

Not Accepted



No Unrecoverable Plastics

Any plastic items numbered



No Styrofoam

Foam cups, plates
Party cups
Egg cartons
Packing peanuts
Carry-out containers
Formed packing pieces

No Plastic Bags or Wrap

Grocery bags
Zip-top bags
Plastic wrap
Bread wrappers
Chip bags
Garbage bags
Pet food/feed bags
Plastic packaging
Shipping envelopes
Bubble wrap
Salt bags

No Rigid Plastics

Pet litter pails
Buckets
Paint containers
Laundry baskets
Garbage cans
Storage boxes
Flower pots
Hangers
Toys

No Used Paper Products

Paper plates
Paper cups
Paper towels
Tissues, wipes
Tablecloths
Wrapping paper
Padded envelopes



No Shredded Paper



No Aluminum Foil or Pans



No Plate Glass

Windows
Mirrors
Fish Tanks



No Glassware

Ceramics
China
Glassware
Lightbulbs



Not All Materials Can Be Recycled

Recycling is market-driven. Anything could be recycled IF there is a demand for that product. Unfortunately, recycling markets have decreased in recent years.

Recycle symbols DO NOT guarantee it's recyclable



This symbol indicates the type of plastic used to make the product. For instance, Styrofoam and red picnic cups are both a number 6 made from low-density polystyrene. There is no market for recycling this type of plastic in Linn County.

What happens if I try to recycle something that is NOT recyclable?

Unaccepted items in the recycling stream can contaminate an entire load of materials. Recycling processing centers reject loads that contain non-accepted items. If rejected, the materials are trucked back to the landfill for disposal. This added time and fuel consumption increases the overall costs for recycling.

SolidWaste
Cedar Rapids • Linn County
Agency

(319) 377-5290

1954 County Home Road, Marion

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www.SolidWasteAgency.org

Recycling Tip

Keep non-accepted materials out of the recycling stream!

Make your recycling and waste reduction efforts count!

- 1** Make sure items to be recycled are **empty, clean, and dry!**
- 2** Choose reusable grocery bags and water bottles.
- 3** Limit your use of single-use disposable items. For instance, decline a straw or lid on your drink when dining in.
- 4** Purchase reusable durable cookware such as glass or metal pie plates and roasting pans.
- 5** Packaging materials are a large part of our waste stream. Be aware of the amount of packaging an item has and consider similar items with less packaging.

Plastic



PLASTIC Containers   **ONLY**
PETE HDPE

Items must be **EMPTY, CLEAN & DRY!**



**No food remnants
or dirty items**

No plastics numbered



**No Styrofoam, Drink Cups,
Rigid Plastic Items,
Shipping Envelopes
or Plastic Bags**



Plastic Recycling

The Solid Waste Agency accepts some plastic materials for recycling from Linn County residents. There is no charge for this service. **All items must be empty, clean, and dry!**

Plastics Accepted

#1 PETE containers including deposit and non-deposit items

#2 HDPE containers including milk and juice jugs

Plastics NOT Accepted

#3, #4, #5, #7 plastic containers

Styrofoam (#6)

Plastic bags/film including trash bags, grocery bags, plastic wrap, pet food bags, feed bags

Rigid plastics including buckets, garbage cans, laundry baskets, flower pots, toys, hangers

Used automotive oil containers

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Recycling Tip

All items should be recycled loose, NOT in a bag or box. Plastic bags will clog and damage sorting machines, adding to the cost of sorting for all materials.

More about Plastics:

1 Not all plastics are economically viable in recycling streams.

2 Plastics which have NOT been rinsed clean before recycling are a main contributor to contamination of the recycling stream. Food contaminated items decrease the value of all materials being processed.

3 China has stopped importing the world's plastics due in part to food contamination. In response, the world markets for these plastics collapsed and their value quickly decreased.

4 Plastic processing facilities once purchased many types of plastic. Many now only accept clean, high-value plastics like water bottles.

Paper



**Newspaper - Cereal Boxes - Magazines
Catalogs - Mixed Household & Office Paper
Milk/Juice Cartons
Beer/Pop Carriers**

**Items must be
EMPTY, CLEAN & DRY!**



No food remnants or used/dirty items



No Shredded Paper or Padded Envelopes



The window material in envelopes, plastic piece on tissue boxes and metal tear-strip on foil boxes can all remain attached when recycling these items.

