



Recycling Naughty and Nice List!

Before you place your blue bins at the curb, take a moment to understand what you should and should not recycle.

The extra effort to get it right saves money! After your recyclables leave your home, there are a number of processes that they go through from collection to sorting. Proper recycling saves time at the recycling centre and avoids costly problems. **Follow these tips to make recycling more beneficial for everyone.**



1. Put gift wrap and bags in the trash can.

These paper items are coated with plastic or foil and contain coloured dyes, making them non-recyclable. When mixed with newsprint and other paper, they cause big problems for the paper mills.



2. Flatten your boxes.

With the extra volume of recycling during the holidays, recycling trucks need all the space they can get. Break down, flatten and bundle your cardboard boxes or stack them flattened in your recycling bin.



3. Plastic bags are not the kind of plastic we're looking for.

When plastic bags are placed in your recycling bins, they clog up the recycling system. With all the spinning parts at the recycling centre, plastic bags get wound up in the equipment and can shut down operations. Place plastic bags in the garbage, or locate a retail store that has a take-back program for bags. Plasticfilmrecycling.org



4. Avoid "Wishcycling."

Just because you wish you could recycle something, doesn't mean you can. When you throw something in the recycling bin that doesn't belong there, you are wishcycling, and it contaminates items that can be recycled. Here are some items that should stay out of the recycle bin.

- ▶ Clementine boxes
- ▶ Plastic toys
- ▶ Styrofoam™ and bubble wrap
- ▶ Paper napkins, towel, and soiled paper plates (compost instead!)



5. Cups and cartons belong with other containers.

Things like take-out coffee cups, milk cartons, and juice boxes often end up in the wrong bin. Here's a tip to help you sort it right: If you can drink out of it, it's a container. These items belong with other containers in your recycling bin and shouldn't be recycled with paper.

Thank you for taking the time to sort it right!

**Communities recycling together.
Learn more at london.ca/recycle**



Space provided through a partnership between industry and Ontario municipalities to support waste diversion programs.