

# Extended List for Disposal Options for Common Items

Below is an A-to-Z listing of common items and how to properly dispose of them. If you have a question about an item or would like to see an item added to this list, please email [publicworks@ci.olympia.wa.us](mailto:publicworks@ci.olympia.wa.us) or call program staff at 360.753.8509.

| ITEM                                           | Recycle | Organics | Garbage | Alternatives                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------|---------|----------|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Aerosol cans                                   |         |          | •       |                                                                    |
| Aluminum cans                                  | •       |          |         |                                                                    |
| Animals, dead                                  |         |          |         | • Contact Animal Services, 360.352.2510                            |
| Antifreeze bottles                             |         |          | •       |                                                                    |
| Appliances                                     |         |          |         | • Thurston County Waste & Recovery Center                          |
| Aseptic containers (soy milk & broth)          | •       |          |         |                                                                    |
| Asphalt                                        |         |          |         | • Concrete Recyclers (Tumwater)                                    |
| Baked goods                                    |         | •        |         |                                                                    |
| Batteries, alkaline                            |         |          | •       |                                                                    |
| Batteries, other (car, acid or dry cell)       |         |          |         | • HazoHouse, Batteries Plus, Interstate Batteries (fees may apply) |
| Batteries, rechargeable                        |         |          |         | • HazoHouse, Batteries Plus, Interstate Batteries                  |
| Birdseed bags (paper only)                     | •       | •        |         |                                                                    |
| Bleach jugs                                    | •       |          |         |                                                                    |
| Bones (meat & seafood, raw or cooked)          |         | •        |         |                                                                    |
| Books, hardcover & paperback                   | •       |          |         |                                                                    |
| Boxes, cereal & cracker (remove plastic liner) | •       |          |         |                                                                    |
| Boxes, drink with foil inside (small kid-size) |         |          | •       |                                                                    |
| Boxes, frozen food                             | •       |          |         |                                                                    |

# ITEM

|                                                | Recycle | Organics | Garbage | Alternatives |                                                |
|------------------------------------------------|---------|----------|---------|--------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Boxes, juice (small, foil-lined)               |         |          | ●       |              |                                                |
| Boxes, produce (waxed)                         | ●       | ●        |         |              |                                                |
| Boxes, shoe                                    | ●       |          |         |              |                                                |
| Branches (under 6" diameter)                   |         | ●        |         |              |                                                |
| Bread                                          |         | ●        |         |              |                                                |
| Bread bags (no crumbs)                         |         |          | ●       | ●            | Many grocery stores recycle clean plastic bags |
| Bricks                                         |         |          |         | ●            | Olympia Salvage, Concrete Recyclers (Tumwater) |
| Bubble wrap                                    |         |          | ●       | ●            | The Mailbox, The UPS Store                     |
| Buckets, (plastic kitty litter, 5-gallon type) | ●       |          |         |              |                                                |
| Cardboard (a little tape is okay)              | ●       | ●        |         |              |                                                |
| Cartons, ice cream (box or tub)                |         |          | ●       |              |                                                |
| Cartons, juice                                 | ●       |          |         |              |                                                |
| Cartons, milk                                  | ●       |          |         |              |                                                |
| Cartons, soda & beer                           | ●       |          |         |              |                                                |
| Ceramic items                                  |         |          | ●       | ●            | Goodwill, Value Village                        |
| Cereal boxes (remove plastic liner)            | ●       |          |         |              |                                                |
| Cheese                                         |         | ●        |         |              |                                                |
| Clamshell, clear plastic deli-style            |         |          | ●       |              |                                                |
| Clothes hangers (plastic & metal)              |         |          | ●       | ●            | Goodwill, Value Village                        |
| Coffee grounds & filters                       |         | ●        |         |              |                                                |
| Dairy products (cheese, etc.)                  |         | ●        |         |              |                                                |
| Deli containers (plastic)                      |         |          | ●       |              |                                                |
| Diapers                                        |         |          | ●       |              |                                                |

