



SOMERSET COUNTY CURBSIDE RECYCLING HOW-TO GUIDE



DUAL STREAM TOTE PROGRAM

FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED TWO-WHEELED RECYCLING TOTES.

The Somerset County Recycling Division is phasing in this program one area at a time. Residents will be provided with two 65-gallon wheeled recycling totes over the next few years.

Each tote has a different color lid (yellow and lime green). Stickers on the lids indicate what materials are to be placed in the totes.

Regular scheduled pickups with the new totes **will begin on your next scheduled recycling date after** delivery of totes.

The tote with the **lime green lid** is for cardboard and paper products, and the tote with the **yellow lid** is for commingled glass, cans, and plastic materials.



Accepted items are as follows for the paper tote (lime green lid): Newspapers, inserts, junk mail, magazines, catalogs, envelopes, paperback books, corrugated cardboard, colored paper, clean pizza boxes, office and school papers, shredded paper (loose), chipboard boxes including cereal, cookie, pasta, cake, cracker, detergent (remove plastic liners), gift, shoe, shirt and any retail boxes, paper egg cartons, paper bags, books (hard covers must be removed), phone books, and non-metallic gift wrap.

Accepted items are as follows for the commingled tote (yellow lid): Aluminum, steel and bi-metal cans, glass bottles (all colors), glass jars (all colors), plastic bottles and containers #1 - #7 (Examples: water, soda, milk, juice, soap, detergent, bleach, shampoo, and cleaning-agent bottles). You may also include peanut butter, yogurt and diaper-wipe containers, margarine tubs, plastic trays and clear plastic clamshell containers from restaurant salad bars.



20-GAL. BLUE BUCKET PROGRAM

FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS IF YOU ARE STILL USING THE SMALLER BLUE 20-GALLON RECYCLING BUCKETS.

GLASS BOTTLES, ALL PLASTIC BOTTLES & CONTAINERS (#1 - #7), STEEL, BIMETAL & ALUMINUM CANS

These items should be rinsed thoroughly and placed **inside** your recycling bucket. Remove caps and crush all plastic bottles to save space. **Acceptable items:**

- Glass bottles (all colors)
 - Glass jars (all colors)
 - Steel cans
 - Bimetal cans
 - Aluminum cans
 - Plastic bottles and containers #1 - #7
 - **NO STYROFOAM®**
- #1 - #7 Examples:** Water, soda, milk, juice, soap, detergent, bleach, shampoo and cleaning-agent bottles. You may also include peanut butter, yogurt and diaper-wipe containers, margarine tubs, and clear plastic clamshell containers from restaurant salad bars.

CORRUGATED CARDBOARD, CHIPBOARD & PIZZA BOXES

Corrugated cardboard must be cut into 2 ft. x 2 ft. squares and tied with string or twine. Please include **clean** pizza boxes & chipboard with corrugated cardboard. Place tied bundle (clean pizza boxes, chipboard & cardboard) **next to** your recycling bucket. **Acceptable items:**

- Brown bags
- Chipboard boxes including: cereal, cookie, pasta, cake, cracker, detergent (remove plastic liners), gift, shoe, shirt and any retail boxes. Poster board & backing from writing pads also accepted.
- Corrugated cardboard
- Paper towel rolls
- Pizza boxes (clean!)
- Tissue boxes

OTHER PAPER/JUNK MAIL

Other paper should be placed in a brown paper bag or cardboard box and placed **next to** your blue bucket. **Shredded paper must be in clear or labeled plastic bags.** **Acceptable items:**

- Magazines
- Writing/school paper
- All envelopes
- Copy paper
- Paperback books
- Hardcover books w/hard covers removed
- Catalogs
- Phone books
- Store fliers w/ mailing labels
- Office paper
- Non-metallic gift wrap
- Shredded paper

NEWSPAPERS

Newspapers must be bundled and tied with string or twine. Place tied bundles **next to** your blue bucket. **Acceptable items:**

- Newspaper
- Inserts that come w/newspapers, such as comics, glossy coupons, TV/magazine sections & colored food/store ads

Make sure all recyclables are as clean as possible to deter pests & odors.



WHAT NOT TO RECYCLE CURBSIDE...

DO NOT PUT RECYCLABLES IN PLASTIC BAGS

PLASTIC: Un-numbered plastics • Microwave trays • Plastic bags • Motor oil and antifreeze bottles • Plastic toys • Plastic cups, plates, knives, forks, spoons • Plastic flower pots • Beer balls • Pesticide containers • Paper plates • Plastic coat hangers • Plastic drums & crates • Styrofoam® • 5-gallon buckets (spackle & paint containers) • Pool chemical containers • Plastic caps • Prescription bottles • Garbage cans • Kitty litter containers

PAPER: Waxed paper • Tissue paper • Napkins • Paper towels • Frozen food boxes • Cups • Metallic & plastic-coated paper • Paper with metal objects (file folders, binders, etc.)

APPLIANCES: Refrigerators • Air Conditioners • Dehumidifiers • Humidifiers

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS: Bring to Household Hazardous Waste Days

TEXTILES: Take clothing, linens, drapes and other textiles to any local nonprofit collection bin

BATTERIES: Alkaline go in garbage • Bring rechargeable (Lithium - causes fire hazard) & button-cell batteries to Household Hazardous Waste Days

Recyclables are the property of Somerset County when placed at the curb. Please notify your local police department or the Somerset County Recycling Center if anyone other than county employees remove recyclables from your curb. Theft of recyclable materials is illegal.

Please do not mix garbage in with your recyclables.