Paper Recycling

The Solid Waste Agency accepts some paper products for recycling from Linn County residents. There is no charge for this service. **All items must be empty, clean, and dry!**

Paper Products Accepted

Newspaper, office paper, mail

Magazines, catalogs

Cereal boxes

Brown paper bags

Milk and juice containers

Frozen food packaging

Paper Products NOT Accepted

Shredded paper

Wrapping and tissue paper

Paper with food, paint, or oily residue

Napkins, tissues, wax paper, paper towels, coffee filters, cups

Photographs

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More about Paper:

1 A paper product's recyclable value is measured by the quality of its fibers. Each time paper is recycled the fiber quality and length decreases. Eventually, the paper product is no longer viable for recycling.

2 Shredding paper immediately reduces the quality of the fibers and allows for the small bits of paper to fall through sorting machines ending up in the rejected materials.

3 Wrapping paper often has a plastic coating that processing facilities cannot separate from the paper fibers.

4 Because sorters cannot quickly determine which wrapping papers have plastic coatings, all wrapping papers cannot be accepted.

Cardboard



Wavy core **CORRUGATED**
CARDBOARD

Items must be **EMPTY,**
CLEAN & DRY!

Break down and
flatten boxes.



No food remnants, grease,
paint, dirty or wet items



No packing materials
No cardboard with
attached foam or
wax-coatings

Cardboard Recycling

The Solid Waste Agency accepts cardboard for recycling from Linn County residents. There is no charge for this service. **All items must be empty, clean, and dry!**

Cardboard Accepted

Clean, wavy core, corrugated cardboard

Break down and flatten boxes

Cardboard NOT Accepted

Cardboard with attached Styrofoam or bubble wrap

Pizza boxes with food or greasy residue

Cardboard that is stained or soaked with liquids

Cardboard with wax-coatings

Recycling Tip

Pizza boxes are often covered in food residue. If the top of the box is clean, tear it from the bottom and recycle. Then discard the food/grease contaminated bottom section.

More about Cardboard:

1 A paper product's recyclable value is measured by the quality of its fibers. Each time paper is recycled the fiber quality and length decreases. Eventually, the paper product is no longer viable for recycling.

2 Cardboard has the longest, most valuable paper fibers for recycling.

3 Wet, oil or grease soaked, and food contaminated cardboard renders the fibers valueless in recycling markets.

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Central Florida • Linn County
Agency

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Glass



CLEAR and **COLORED** Food and Beverage Containers

Items must be **EMPTY**,
CLEAN & DRY!

Remove lids,
caps or corks



**No food remnants
or dirty items**



**No Ceramics, China, Fish Tanks, Glassware,
Lightbulbs, Mirrors or Windows**



Glass Recycling

The Solid Waste Agency accepts glass jars, bottles, and containers for recycling from Linn County residents. There is no charge for this service. **All items must be empty, clean, and dry!**

Glass Accepted

Beverage bottles

Jars

Containers

Glass NOT Accepted

Window and sheet glass including fish tanks

Mirrors

Bulbs of any type

Dishes, pottery, cookware, ceramics

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Recycling Tip

Please drop off your glass in the **green recycling container** located **outside the Resource Recovery building**. Labels can remain attached to glass recyclables.

More about Glass:

1 Glass recycled in Linn County is taken by Ripple Glass in Kansas City. It is made into bottles for Boulevard Brewing or insulation for Corning.

2 Glass is made from silica, the primary component of sand, and is completely recyclable.

3 Glass poses challenges in the recycling process. Broken glass mixed with other recyclables during the sorting process can damage equipment and injure workers.

4 Window glass, mirrors, and bulbs are not used to make food-grade bottles or containers and therefore have less value in recycling markets.

5 Because large amounts of fuel must be used to transport the heavy loads of glass, only clean, food-grade containers are viable for recycling.