# ITEM

|                                                                          | Recycle | Organics | Garbage | Alternatives |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------|---------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dirt                                                                     |         |          | ●       | ●            | Bill McTarnal Enterprises (Shelton)                                                                                                                                                              |
| Eggshells                                                                |         | ●        |         |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Electronics, accessories & peripherals (keyboards, mice, printers, etc.) |         |          | ●       | ●            | Best Buy, Office Depot, Staples (fees may apply). OR visit <a href="http://www.ecyclewashington.org">www.ecyclewashington.org</a> or call 1.800.RECYCLE to find an e-waste retailer nearest you. |
| Electronics, cell phones & PDAs                                          |         |          |         | ●            | Safelace. Most manufacturers/retailers take back expired electronics they sell                                                                                                                   |
| Electronics, computers                                                   |         |          |         | ●            | Goodwill Stores (free)                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Electronics, TV or monitor screens                                       |         |          |         | ●            | Goodwill Stores (free)                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Fish & shellfish                                                         |         | ●        |         |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Floral trimmings                                                         |         | ●        |         |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Flowers                                                                  |         | ●        |         |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Flower pots (rigid, hard plastic pots)                                   | ●       |          |         |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Foil                                                                     |         |          | ●       |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Foil, muffin & cupcake wrappers                                          |         |          | ●       |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Food, plate scrapings & leftovers                                        |         | ●        |         |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Food, scraps                                                             |         | ●        |         |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Food-soiled cardboard (such as pizza boxes)                              |         | ●        |         |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Food-soiled foil                                                         |         |          | ●       |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Food-soiled paper (paper plates, cups, towels & napkins)                 |         | ●        |         |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Food-soiled waxed or parchment paper                                     |         | ●        |         |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Fruit                                                                    |         | ●        |         |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Fruit stickers                                                           |         |          | ●       |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Glass, beer & wine bottles                                               | ●       |          |         |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

# ITEM

|                                             | Recycle | Organics | Garbage | Alternatives |                                                |
|---------------------------------------------|---------|----------|---------|--------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Glass, dishes or bowls                      |         |          | ●       | ●            | Goodwill, Value Village (unbroken)             |
| Glass, drinking glasses                     |         |          | ●       | ●            | Goodwill, Value Village (unbroken)             |
| Glass, figurines/decorative objects         |         |          | ●       | ●            | Goodwill, Value Village (unbroken)             |
| Glass, food jars                            | ●       |          |         |              |                                                |
| Glass, liquor bottles                       | ●       |          |         |              |                                                |
| Glass, tempered (shower doors)              |         |          | ●       |              |                                                |
| Glass, window (clean glass only, no frames) |         |          |         | ●            | Concrete Recyclers (Tumwater)                  |
| Glass, window (unbroken)                    |         |          | ●       | ●            | Olympia Salvage, Habitat for Humanity ReStore  |
| Grass clippings                             |         | ●        |         |              |                                                |
| Gum, chewing                                |         |          | ●       |              |                                                |
| Kibble (pet food)                           |         |          | ●       |              |                                                |
| Kitty litter (please bag)                   |         |          | ●       |              |                                                |
| Leaves                                      |         | ●        |         |              |                                                |
| Light bulbs, fluorescent (CFL)              |         |          |         | ●            | Olympia Supply, Ace Hardware, PSE, HazoHouse   |
| Light bulbs, regular                        |         |          | ●       |              |                                                |
| Liquids (except oil & grease)               |         |          |         | ●            | Pour down sanitary sewer or sink drain         |
| Meat, raw or cooked                         |         | ●        |         |              |                                                |
| Medication                                  |         |          |         | ●            | Group Health, Thurston County Sheriff's Office |
| Metal, clothes hangers                      |         |          | ●       | ●            | Goodwill, Value Village (unbroken)             |
| Metal, dishes or bowls                      |         |          | ●       | ●            | Goodwill, Value Village (unbroken)             |
| Metal, large items (engine blocks, etc.)    |         |          | ●       | ●            | South Sound Steel (Tumwater)                   |
| Metal, pots & pans (no lids)                | ●       |          |         | ●            | Goodwill, Value Village (unbroken)             |

# ITEM

|                                              | Recycle | Organics | Garbage | Alternatives |                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------|---------|----------|---------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Metal, scrap                                 |         |          |         | ●            | South Sound Steel (Tumwater), free metals drop-off at the Saturday Drop-off Site |
| Mirrors                                      |         |          | ●       | ●            | Goodwill, Value Village (unbroken)                                               |
| Motor oil & hazardous waste containers       |         |          |         | ●            | Thurston County HazoHouse                                                        |
| Newspaper                                    | ●       | ●        |         |              |                                                                                  |
| Noxious weeds (knapweed, tansy, gorse)       |         |          | ●       |              |                                                                                  |
| Oil or grease (commercial cooking)           |         |          |         | ●            | Darling International Inc. (Tacoma)                                              |
| Oil or grease (residential cooking)          |         |          | ●       | ●            | Thurston County HazoHouse                                                        |
| Packing pillows (deflate)                    |         |          | ●       | ●            | Deflate and bring to Thurston County Waste and Recovery Center                   |
| Paper cups                                   |         |          | ●       |              |                                                                                  |
| Paper deli wrap (non-glossy)                 |         | ●        |         |              |                                                                                  |
| Paper egg cartons                            | ●       | ●        |         |              |                                                                                  |
| Paper fast food wrappers & bags (non-glossy) |         | ●        |         |              |                                                                                  |
| Paper grocery bags                           | ●       |          |         |              |                                                                                  |
| Paper lunch bags                             |         | ●        |         |              |                                                                                  |
| Paper napkins                                |         | ●        |         |              |                                                                                  |
| Paper plates (non-glossy)                    |         | ●        |         |              |                                                                                  |
| Paper sandwich wrappers (Subway, Meconis)    |         | ●        |         |              |                                                                                  |
| Paper sticky notes                           |         |          | ●       |              |                                                                                  |
| Paper take-out containers                    |         | ●        |         |              |                                                                                  |
| Paper towels                                 |         | ●        |         |              |                                                                                  |
| Paper, cardboard                             | ●       | ●        |         |              |                                                                                  |
| Paper, computer                              | ●       |          |         |              |                                                                                  |

