

Working together for
a cleaner South
Africa - 18 July 2014

Easy Guide to Recycling

WASTE SEPARATION AT SOURCE

CONTACT DETAILS

If you are not sure whether a material should be included
in the recycling bin or not or for any other questions on
recycling please ask:

Call centre: 086 111 2468
Website: www.environment.gov.za



environmental affairs
Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



WHY DO WE RECYCLE?

- Conserve natural resources by re-using the waste for the manufacture of new items instead of using natural resources all the time.
- To save landfill airspace so that our landfill sites can last for longer and not need additional land which we can use for other things e.g. agriculture, housing etc.
- Contribute towards reducing the contributors to global warming (landfill gas).
- Saves energy. The production of some products from recycled materials uses far less energy than the production of the same product from raw materials.
- Reduces pollution which could have resulted in the disposal of the material.
- Creates jobs. The involvement of people in the value chain creates additional job opportunities.



HOW CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS RECYCLING?

1. Separate recyclable waste from the other waste that cannot be recycled in your household. The benefits of separating recyclables in your home include the following:

- Recyclables remain clean (not contaminated by other waste), therefore
 - ◇ Can fetch a higher price when being sold.
 - ◇ Will not be rejected by processors (recyclers) and end up being disposed to landfill.
 - The collection of the waste is easier and efficient.
 - ◇ A truck with recyclables can go straight to a recycling facility and the other truck for other waste can go straight to the landfill.
2. Buy products made from recycled material. This will ensure the sustainability of the recycling sector.

HOW SHOULD YOU SEPARATE YOUR WASTE?

- Place all waste listed under “required” into the bin/refuse bag identified for “Recyclables”.
- Place the rest of the waste in the other bin/refuse bag identified for “Other Waste”.
- Place both your bins/refuse bags outside for collection on the designated day (Nelson Mandela Day, 18 July) for collection.

WHICH WASTE IS REQUIRED FOR RECYCLING?

REQUIRED

Please put in the “Recyclables” bin.

✓	Paper (cardboard, newspapers, magazines)
✓	Glass (containers - jars and bottles)
✓	Plastics (bags and containers - bottles)
✓	Metal (Food and drink cans)
✓	Tetra Packs (foil lined containers e.g. milk and juice boxes)
✓	Polystyrene/Styrofoam

Notes:

- Remove all caps and lids
- Empty all contents and rinse (bottles and jars)
- Flatten all plastic and paper containers/boxes
- Ensure that bottles are not broken

NOT REQUIRED

Please put in the “Other Waste” bin

X	Chemicals: medicine, paint, solvents
X	Organics (food leftovers, vegetable and fruit peels, garden waste)
X	Clothing
X	Disposable nappies
X	E - waste e.g. cell phones
X	Batteries

Notes:

- Some of the waste types listed above are recyclable, but are not collected for this project.