Dirty paper and plates
- Facial tissue
- Shredded paper
  TIP: Can be placed loose in compost cart

Donate hardcover books to a local charity or school.

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**Other garbage**
- Cold ashes
- Vacuum bags and dust
- Broken office supplies
- Pet waste, cat litter
- Clothing, cleaning wipes
- Toys
- Blister packaging

**Garbage Guidelines**
**PLEASE:**
- Bag all garbage.
- Double bag pet waste, pet litter, packing peanuts, vacuum dust, sawdust and cold ashes.

**Non-recyclable metal**
- Caps, lids
  - Less than 3 inches in diameter
- Empty oil containers
- Empty latex paint* cans
  - Remove lids; dried, hardened paint okay
- Sharp or greasy metal
- Clothes hangers
- Small non-working plastic appliances
  - Microwaves, coffee makers, etc.

*Latex paint is no longer considered hazardous waste. It can be placed in your garbage if it is solidified first. Mix in cat litter, shredded paper, sawdust or paint hardener. Once paint no longer flows, leave the lid off the can, bag it and place it in your garbage container.

**EXTRA GARBAGE**
Garbage charges are based on cart size. There is a charge for extra garbage that doesn't fit in your cart with the lid closed. If your garbage cart lid is open more than 6 inches, there will be a charge for extra garbage.

Bulky items such as mattresses, large appliances and building materials can be picked up by special arrangement for a fee.
HAZARDOUS WASTE

Computer Equipment Reuse
Some computer equipment can be refurbished and provided to low-income families and aid programs. Interconnection is a non-profit that accepts cell phones, laptops, tablets, desktop computers and LCD monitors at a drop site in Everett. Donations are tax deductible.

- Interconnection Drop-off Center
  Batteries Plus
  909 SE Everett Mall Way #500
  Everett, WA 98028
  1-866-621-1068

TVs & Computers
TVs, monitors, computers, laptops and e-readers are banned from the garbage. FREE! Manufacturers of these products provide free, responsible recycling at 25 locations in Snohomish County.

Batteries & Cell Phones
Manufacturers of these products provide free, responsible recycling at 28 locations in Snohomish County through the Call2Recycle program.

- Call2Recycle
  1-877-2-RECYCLE (73-2925)
  www.call2recycle.org

Used Motor Oil
Put in tightly closed 1-gallon milk jugs and take to a hazardous waste station.

- www.snoco.org
- search “solid waste”
- 425-388-3425
- Snohomish County transfer stations

hotline or visit the Take it Back Network website for recycling locations and details.

- 1-800-RECYCLE
  www.1800recycle.wa.gov
- Take It Back Network
  www.takeitbacknetwork.org

recycled at a variety of locations. Visit thinkgreenfromhome.com (1-800-592-9995), takeitbacknetwork.org

- Snohomish County Public Utilities (PUD)
The utility will accept residents’ unbroken, burned-out CFL bulbs at all of its office locations in Snohomish County: Electric Building Headquarters, Arlington, Monroe, South County, Snohomish and Stanwood.

  www.snopud.com

Needles & Sharps
Used needles and sharps are dangerous in garbage because they can injure sorters and spread disease. A special “Sharps Collector” is available from some local pharmacies and other service providers.

Visit www.co.snohomish.wa.us, search “sharps”
For alternative disposal options contact:

- Snohomish Health District
  425-339-5250

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Free Hazardous Waste Disposal

Snohomish County Household Hazardous Waste Facility
3434 McDougall Ave.
Everett 98201-5041
425-388-3425

www.snoco.org

Wednesday - Saturday
7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Households: No fee
Businesses: Call for fees

www.wmnorthwest.com/snohomishcounty

Drop off old or unused household chemicals. Look for CAUTION, POISON, WARNING, DANGER, CAUSTIC, COMBUSTIBLE, FLAMMABLE or CORROSIVE on the label, or for chemical symbols.

What to Bring:
- Aerosol cans (with contents; if empty, recycle in blue cart)
- Antifreeze
- Automotive fluids
- Batteries
- Bleach
- Drain cleaner
- Fluorescent bulbs/tubes
- Gasoline/diesel

What NOT to Bring:
- Appliances
- Electronics
- Explosives
- Latex-based paint
- Medical waste
- Medicine/drugs*
- Prescription medication*

* For medicine disposal locations, visit www.takebackyourmeds.org

Auto Parts Stores: Most auto part stores will accept used motor oil for recycling. Call ahead for quantities and restrictions.