# ITEM

|                                                          | Recycle | Organics | Garbage | Alternatives |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------|---------|--------------|--|
| Paper, copy                                              | •       |          |         |              |  |
| Paper, envelopes                                         | •       |          |         |              |  |
| Paper, file folders                                      | •       |          |         |              |  |
| Paper, freezer paper                                     | •       |          |         |              |  |
| Paper, frozen food boxes                                 | •       |          |         |              |  |
| Paper, glossy (ads)                                      | •       |          |         |              |  |
| Paper, paperback books                                   | •       |          |         |              |  |
| Paper, juice boxes                                       | •       |          |         |              |  |
| Paper, junk mail                                         | •       |          |         |              |  |
| Paper, magazines (dull & glossy)                         | •       |          |         |              |  |
| Paper, mailing envelopes (plastic, bubble plastic-lined) |         |          | •       |              |  |
| Paper, manila envelopes                                  | •       |          |         |              |  |
| Paper, microwave popcorn bags                            |         |          | •       |              |  |
| Paper, muffin & cupcake wrappers                         |         | •        |         |              |  |
| Paper, parchment                                         |         | •        |         |              |  |
| Paper, shredded (place in paper bag)                     |         | •        |         |              |  |
| Paper, sticker-backing                                   | •       |          |         |              |  |
| Paper, tissue & toilet                                   |         |          | •       |              |  |
| Paper, waxed                                             |         | •        |         |              |  |
| Paper/foil food wrapping                                 |         |          | •       |              |  |
| Paperback books                                          | •       |          |         |              |  |
| Pasta                                                    |         | •        |         |              |  |
| Pet food                                                 |         |          | •       |              |  |

# ITEM

|                                                                       | Recycle | Organics | Garbage | Alternatives |                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------|---------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Pet food bags (has plastic liner)                                     |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Pet waste (from cat or dog)                                           |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Phone books                                                           | •       |          |         |              |                                                           |
| Photographs & photographic paper                                      |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Pizza                                                                 |         | •        |         |              |                                                           |
| Pizza boxes                                                           |         | •        |         |              |                                                           |
| PLA plastics (vegetable-based plastics)                               |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Plants                                                                |         | •        |         |              |                                                           |
| Plastic bags (clean grocery bags, produce bags, and dry cleaner bags) |         |          | •       | •            | Grocery stores, Thurston County Waste and Recovery Center |
| Plastic buckets (clean kitty litter, paint bucket)                    | •       |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Plastic butter & margarine tubs                                       | •       |          |         |              |                                                           |
| Plastic cups                                                          |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Plastic or Styrofoam egg cartons                                      |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Plastic straws                                                        |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Plastic toothpicks                                                    |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Plastic utensils                                                      |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Plastic beverage bottles                                              | •       |          |         |              |                                                           |
| Plastic CD & jewel cases                                              |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Plastic, cellophane                                                   |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Plastic, clear deli clamshell containers                              |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Plastic, clear prescription vials (with medication)                   |         |          |         | •            | Group Health, Thurston County Sheriff's Office            |
| Plastic, clear prescription vials (without medication)                |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |

