

Recycling correctly is good for everyone.

Providence, we need your help! We've been getting a lot of contamination in mixed recycling and it is causing a big problem.

What is contamination? It's when the wrong materials are placed in recycling carts such as food waste, plastic bags, wood, clothing/textiles OR when the right materials are prepared in the wrong way, such as putting recyclables in a plastic bag.

When there is too much contamination in a mixed recycling truck, it can cause the entire truckload to be rejected. Rejected truckloads are charged as trash and landfilled instead of being accepted as recycling for free. These additional disposal fees cost the city money that could have been used to support critical city services.

When we recycle correctly, we preserve the life of RI's Central Landfill, save money, and protect the environment! Find information on how to be a great recycler below.

Play "Ready, Set, Sort!" and test your recycling skills....you may be surprised by what can and can't be recycled.

PLAY NOW






Learn what items can be put in your recycling cart, and you'll be a good recycler.

Watch this video to learn how to be a great recycler!

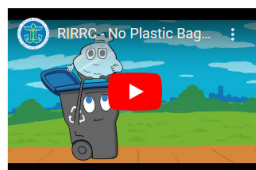
WATCH NOW



Here are some interesting facts about what happens when we don't recycle correctly.

 <p>Rejected When truckloads of recycling are rejected due to contamination it costs the city money! Those funds could be better used to support your community.</p>	 <p>Cost On average, over the past five years, the City of Providence has been required to spend nearly \$1M each year on rejected recycling.</p>	 <p>Truck Loads Over the past five years, on average each year 11,000 tons or 1,700 truckloads of mixed recycling had to be rejected due to contamination. That is equal to a line of garbage trucks over 7 miles long!</p>	<p>2040</p> <p>Capacity At current disposal rates, RI's Central Landfill will be full in just 19 years. Once full, we will need to find another solution to dispose of RI's trash.</p>
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Learn how to recycle correctly by watching the videos below.



Download these guides to become an even better recycler.





BASIC GUIDELINES



DETAILED GUIDELINES

Dear Providence Resident

Letter to Providence residents.

DOWNLOAD

February 2022

Dear Providence Resident:

On average, over the past five years, the City of Providence was required to spend an additional **\$1 million** each year on something that could have been avoided. What was it? It was approximately **11,000 tons** or **1,700 truckloads** of mixed recycling that was **rejected** due to contamination.

What is contamination? It's when the wrong materials are placed in recycling carts such as food waste, plastic bags, wood, clothing/textiles OR when the right materials are prepared in the wrong way, such as putting recyclables in a plastic bag.

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That's why the City of Providence and Rhode Island Resource Recovery are partnering to educate Providence residents on recycling right. Recycling right saves valuable landfill space for future generations, protects clean water, creates jobs, and improves the economy.

There's an easy way to be a good recycler.

Click these tabs for guidance on recycling correctly.

RECYCLABLE	THESE ITEMS DON'T BELONG IN YOUR RECYCLING CART
<p>Here's what is accepted in your mixed recycling cart at home, school, or work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper, cardboard, and cartons Metal lids, cans, and foil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glass bottles and jars Plastic containers



Not sure how to properly dispose of an item?

Use our A to Z search tool to find out!

SEARCH NOW

Questions?

Have questions about recycling? You can contact us at www.rirc.org/contact-us

CONTACT US