

# NOVEMBER 15 is AMERICA RECYCLE DAY – TAKE the PLEDGE

## Burlington County Recycling Program FAQs:

### 1. [Who should recycle?](#)

#### **Residents**

All Burlington County residents, including residents of apartments and condominiums, are required to recycle cardboard, paper, food and beverage cans, glass bottles and jars, and plastic bottles # 1, #2, and # 5 type only. Apartment Landlords and Condominium Complex Associations are required by municipal ordinance, to provide recycling containers for their residents.

#### **Businesses/Institution**

All owners, lessees, or occupants of public and private businesses, commercial and/or industrial establishments; all municipal and state government facilities, religious, education, and health care facilities, all public and/or private civic organizations, and all non-profit and/or profit organizations are required by local municipal ordinance to recycle paper, corrugated cardboard, bottles and cans.

### 2. [Why should I recycle?](#)

- Recycling is the law, enforced through the local municipal ordinances.
- Recycling saves money. When municipalities send less to the landfill, they spend less of your tax dollars on disposal fees.
- **The more you recycle the larger the annual tonnage grant that your municipality receives to help keep your community clean**
- Recycling reduces trash. It will extend the life of the landfill.
- Recycling conserves natural and nonrenewable resources.
- Recycling saves energy. Making products from recycled materials use less energy than from raw materials.

### 3. [Why can't I recycle frozen food containers?](#)

The main reason is that frozen food containers can have various types of coatings and because of the variation they can cause problems when trying to separate the fiber (paper) layer from the coating layers. Paper mills can't separate out these embedded plastic layers from the paper fiber, resulting in problems when they try to pulp the fiber into new paper.

### 4. [I want to recycle, but do I have to spend time removing all those staples?](#)

No, staples do not have to be removed from papers before recycling. Just remove large metal clips and binders.

### 5. [I've heard I can no longer put my shredded paper curbside to be recycled. What can I do with it?](#)

Shredded paper jams the equipment. See [New Shredded Paper Guidelines](#)

### 6. [Does it help to flatten my aluminum cans?](#)

No. Our processing system works best with whole aluminum cans. Cans crushed completely flat may not get sorted properly and get mixed with the wrong recyclables.

### 7. [Should I separate all my magazines, newspaper, junk mail, and cereal boxes into separate paper bags for recycling?](#)

There is no need to separate. All paper types and cardboard are collected by the same truck.

### 8. [Can I recycle wrapping paper from holidays and special occasions?](#)

Yes, wrapping paper and tissue paper used for packing or wrapping gifts can be recycled with your regular mixed paper recycling. No foil or plastic wrapping paper, and remove ribbon and bows.