# ITEM

|                                                    | Recycle | Organics | Garbage | Alternatives |                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------|----------|---------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Plastic clothes hangers                            |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Plastic coffee cup lids                            |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Plastic, coffee tubs                               | •       |          |         |              |                                                           |
| Plastic condiment containers                       | •       |          |         |              |                                                           |
| Plastic dairy tubs (cottage cheese, sour cream)    | •       |          |         |              |                                                           |
| Plastic detergent bottles & jugs                   | •       |          |         |              |                                                           |
| Plastic dishes or bowls                            |         |          | •       | •            | Goodwill, Value Village (unbroken)                        |
| Plastic film & saran wrap (clean)                  |         |          | •       | •            | Thurston County Waste and Recovery Center                 |
| Plastic, clear food containers                     |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Plastic, frozen food bags                          |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Plastic, grocery & retail bags                     |         |          |         | •            | Grocery stores, Thurston County Waste and Recovery Center |
| Plastic jugs                                       | •       |          |         |              |                                                           |
| Plastic juice bottles                              | •       |          |         |              |                                                           |
| Plastic lids, caps & tops                          |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Plastic liquor bottles                             | •       |          |         |              |                                                           |
| Plastic milk jugs                                  | •       |          |         |              |                                                           |
| Plastic, large over-the-counter medication bottles | •       |          |         |              |                                                           |
| Plastic plant pots (rigid containers only)         | •       |          |         |              |                                                           |
| Plastic shampoo & conditioner bottles              | •       |          |         |              |                                                           |
| Plastic snack & chip bags                          |         |          | •       |              |                                                           |
| Plastic soap & lotion bottles                      | •       |          |         |              |                                                           |
| Plastic soda & pop bottles                         | •       |          |         |              |                                                           |
| Plastic water bottles                              | •       |          |         |              |                                                           |



# ITEM

|                                                                                  | Recycle | Organics | Garbage | Alternatives                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Plastic yogurt cups                                                              | ●       |          |         |                                                                           |
| Plastic/foil juice pouches                                                       |         |          | ●       |                                                                           |
| Pots & Pans, (no lids)                                                           | ●       |          |         |                                                                           |
| Potted plants (potting soil okay; no plastic pots - paper or peat pots are okay) |         | ●        |         |                                                                           |
| Pyrex                                                                            |         |          | ●       |                                                                           |
| Seafood                                                                          |         | ●        |         |                                                                           |
| Seasonal greens (wreaths, etc.)                                                  |         | ●        |         |                                                                           |
| Shells, shellfish                                                                |         | ●        |         |                                                                           |
| Shower curtains                                                                  |         |          | ●       | Hint: Use linen curtains that can be washed and reused                    |
| Sod                                                                              |         |          |         | ● Bill McTurnal Enterprises (Shelton)                                     |
| Stems                                                                            |         | ●        |         |                                                                           |
| Styrofoam (any: blocks, containers or peanuts)                                   |         |          | ●       | ● DART Container Corp, The Mailbox, The UPS Store (peanuts only)          |
| Tape                                                                             |         |          | ●       |                                                                           |
| Tea bags                                                                         |         | ●        |         |                                                                           |
| Tea leaves                                                                       |         | ●        |         |                                                                           |
| Tin cans                                                                         | ●       |          |         |                                                                           |
| Tree limbs (smaller than 6" diameter)                                            |         | ●        |         |                                                                           |
| Tyvek or polyethylene envelopes                                                  |         |          | ●       | ● Dupont                                                                  |
| Vegetables                                                                       |         | ●        |         |                                                                           |
| VHS, CDs, DVDs                                                                   |         |          | ●       | ● Green Disk ( <a href="http://www.greendisk.com">www.greendisk.com</a> ) |
| Weeds (except tangy, gorse & knapweed)                                           |         | ●        |         |                                                                           |
| Wood chopsticks                                                                  |         | ●        |         |                                                                           |

# ITEM

|                                      | Recycle | Organics | Garbage | Alternatives |                                            |
|--------------------------------------|---------|----------|---------|--------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Wood crates                          |         | •        |         |              |                                            |
| Wood pallets                         |         | •        |         | •            | Liberty One Resources/Weiks Corp (Olympia) |
| Wood popsicle sticks                 |         | •        |         |              |                                            |
| Wood toothpicks                      |         | •        |         |              |                                            |
| Wood, treated & painted              |         |          | •       |              |                                            |
| Wood, untreated (no paint or stains) |         | •        |         |              |                                            |
| Wreath greens (please remove wire)   |         | •        |         |              |                                            |

## Preparation & Helpful Hints

### Recycle hints - dark green cart or blue cart

**Recycling plastics #1-7:**

Do not worry about the number; just make sure that it is a bottle or jug, with the neck smaller than the base.

**Put recycling materials**

**in the cart separately:** Do not stuff cans, bottles & paper inside cereal boxes or bags.

**Rinse & clean bottles, cans &**

**jugs:** If there is significant food residual (such as condiment and peanut butter containers), give them a rinse.

### Organics hints - bright green cart

**Add food-soiled paper or shredded paper to cart:**

This will help reduce odors.

**Wrap food in newspaper:**

This will alleviate fruit flies and odors.

### Garbage hints - dark gray cart

**Get a smaller cart:** If you find that your garbage has reduced from recycling and organics collection, save money by reducing your garbage cart size.

**In doubt?** Not sure if it's recyclable or compostable? Please put it in the garbage to avoid contamination.