



America Recycles Day is November 15: What to Know Before You Throw

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Supply chain shortages make proper recycling more important than ever

PHOENIX, Nov. 10, 2021 /PRNewswire/ -- With supply chain issues limiting the availability of raw materials, it's more important than ever to recycle, and to recycle correctly. [Republic Services](#) (NYSE: RSG), a leader in environmental services, is celebrating America Recycles Day on November 15 by sharing simple tips designed to help households recycle properly.

A 2020 Republic Services survey revealed that 75 percent of Americans believe recycling is important but don't always do it. A quarter of these respondents cited a lack of understanding of what can and can't be recycled as a barrier. The following recycling best practices from Republic Services take some of the mystery out of the process:

1. **Know what to throw.** Do your research about which items are recyclable in your community. Typically, items like [plastic](#) water bottles and jugs, [aluminum](#) and [tin cans](#), and [cardboard](#) are recyclable. And, when in doubt, throw it out.
2. **Empty. Clean. