

# DISTRICT RECYCLING GUIDELINES

## Commercial Recycling Requirements



**Supply accessible recycling containers.**



**Communicate information annually including how and what to recycle.**



**Post sign showing what to place in recycling bin.**

As a reminder, materials that are NOT accepted in the recycling include:

- Black Bags
- Plastic Bags, Wraps & Film\*
- Construction & Demolition Debris
- Yard Waste
- Textiles (Bedding, Clothes, Carpet)
- Hazardous Waste
- Tanglers (Cords, Hoses, Hangers)
- Electronic Waste
- Batteries
- Furniture

\*Clear or non-pigmented plastic bin liners to hold clean and empty recyclables are allowed.

For more information about recycling in the District, visit:  
[zerowaste.dc.gov](http://zerowaste.dc.gov)

For general information about the Department of Public Works, visit:  
[dpw.dc.gov](http://dpw.dc.gov)

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## Accepted Items

### PAPER

- Cups & Containers
  - Flattened Cardboard
  - Milk, Juice, & Soup Cartons
  - Newspapers/Magazines
  - Books/Phone Books
  - Junk Mail & Office Paper
- (all items clean & empty)  
\*No Tissue



### PLASTIC

- Cups & Containers
  - Bottles & Lids
  - Bulky Items
- (all items clean & empty)  
\*No Plastic Bags  
\*No Foam Polystyrene  
\*No Straws or Utensils



### METAL

- Steel & Aluminum
  - Bottles/Cans/Containers
- (all items clean & empty)  
\*No Paint Cans



### GLASS

- Glass Bottles /Jars
- (all items clean & empty)  
\*No Windows  
or Ceramics



## How to Prepare Your Recyclables

- ✓ Recyclables should be clean & empty.
- ✓ Keep out: Plastic bags, clothing, tangles (cables & cords), electronics & batteries
- ✓ Empty & flatten cardboard boxes.



## Janitorial Best Practice



- o Black bags cannot be used to hold recyclables. Clear or non-pigmented plastic bin liners to hold clean and empty recyclables are allowed but not preferred.
- o Best practice: Leave recyclables loose in container.

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GOVERNMENT OF THE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR