ORGANIC WASTE

Food Scraps
Food-Soiled Paper
Plant Trimmings and Yard Waste

RECYCLING

All Recyclables Empty, Dry and Loose

Aluminum and Steel Bottles and Cans
Aluminum Foil and Trays
Glass Bottles and jars
Boxes and Cardboard (empty and flatten)
mixed Paper and Shredded Paper (shredded paper must be in an enclosed paper bag)
Food and Beverage Paper Cartons
Plastic Bottles, Cups, Containers, Lids, Jugs, Tub, Trays, Pots, Buckets, Toys and Styrofoam™ Packaging

TRASH

Hygiene Products, Diapers and Pet Waste
Dish and Glassware
Paper Plates, Cups and Takeout Boxes
Tissues and Disposable Wipes
Plastic Bags, Wrappers and Film
Plastic Straws and Utensils, Products Labeled “Compostable” or “Biodegradable”

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Toxic Products, Electronic Waste, Paint, Bulbs, Batteries, Motor Oil, Needles and Syringes, Propane and Helium Tanks and Chemical Cleaners

Do not dispose of these items in the trash, recycling or organic waste recycling! They are considered toxic and could catch on fire. Residents can bring hazardous waste to Miramar Household Hazardous Waste Transfer Facility for free by appointment only. Call 858-694-7000 or visit sandiego.gov/hhw for more information or to make an appointment.

BULKY ITEMS

Furniture, Appliances and Mattresses

These items are too large to fit into a regular recycle or trash bin. Consult with your property management to understand your bulky item disposal options or check out WasteFreeSD.org. Do not dump bulky items where they don’t belong!

Learn more at RecyclingWorks.com
Remove any remaining food or liquid from a recyclable item by lightly rinsing or wiping to remove any remaining residue.

Gently shake out excess moisture or let the recyclable item air dry before placing it in a recycling container.

Do not put recyclables in a plastic bag as they get tangled in the sorting machinery. Reuse a household container, a paper grocery bag, a cardboard box or waste basket to empty your recyclables into your recycling cart or a bin outside.

Recycling Pro Tip:
Flatten your cardboard boxes!

One un-flattened cardboard box takes up the equivalent space of 6 flattened cardboard boxes! Save space in your recycling bin by remembering to empty and flatten your cardboard before recycling.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why can’t I recycle my plastic bags and plastic wrap in my home recycling bin?
A: Plastic bags get tangled in the machinery used to process recyclables, causing equipment problems, facility shutdowns and safety hazards to employees. Plastic bags can also blow out of trucks and bins, creating more litter in our environment. We encourage everyone to use reusable bags as often as possible. Please visit WasteFreeSD.org for plastic bag recycling options.

Q: Can I use compostable plastic bags or toss compostable products in the green bin?
A: No. Products labeled as “compostable” such as bags, take-out containers, coffee pods, cups, plates, serving ware and food packaging are not accepted in the green bin. The compost facility cannot always break these items down. They are considered contamination and degrade the quality of the finished compost. All plastic and compostable or biodegradable products should be placed in the trash bin. Additionally, please do not bag your food scraps in any type of plastic bags as our composting facility does not have the ability to separate food scraps from plastic bags.

Q: Do I need to empty the liquid or food from the container before recycling?
A: Yes. Liquid or leftover food can make your recyclables dirty and your entire container may become trash. When you empty and dry your recyclables, you allow your recyclables to be made into something new.

Q: What do I do with my old clothes and shoes?
A: Give your old clothes and shoes new life by repairing them, donating them to a charitable organization or thrift store, participating in a clothing swap with family and friends, or reselling them online or at a garage sale. Old clothing can also be reused as cleaning rags at home. Do not place clothing, shoes or textiles in your home recycling bin.