

2020 Required Newsletter Article

Let's get back to basics [142 words]

It's time to get back to recycling basics. Only when our recycling is clean and without contamination does it help protect our forests, lakes and air. Minnesotans are throwing away more than 285,000 tons of paper and 12,000 tons of aluminum cans each year — all of which have been recyclable for decades.

Be a confident recycler by following these rules:

- ✓ Do not use plastic bags for recyclables
- ✓ Recycle bottles, cans, and paper – keep them empty and dry
- ✓ Keep plastic bags, batteries, and things that can tangle out of your recycling cart
- ✓ When in doubt, throw it out – no more hoping that an item is recyclable. If you don't know, don't recycle it.

Keep out things you're not sure about – only clean recycling gets recycled. Use the online [Green Guide](#) at www.dakotacounty.us to help know if an item is recyclable and where to take items that aren't recyclable.

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