

Answers to Common Recycling Questions. Sept. 2023

Q. Now that we are no longer collecting #6 plastics, does that mean they are being recycled by our new trash hauler Blosenski?

A. Unfortunately not. However, Mr. Blosenski told us that they accept plastics with codes #1-7 (found somewhere inside a triangle at the bottom of each container) because recycling is fluid and what may not have a market now could become marketable anytime in the future. He used the #5 plastics as an example. Two to three years ago, there was very little to no market for #5 material, so no one was collecting it. Then the market changed, and mills started to want this material, so they started collecting it. It is definitely easier to keep it in than to take it out. It is hard, then, in the future when there is a demand for it to get people to start recycling it again.

Q. Where does our recycling go?

A. It goes to SECCRA (Southeastern Chester County Refuse Authority), which receives the single stream materials. Then it is taken to the Republic Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in King of Prussia and offloaded for separation and bailing.

Q. What is involved in the recycling process?

A. Watch the video. It is truly amazing.

<https://youtu.be/6Bwlii0m39M?si=jSN0DLomnfmev0m2>

Q. What cannot be recycled because it is too thin or small?

A. Any item smaller than 2” will fall through their system and go to trash.

Q. What about lids? On or off?

A. No separate lids. Plastic: keep on container or put lid in trash. Metal: put lid in can. Glass: put lid in trash.

Q. Do lids of metal cans get put inside the can after removal?

A. Yes

Q. What about waxed cartons? Milk & juice? Waxed frozen food cartons?

A. Milk and juice cartons are coated with plastic—recycle them.

Frozen food containers are coated with wax—not recyclable.

Q. Does “wrapping paper” include tissue paper too?

A. Tissue paper can be recycled if it does not contain foil or glitter.

Q. Can paper and cardboard be thrown in with the rest of the recyclables?

A. Yes. Only shredded paper needs to be bagged separately in a PAPER bag.