Metal



ALUMINUM or STEEL Food and Beverage Containers

Items must be **EMPTY, CLEAN & DRY!**



No food remnants or dirty items



No Aluminum Foil or Aluminum Pans



Patio furniture, grills, shelving, and other large metal items are accepted in the **Scrap Metal** area, located **outside the Resource Recovery building**.

Metal Recycling

The Solid Waste Agency accepts metal cans and containers for recycling from Linn County residents. There is no charge for this service. **All items must be empty, clean, and dry!**

Metals Accepted

Aluminum cans including deposit and non-deposit items

Steel cans including fruit, vegetable and soup cans

Metals NOT Accepted

Any container with food residue

Aluminum foil and pans including pie plates

Wire hangers

Silverware

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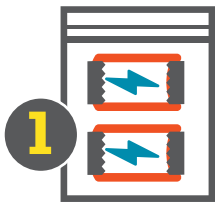
More about Metals:

- 1** Nearly 75% of all the aluminum produced in the U.S. is still in use today because of recycling. Aluminum and other metals can be recycled again and again without degrading in quality.
- 2** Metals need to be clean. Food residue will negatively impact other recyclables during the sorting and recycling processes.
- 3** Many facilities will not accept aluminum foil for recycling because of contamination. People are unlikely to clean their foil before recycling it.
- 4** Hangers are not accepted for recycling because they clog machinery and damage parts on the sorting lines. These problems increase processing costs more than the value of the metal.

TAKE CHARGE

WATT TO DO WITH BATTERIES

HOW TO RECYCLE



PLACE **ALL**
BATTERIES IN A
BOX OR BAG



DROP OFF AT
COLLECTION SITE

Batteries should
NEVER be placed in
your recycling bin or
household trash.

COLLECT **ALL** BATTERIES FOR RECYCLING

AA, AAA, C, D AND 9-VOLT BATTERIES

These household batteries may be labeled alkaline or rechargeable.



LITHIUM BATTERIES

Lithium batteries can still spark a fire even if they cannot power their equipment.

Built-in batteries?

If the batteries cannot be removed, bring in the entire product for proper disposal.



SMALL, SEALED, LEAD-ACID BATTERIES

These batteries can be recharged by a household outlet. They contain hazardous chemicals that could harm family and pets or contaminate land and waterways if disposed of improperly.

Found in battery-powered scooters, remote control cars and many other toys and products.



WHY SHOULD YOU RECYCLE BATTERIES?

Recycling keeps your family and pets safe, conserves our natural resources and protects our communities.



BRING US ALL OF YOUR BATTERIES!

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IF NOT DISPOSED OF PROPERLY, MANY BATTERIES CAN SPARK FIRES OR EXPLOSIONS.

Some batteries contain hazardous chemicals that can be harmful to your family and pets. If landfilled, these batteries can contaminate land and waterways.

BATTERIES SHOULD NEVER BE PLACED IN RECYCLING BINS OR HOUSEHOLD TRASH.



SHARPS



Correct Disposal Containers for SHARPS



**Approved Containers
for Medical Waste**



**Empty Laundry
Detergent Containers**



DO NOT USE for collection of SHARPS



Milk Jugs



Cardboard Boxes



Plastic Bags

SHARPS Disposal

The Solid Waste Agency accepts medical SHARPS such as needles, lancets and syringes from Linn County residents for proper disposal. There is no charge for this service.

Businesses, including home health care providers, are not eligible to use this SHARPS disposal service.

Collect and transport SHARPS in a durable container.

The EPA recommends residents secure SHARPS in a durable container with a lid. A liquid laundry detergent container would be a good choice. Do not use milk jugs, cardboard boxes or plastic bags as these containers are not thick enough to be handled safely.

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Disposal Tip

Boldly label “**SHARPS**” on all containers used for collecting medical waste items.

More about SHARPS:

1 Medical SHARPS are not recyclable. They are stored in a special container until they can be sent to a third-party processor. The final step in the disposal process is incineration or landfilling, depending on the processor and area of the country.

2 Improper management of discarded needles and other medical SHARPS can pose serious health risks to waste workers. Needle stick injuries and possible infection can occur when containers break open or medical waste is mistakenly sent to a recycling facility. Used needles can transmit serious diseases.