



**Alameda County Industries**

We are proud to be your service provider for  
**Recyclables, Organics & Garbage.**

## AVOID WISHCYCLING

Make sure everything you put into the Blue **Recyclables** cart/bin is recyclable. Non-recyclable materials cause contamination, can damage sorting machinery, and result in recyclables in the landfill.

Listed below are some of the common items that contaminate the recyclables stream.

### PLASTIC TAKEOUT/TO-GO CONTAINERS = GARBAGE

Use/request recyclable/compostable/reusable options.



### STYROFOAM® = GARBAGE

Contain multiple pieces in a single bag for collection. Avoid products with excessive and/or non-recyclable packaging.



### PLASTIC PLATES/CUPS/UTENSILS = GARBAGE

Provide reusable options. Keep reusable cutlery with you to use when needed.



### SHRINK WRAP/PLASTIC FILM/BAGS = GARBAGE

Contain multiple pieces for collection.



### BUBBLE WRAP = GARBAGE

Reuse whenever possible or choose environmentally friendly packaging options.



### CDS/DVDS/VHS TAPES = GARBAGE

If undamaged, try donating to a resale shop or charity before disposing.



### CEREAL BAGS/LINERS = GARBAGE

Try buying cereal in bulk to avoid excessive packaging.



### PET WASTE = GARBAGE



### CROCKERY/DISHWARE = GARBAGE



### ONLINE RETAILER SHIPPING BAGS = GARBAGE

Reuse when possible!



### PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS/DIAPERS = GARBAGE



### FOOD-SOILED PAPER TOWELS/NAPKINS/ TISSUES = ORGANICS



### CHIP/ SNACK PACKAGING = GARBAGE



## WHEN IN DOUBT...FIND OUT! CONTACT US:

WEB: [www.AlamedaCountyIndustries.com](http://www.AlamedaCountyIndustries.com)  
EMAIL: [info@AlamedaCountyIndustries.com](mailto:info@AlamedaCountyIndustries.com)  
PHONE: 510-357-7282



Printed on recycled paper.  
Please recycle again!

## Proper Sorting Makes a Difference!

*The most efficient sorting starts with you.*

*We thank you for all of your efforts.*

**SAY “NO” TO CONTAMINANTS!** Garbage and Organics **DO NOT** belong in the blue **RECYCLABLES** bin/cart.

**MAINTAIN A CLEAN STREAM!** Empty, rinse and wipe recyclable plastic, metal and glass food containers before placing them in the blue **RECYCLABLES** bin/cart.

**KEEP AN EYE ON SIZE!** Corrugated cardboard and paper boxes should be flattened and large pieces cut to 2' x 2' or smaller. This creates more room in the recycling bin/cart, prevents litter and keeps materials from getting stuck in carts and blocking the hopper of the collection vehicles.



## Reduce, Reuse and Repair Before You Recycle!

*Small changes in your purchasing habits and daily routine can make a big impact in reducing waste!*

**REPAIR INSTEAD OF PURCHASE.** Before you replace an item, see if it can be repaired. If you do purchase something new, find the highest quality/most durable option possible.



**CHOOSE REUSABLES.** Shop with reusable bags and totes, bring your travel mug to the coffee shop and carry a reusable water bottle with you!



**GO THRIFTING.** Reuse what you already have or purchase a “gently used” item from a resale/thrift shop or garage sale. Browse resale websites or share/trade items with friends and neighbors.

**PURCHASE PRODUCTS WITH MINIMAL PACKAGING.** Choose items with sustainable, reusable and recyclable packaging. Avoid single-serve and single-use items.



### Did You Know?

**40% of the material in the blue recyclables cart or bin is paper.**



Reduce paper waste by stopping unwanted mail.

- Remove your address from direct mail registries at: [www.directmail.com/mail\\_preference/](http://www.directmail.com/mail_preference/).
- Discontinue unwanted catalogs at: [www.CatalogChoice.org](http://www.CatalogChoice.org).
- Prevent automatic phonebook deliveries at: [www.YellowPagesOptOut.com](http://www.YellowPagesOptOut.com).

### FOR MORE REUSE AND REDUCTION TIPS VISIT:

- [www.AlamedaCountyIndustries.com](http://www.AlamedaCountyIndustries.com)
- [www.StopWaste.org](http://www.StopWaste.org)

**STOP WASTE**  
at home • at work • at school