

# These items do not belong in the recycle cart, so where do they go?

Contamination at the curb? What's the big deal? **Recycling works best when done properly.** Let's all do our part to keep the recycle stream free of contamination to ensure an efficient recycling system. Check out this list of contaminants below and how to dispose of each item appropriately.

Contaminant							
<p>NAPKINS PAPER TOWELS</p> 	<p>PAPER CUPS</p> 	<p>PLASTIC CLAMSHELLS</p> 	<p>PLASTIC BAGS</p> 	<p>STYROFOAM</p> 	<p>CLOTHING</p> 	<p>CHIP BAG</p> 	<p>FOOD RESIDUE</p> 
Why not at the curb?							
<p>Paper can only be recycled a few times. Paper fiber gets shorter each time it's recycled; by the time it becomes towel or tissue, the fiber is very short, making this the end of the recycling process.</p>	<p>Lined with plastic. Nearly impossible to separate the plastic from the paper fiber for recycling.</p>	<p>There is currently no market for this low-grade plastic. End of life-phase.</p>	<p>Clog machinery at sorting facility. Must be collected separately.</p>	<p>Breaks into tiny pieces when compacted in recycle truck. No local recycling facility; uneconomical to transport.</p>	<p>Clothing and fabric are not part of the curbside recycling program.</p>	<p>Most chip bags are made from aluminum laminated with polypropylene plastic. They cannot be recycled in this area because the component materials cannot be separated.</p>	<p>Food residue inside containers will spill onto commingled recycling (i.e. yogurt spilling onto paper) and leads to mold and odor. Always rinse or wipe out containers.</p>
Where should it go?							
<p>Place in your home compost system or in your trash cart.</p>	<p>Place cup in trash. Paper sleeve can be composted.</p>	<p>Re-use or place in your trash cart.</p>	<p>Re-use or take to a participating retail or grocery store for recycling.</p>	<p>Place in your trash cart.</p>	<p>Check <a href="http://Recyclebutte.net">Recyclebutte.net</a> for alternative options for recycling clothing.</p>	<p>Place in your trash cart.</p>	<p>Rinse and remove food residue before recycling.</p>