

Recycling Guide for WVCC

Can't find the information you're looking for? Check out the Department of Ecology's [recycling database](#), or email your local recycling expert at sustainablewenatchee@gmail.com.

- * ALL recyclables should be clean and empty.
- * There is no limit on extra recycling. Put recycling that doesn't fit in your bin in cardboard boxes, paper bags or a 32-gallon can labeled "recycling."

Put this in your curbside blue bin:

Clean paper and cardboard

- Flattened cardboard (limit 2'x2'), newspaper, magazines, catalogs, phonebooks, paperback books, mail (plastic window envelopes ok), paper bags, food boxes.
- No food soiled or wet paper (greasy pizza boxes)
- No shredded paper (it is difficult to separate at the recycling center)

Paper food containers

- Empty and clean paper cups, cartons and frozen food boxes

Clean metal

- Aluminum and tin cans, empty aerosol cans and scrap metal (limit 2'x2'x2', 35 lbs). Please rinse and empty cans.
- Small appliances
 - First, reuse! Reusing an item saves 20 times the energy compared to recycling it. If the item works, sell or donate it.
 - Non-working items accepted in mixed recycling include:
 - Engine parts, tire rims, bike parts
 - Household metal hardware like hinges, door locks, short pieces of metal pipe
 - Worn-out pots and pans, BBQs
 - Non-working small appliances that are primarily metal, including:
 - Newer microwaves with flat "touch control" surfaces
 - Toaster ovens
 - Blenders (bottom part only)
 - Curling irons
 - Hand mixers
 - Food processors
 - Metal coffee pots
 - Irons
 - Waffle irons

Clean glass bottles and jars

- All colors and sizes (no caps or lids, labels ok)

Clean plastic containers

- Plastic bottles, cups, jars, jugs and tubs
- Do not put plastic lids in the recycling loose, either put them back on the empty bottle or throw them away.

Other local recycling opportunities:

Plastic grocery bags

- Take plastic grocery bags to your local grocery store, do NOT put in blue curbside bin. Stores in the Wenatchee Valley that accept them include: Safeway (Wenatchee, East Wenatchee, Leavenworth and Chelan), Walmart (Wenatchee and Chelan), Grocery Outlet in East Wenatchee, Fred Meyer, and Martin's Market in Cashmere.

Styrofoam

- Take clean and dry styrofoam take out containers and egg cartons to Dolco packaging at 1121 S. Columbia St in Wenatchee.
- Packing peanuts can be reused or taken to Pak It Rite at 36 N Chelan Ave. Many packing peanuts are actually made out of biodegradable corn or wheat starch, and will dissolve in water. Test to see if one will dissolve before recycling.
- Blocks of styrofoam are currently not recyclable locally.

Scrap Metal

- Large amounts of scrap metal can be sold to Wenatchee Valley Salvage and Recycling at 295 Urban Industrial Ave in East Wenatchee (509-886-7161). They purchase copper, brass, aluminum, stainless steel, tin, scrap steel, motor block and vehicles.

Clothing and textiles

- If clothing can still be worn, donate or sell it. The Junior Service League of Wenatchee accepts women's clothing, shoes and accessories year-round at Brad Huddle Allstate at 235 N Mission. Each spring they hold an event called My Girlfriend's Closet where they sell the items and all proceeds go to help the homeless in the valley. Women's and children's clothing may also be donated to the YWCA Store (423-7599), Women's Resource Center (662-0121) or the Grace House (888-4864). Men's clothing can be donated to the Veterans Warehouse Thrift Store (888-7313) or the Wenatchee Valley Senior Center Thrift Store (662-7036).
- Clothing and textiles (sheets, towels, etc.) that can no longer be used can be donated to the WHS Golden Apple Band, who work with Clothes for the Cause to recycle the textiles as a fundraiser. Contact the coordinator, Marcie, at ourzoo2@nwi.net and she will coordinate a pick-up by one of the band students.

Hazardous Waste

- Collection events for hazardous waste are held periodically throughout the year by agencies such as Chelan County and Douglas County. For more information visit their websites.
- Latex paint is no longer accepted during these collection events. If you have large quantities of unused paint, find out if it can be used by friends, family or a local non-profit. To dispose of

paint in your garbage, it must be hardened first. Paint hardener can be purchased from a local hardware store, or you can make your own by using kitty litter, potting soil, dried leaves or pine needles, dry lawn clippings, even shredded newspaper.

- Batteries can be recycled at Pacific Power Batteries at 742 S Mission St. Alkaline batteries cost \$1.10 per pound to recycle, rechargeable and lithium batteries are free, and they pay for auto batteries. Battery Systems of Wenatchee at 921 N Miller will also recycle auto or marine batteries for free.

Medical Waste

- MedSafe containers are available at the outpatient pharmacy at Central Washington Hospital and in the lobby of the Wenatchee Valley Clinic. They accept all unused medications including controlled substances and narcotics. Leave them in the original packaging when possible. No needles, syringes or other hazardous materials.
- "Sharps" such as needles or syringes can be taken to the South Wenatchee Transfer Station at 1421 S Wenatchee Ave or East Wenatchee City Hall at 271 9th St. They accept residential sharps only, and they must be in approved "Sharps Waste Container" that can be purchased from a pharmacy or you may use a leak-proof, rigid, puncture-resistant plastic container such as a liquid detergent bottle. Once full reinforce the lid with heavy duty tape such as duct tape and label the container. Some local pharmacies may accept sharps as well.

Light Bulbs

- CFL and fluorescent tubes can be recycled at Stan's Merry Mart at 733 S. Wenatchee Ave through the [LightRecycle Washington](#) program.

E-Waste

- Electronic waste such as televisions, computers, computer monitors, laptops, tablets, E-readers and portable DVD players can be recycled through the Department of Ecology's [E-Cycle WA](#) program. Computer peripherals such as keyboards, mice and printers are not included in this program. Local drop-off sites include the Salvation Army on 1219 Wenatchee Ave., Office Depot at 915 N. Wenatchee Ave., Pacific Power Batteries at 742 S. Mission, Goodwill at 830 S. Mission or 620 Grant Road and the YWCA Store at 231 N. Wenatchee Ave.
- Cell phones can be recycled at Office Depot, for a \$5 fee. Larger electronics can be recycled for \$10 and \$15, depending on the size.

Composting:

Yard waste

- Curbside yard waste bins can be purchased through Waste Management. This is turned into compost by Stemilt. Please do not put food waste of any kind into your yard waste bin.

Food waste

- Food waste or "organics" can be composted at home by collecting kitchen scraps and leftover food, then adding to a compost pile or a compost bin. Do not compost animal products (meat, fish, eggs or dairy), pet waste, oily foods or bones.

"Compostable" products

- Some products that appear to be plastic or paper are actually compostable, made of plants like corn. These items are NOT recyclable. They will not break down in backyard compost since they are designed to be composted in a commercial composting facility. Unfortunately there is currently no facility available for Wenatchee valley residents, so these items must be thrown away.