

# Helpful Tips for **Successful Recycling**

The City is calling on homes and businesses in Fremont to help in reducing the amount of garbage being thrown into recycling bins. Non-recyclable materials or garbage in the recycling can result from confusion about what is recyclable, or well-intentioned individuals trying to do too much. Strict quality standards are now being

enforced by the world's import markets and require recyclables to be free of contaminants. It is more important than ever to recycle correctly to ensure our recycled materials are accepted for reuse. This not only helps to keep garbage bills from increasing, but helps protect the environment by conserving natural resources.

## ► Keep it simple.

| METAL  | PLASTIC   | PAPER   | GLASS   |
|--|---|---|---|
|  |  |                 |  |
| <b>Metal Cans</b><br>aluminum, steel and tin cans                                | <b>Plastic Bottles &amp; Containers</b><br>bottles, jars, jugs and tubs           | <b>Paper &amp; Cardboard</b><br>boxes, mail, newspaper, magazines, paper bags and paper packaging | <b>Glass Bottles &amp; Jars</b><br>beverage and food containers                     |

## ► Recycle right.

**Do Not Include:** Trash, food waste or food soiled paper, plastic bags, Styrofoam, clothing, shoes, hangers, batteries, or hazardous or medical waste

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |
| <b>Keep food and food soiled paper out of the recycling bin</b>                     | <b>Do not put clothing, shoes or other textiles in the recycling bin</b>            | <b>Styrofoam items go in the trash</b>  |

Contact the City's Environmental Services Division if you have any questions about how to recycle properly. Visit [www.Fremont.gov/Environment](http://www.Fremont.gov/Environment) or call 510-494-4570.

## Here are Some Helpful Guidelines:

### ► No plastic bags

These belong in the trash from now on. Loose bags tangle up in the recycling equipment and contaminate the good mixed paper, which does more harm than good!

### ► Rinse bottles and jars

Containers must be empty with no liquids or food residue in order to be recycled. A few tablespoons of peanut butter or pasta sauce can contaminate a ton of paper making it unrecyclable and destined for the landfill. Dirty containers go in the trash.

### ► Food-soiled paper goes in the green organics bin

Any waxed paper, or paper that is food-contaminated, greasy or wet should not be placed in the recycling bin. Put these items into the green bin for composting.

### ► When in doubt, throw it out

Bottles, cans, jars, paper, and cardboard are the primary items you recycle at home, work, and school. Stick to these basic materials because trying to recycle too many improper items in the hope they will be reused hurts the program rather than helps it.