

Tips and tricks to Recycle Everywhere in your home



Remembering to recycle everything from every room in your house can sometimes be challenging, especially when you're just trying to get the laundry done or get ready for work. We do well recycling kitchen items, but our bathrooms, laundry rooms and home offices have lots of recyclables we throw out. In fact, about half of home recyclables never make it to the recycling bin. Expand your recycling habit by using convenient recycling bins and signage and mix in a little education and fun. Recycle everywhere in your home with these tips and tricks.

Make recycling easy

- Put a recycling bin, bag or box next to every garbage can in your house.
- Label your bins with color-coded signs so that everyone knows how to sort their recycling and trash. Order free labels at www.hennepin.us/recycleeverywhere
- Get creative if you have limited space:
 - o Hang a bag on the doorknob of your bathroom, laundry room or office for recyclables. Empty the bag into your recycling cart once it's full. If it's a paper bag, you can recycle the bag as well.
 - o Hang a recycling bin inside your bathroom or laundry room cabinet to save space and make it convenient.
 - o Set up a divided wastebasket with trash on one side and recycling on the other.
 - o Hang waste containers from the door or mount them on the wall.



Recycle in every room

Did you know there are more than 20 items in the bathroom alone that are recyclable? Find more items to recycle by reviewing this list.

Bathroom

- Shampoo, soap, lotion, mouthwash and contact lens cleaner bottles. Keep caps on plastic bottles, but remove and toss pumps and spray nozzles.
- Boxes from toothpaste, medication and other toiletries
- Empty medicine bottles
- Empty toilet paper rolls
- Plastic containers from baby wipes and cleaning wipes



Office

- Paper. If shredded, place in a closed paper bag.
- Mail
- Catalogs, magazines and newspaper
- Office supply boxes
- Paper file folders
- Soft cover books
- Tissue boxes



Laundry room

- Laundry detergent and fabric softener bottles. Keep caps on plastic bottles.
- Stain remover and other cleaner bottles. Remove and toss spray pumps.
- Cat litter jugs and boxes
- Dryer sheet and laundry detergent boxes



Make it fun



Involve the entire family in recycling by making it fun.

- Have your kids make a "please recycle" reminder sign that shows what items can go in the recycling bin.
- Bring every item to the recycling bin or cart right away – it will increase your step count!
- Cut out an image of a celebrity or action hero and post it on the fridge with a fun quote, such as "Recycling rocks!"
- Make it a challenge: Try to generate only one bag of trash a week. Once you've conquered that, get a smaller trash can.
- Place a basketball rim above the recycling bin so your family can slam dunk their recyclables.
- Help younger kids learn what can be recycled by writing an R on everything in the house that is recyclable.

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