



September 2018

The Times They Are a Changing!

Here's What's Happening in the World of Recycling

China is no longer accepting most of our recycled materials because they are too contaminated.

Contaminants are anything that doesn't belong in our recycling totes. Such as plastic bags, fabrics, metal parts, diapers, food waste, bowling balls, basketball hoops, garden hoses and more!



Here are some recycling rules to live by:

1. **No plastic bags. EVER.** Even if they contain a bunch of recyclables. Click on the video at this link to see why: recyclesmartma.org
2. **No milk cartons or juice boxes. THIS IS NEW!** (Disregard the graphic on top of your recycling cart for this one.)
3. **Do not bag items even in PAPER bags.** Materials must be placed loose in the recycling cart.
4. **No textiles at all.** Take fiber materials (except rugs) to Goodwill or bring them to SalemRecycles' textile drive on November 17 at Riley Plaza.
5. **Numbers don't matter.** Check the primer below. If it's on list, recycle it--even if it's a 5. If it's not on the list, don't! This means yogurt containers are okay, flower pots are not.
6. **No styrofoam or polystyrene.**
7. **Remember--the lid on your recycling cart shows what can go in.** (Except for milk and juice cartons)

Have you ever thought—"I don't know if this can be recycled, so I'll

throw it in and let them figure it out"? It doesn't work that way! No "wishcycling."

Sorting of collected materials is done primarily with mechanical and electronic equipment on conveyor belts. Anything that's not supposed to be there jams the equipment and contaminates the materials.

When in Doubt, Throw it Out.

Or even better, consult the new "[Recyclopedia](#)."

The "[Recyclopedia](#)" is part of a new website developed by MA Department of Environmental Protection called "[Recycle Smart](#)." Check it out. There's a terrific video that graphically demonstrates how plastic bags affect the sorting equipment, FAQ's, and answers to questions about whether items can be recycled.

Recycled materials are a commodity in the world market. These days it is critical that we recycle right!

Here's a Quick Primer

IN THE BIN:



Metal food & beverage cans, aluminum foil & pie plates. Empty & rinse



Glass bottles & jars. Empty & rinse



Plastic Bottles, Jars & tubs--any number. Empty, rinse & replace caps



Paper & cardboard. Empty & flatten

NOT IN THE BIN:



Do not bag recyclables



No plastic bags, plastic wrap or styrofoam



No clothing or linens



No wires, hoses, chains, electronics or things that can get tangled



No food, garbage or liquids

Upcoming Events

Free Book Swap This Saturday, September 29

10 am - 1 pm
Community Life Center, 401 Bridge Street



Drop off books:
Friday, Sept 28, 4-7 pm, Saturday 9:45 am - noon

For more information contact jrose@salem.com, 978-619-5673

Everything left will be donated or recycled

[Click here](#) and scroll down for link to flyer



E-Waste Collection this Saturday, September 29, 8 am - noon

Salem High School, 77 Willson Street

[Click here](#) for more details

Repair Cafe Neighbors Helping Neighbors Repair Things Fix it, Don't trash it!

Saturday, November 3, 9 am - noon
The Bridge at 211, 211 Bridge Street



Textile Drive

Saturday, November 17, 8 am - 1 pm
Riley Plaza Parking Lot
(Across from Post Office)

Connect with Us



SalemRecycles

978-619-5673

jrose@salem.com

www.greensalem.com