Fluorescent Tubes & Bulbs
Compact fluorescent lights and tubes are banned from the garbage and can be

Snohomish County Solid Waste Division
425-388-3425, press 0

Or visit wm.com/wm/services/healthcare

Medication
Unwanted medication can be dropped-off at participating Take Back Your Meds locations.

Visit takebackyourmeds.org for details on the types of medication accepted.

www.snoco.org, search “transfer stations” for locations and quantity limitations

1-800-RECYCLE for more recycling locations and details.
Many items are reusable or recyclable, but **do not** belong in the garbage or in your curbside recycling cart. Here are some recycling options for a variety of materials. Please contact businesses for current rates, hours and restrictions.

**Comprehensive Local Recycling Database**

- Washington State Recycling Database
  1-800-RECYCLE (732-9253)
  [www.1800recycle.wa.gov](http://www.1800recycle.wa.gov)

**Plastic Bags**

Clean plastic bags, dry cleaning bags and other types of film plastic can be recycled at most grocery stores. Visit [plasticbagrecycling.org](http://plasticbagrecycling.org) for locations and information.

**Latex Paint**

Latex paint is no longer considered hazardous waste. It can be placed in your garbage, but only if it is solidified first.

Mix in cat litter, shredded paper, sawdust or paint hardener. Once paint no longer ‘flows,’ leave the lid off the can and place in your regular garbage. *(Oil-based paint needs to be taken to the Snohomish County Household Hazardous Waste Facility for proper disposal — see Hazardous Waste page.)*

**Clothing & Household Goods**

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Used Cooking Oil

Used cooking oil can be recycled into biodiesel. Pour cold oil into containers with tight-fitting lids, and drop-off at cooking oil collection stations.

Drop-Off Location
- Snohomish County Household Hazardous Waste Facility
  3434 McDougall Ave.
  Everett 98201-5041
  425-388-3425

For additional drop-off locations visit www.generalbiodiesel.com/

Packing Peanuts

Most mailing stores (such as the UPS stores) accept clean packing peanuts for reuse. Block foam packaging can be dropped off for recycling at participating locations.

Online Materials Exchange

Reusable household items can be sold or given away. Try posting a free ad. You will be amazed at what other people might want.

- The Freecycle Network: www.freecycle.org
- Craigslist: www.craigslist.org
- 2Good2Toss: www.2good2toss.com

Second hand stores and clothing banks will accept clothing and household goods in reusable condition.
Bulky item collection service is available through Waste Management for a fee. Please call 1-800-592-9995 for rates for specific items and to schedule a pick-up.

Scrap Metal

- **Snohomish County**
  - solid waste facilities offer free scrap metal recycling for residents only.
  - Businesses may recycle at the locations listed below. Before visiting, always call for acceptance policies and pricing.

- **Ace Metal Co., Inc.**
  - Mukilteo
  - 425-493-6802
  - Non-ferrous metal only.

- **Arrow Metal Corp.**
  - Woodinville
  - 425-481-1828
  - Accepts non-ferrous & ferrous metal including appliances.

- **Big C Recycling**
  - Monroe
  - 360-805-9078
  - Accepts non-ferrous metals such as aluminum, brass, copper, lead.

- **Diversified Recycling Service**
  - Everett
  - 425-339-2676
  - Accepts clean aluminum scrap or cans.

- **Eastbury Salvage Metal & Auto Wrecking**
  - Tulalip
  - 360-659-1540
  - Accepts non-ferrous & ferrous metals including car bodies, appliances, certified freezers & refrigerators.
Appliances
■ PUD Refrigerator/Freezer Recycling Program with JACO Environmental
Snohomish County PUD customers can schedule a free pickup: 1-877-577-0510.

Refrigerators and freezers contain coolant and must be handled by trained professionals.

Building and Remodeling Materials
Reusable building materials such as cabinets, doors, floor coverings, hardware and fixtures, paint, plumbing, roofing and siding can be donated. Call ahead for hours and restrictions.
■ Habitat for Humanity of Snohomish County Home Improvement Store
2302 Broadway, Everett
425-903-4430
Wednesday thru Saturday
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
www.habitatsnohomish.org

Asphalt, Brick, Concrete, Dirt, Sod, Sand, Gravel & Rocks
Concrete, brick and asphalt can be recycled for a fee. Call ahead for hours, fees and restrictions.
■ CEMEX
6300 Glenwood Ave
Everett, WA 98203
425-348-6346
■ Pacific Topsoils - Smith Island
3000 Frontage Rd
Everett, WA 98205
425-337-2700