Recycling at Northwestern

Northwestern University recycles more than 2,500 tons of materials each year. Help us continue this success. Waste less. Recycle more.

What goes in recycling bins?

Paper and cardboard
- Office paper
- Cardboard
- Brochures and flyers
- Magazines and catalogs
- Junk mail
- Newspaper
- Envelopes
- Paperback books
- Paper bags
- Drink boxes
- Milk or juice cartons
- Paperboard (e.g. cereal boxes)

Cans and foil
- Aluminum and steel cans
- Aluminum foil and trays

Glass
- Glass bottles and jars

Plastic
- Plastic containers #1 – #5 (e.g. bottles, jugs, yogurt cups/tubs, 6-pack rings)

What goes in trash bins (landfill)?

- Paper cups
- Food wrappers
- Plastic bags and film
- Paper towels, napkins, tissues
- Greasy/dirty cardboard or paper

- #6 plastic (Styrofoam)
- #7 plastic/unlabeled plastic
- Ceramics
- Drinking glasses
- Laminated paper/stickers

Other recycling

To learn how to recycle other items such as electronics, batteries, and ink cartridges, or to learn about composting, go to northwestern.edu/recycle.

Learn more at northwestern.edu/recycle

Northwestern sustainNU