



DO IT RIGHT

Get colorful in the new year

Your curbside collection may not be a gray area. Where applicable, Recology Butte Colusa Counties provides color-coded 3-cart service for all your discards.



Carts are also labeled to help you know what goes inside:

- **Gray is for landfill** — single-use plastic, PPE, diapers, and pet waste.
- **Blue is for recycling** — glass bottles and jars, aluminum cans, and rigid plastics, such as bottles and jugs.
- **Green is for organics** — yard trimmings.

Sorting your discards and having the right color cart is required by law.

It also helps prevent confusion for residents and ensures that Recology drivers service the correct containers as different trucks pick up different materials.

If your recycling or organics cart is gray, contact us to request a properly colored and labeled cart at no additional cost.

GIVE FOIL A SECOND LIFE

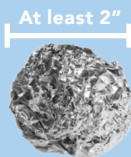
Aluminum isn't just for cans. Clean aluminum foil can also be placed in your recycling cart, but only if it's prepared correctly.

Because foil is thin and lightweight, small scraps can slip through sorting equipment and end up as waste. The simple fix is to wad your used foil into a ball.

A few important tips:

- Make sure it's clean. Wipe or rinse off any heavy food residue.
- Combine small pieces. Keep adding foil to your ball until it's large enough not to fall through sorting screens, about the size of a golf ball (2" or larger).
- Don't include other materials. Remove food, stickers, plastic wrap, or foil-lined paper before recycling.

By making your foil into a ball, you're helping ensure this valuable material gets a second life instead of going to the landfill.



SHARE THE NEWS!

Recology publishes quarterly newsletters that are printed and mailed with billing statements, which are typically sent to the accounting or billing contact on file.

We encourage homeowners and business and property owners to pass them on to family, friends, and on-site managers and tenants.

Each newsletter includes tips on proper recycling, disposal methods for household hazardous waste, and guidance on handling hard-to-recycle items. This is important information that residents and employees should be aware of to maintain property compliance and minimize contamination.

Sharing the newsletter helps promote better recycling habits and supports a cleaner, more informed community.



BAN THESE ITEMS FROM YOUR BLUE BIN



PLASTIC CUPS

Even though they're made of plastic, clear drink cups (like those used for iced coffees or soft drinks) and red party cups are not accepted in our recycling program.



Clear drink cups are often made of PET or polypropylene,

but they're thin, lightweight, and frequently coated or contaminated with liquids, ice, or straws. This makes them difficult to sort and process with standard recycling equipment.

Red party cups are typically made from polystyrene (#6

plastic), which shatters during processing and has no stable recycling market.

When these cups enter the recycling stream, they can contaminate other recyclables, slow down operations, and increase costs.

Please dispose of these cups in a trash can or **gray landfill cart** after use.

Consider using reusable tumblers or mugs to reduce single-use plastic waste, or look for local specialty drop-off programs for plastics (not available in all areas).

Keeping plastic beverage cups out of the recycling bin helps us maintain a cleaner, more effective recycling system.

SCRUNCHY PLASTICS

Unsure if that chip bag or snack wrapper should be recycled? Give your plastics the Scrunch Test.

If you scrunch a plastic item in your hand and it crinkles into a ball shape, it cannot be recycled. Flimsy plastics belong in your **gray landfill cart**.



Rigid plastics, such as water bottles, milk jugs, and yogurt/sour cream tubs, are recyclable. Just remember that recyclable containers should be empty, clean, and dry when placed in your blue cart.

Remember: If plastic crinkles, toss it out. If it bounces back, recycle away!

THE TISSUE ISSUE

Although paper towels and tissues may appear suitable for recycling, these items should never be placed in recycling containers.

While they are made of paper, the fibers used in these products are of such low quality that they cannot be effectively reprocessed into new paper materials.

Additionally, paper towels and tissues are frequently contaminated with food waste, grease, cleaning agents, or bodily fluids. This



contamination can compromise the quality of an entire load of

recyclables, rendering otherwise recoverable materials unusable.

To ensure the integrity of the recycling stream, **please dispose of these items properly by placing them in the gray landfill cart**.

Proper disposal of paper towels and tissues helps maintain the efficiency of recycling systems, ensuring that the materials Recology collects can be truly transformed into new, usable products.



**NEVER PLACE THESE
ITEMS IN YOUR
LANDFILL BIN**

- Sharps and Medication
- Fluorescent Bulbs
- Flammables, Pesticides, or Herbicides
- Electronic Waste

Maxwell Transfer Station:
<http://bit.ly/3ZPWld3>

Oroville Transfer Station:
<https://bit.ly/4nkp7fN>