

Orcas Island Recycle Guidelines

Updated: June 2019

Rule #1: Keep it Clean! No food residue!

Contaminated recycling ends up in the landfill, and costs you money!

Rule #2: No plastic bags or plastic film!

Saran Wrap, bubble wrap, plastic air-pillows, plastic bags of any kind.

YES:

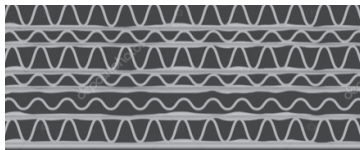
- Aluminum cans, foil and trays (*clean*)
- Steel and tin cans (*clean*)
- Non-corrugated cardboard
(cereal boxes, 12-pack soda/beer boxes)
- Mail, junk mail, envelopes, office paper
- Magazines and catalogs
- Newspapers and inserts
- Phone, paperback and hardcover books
- Paper food boxes and egg cartons
- Paper grocery bags
- Paper cups (*clean and empty*)
- Paper milk and juice cartons (*rinsed*)
- Juice and soy milk boxes (Tetrapaks) (*rinsed*)
- Plastic bottles, jars and tubs (*rinsed*)
 - (*NO plastic film, caps, dome tops or straws*)
- Nursery pots and flats (*clean*)
- Glass bottles, jars (*rinsed*)
- EMPTY aerosol cans
- Small pieces of scrap metal
(*clean, less than 20 lbs; 20 inches*)

NO:

- Styrofoam of any kind
- Bubble, shrink and food wrap of any kind
- Plastic bags & film
- Food-soiled products of any kind
- Paper towels, plates, napkins, tissues
- Prescription vials
- Shredded paper
- Needles and syringes, medical waste
- Disposable diapers
- Cloth, fabrics, rags, rope, rugs, carpet
- Construction/demolition materials
- Wires/extension cords/Christmas lights
- Garden hoses
- Ceramics and dishes
- Mirrors and window glass
- Batteries of any type
- Light bulbs of any type
- Hazardous/flammable/toxic waste
- Small appliances
- Large toys/bikes/tire chains

Recycle it separately:

- Corrugated cardboard goes in our dedicated bin. Look at the edge--does it look like this?



Recycle for FREE:

- Aluminum cans
- TVs, Monitors, CPUs, Laptops
- Fluorescent light bulbs of all types
- Vehicle batteries
- Cell phones & ink/toner cartridges

Recycle for small fee:

- Household batteries
- Motor oil, antifreeze, cooking oil
- Large and small appliances
- Small electronics & peripherals
- Scrap metal
- Green waste
- Latex Paint
- Tires
- Propane bottles



June 2019 Update

In January 2018 China announced dramatic restrictions on several categories of recyclable waste coming from the United States. This has dramatically increased our costs here on Orcas to dispose of recyclables—more than 2,000 percent since January 2017.

ORS is moving ahead with the development of a sorting/baling facility that will allow for much more efficient handling of commodities like aluminum, cardboard, glass, and other materials. This effort began in June 2019 with a new program separating corrugated cardboard from the co-mingled recycling.

Keep track of these and other efforts on the ORS/Exchange website, at www.exchangeorcas.org.

If you have further questions, or would like to get involved, or make a donation to our zero waste cause, feel free to contact our Executive Director, Pete Moe, directly at pete@exchangeorcas.org.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING COOPERATION AND PATIENCE WHILE WE CONTINUE OUR
EFFORTS TO CLEAN UP THE ORCAS WASTE STREAM, ON THE WAY
TO A ZERO-WASTE FUTURE!

**MOST UNWANTED:
FOOD OR FOOD RESIDUE!
STYROFOAM OR BUBBLE WRAP!
SHREDDED PAPER!
CLOTHING OR FABRICS!
PLASTIC BAGS OR FILM!**

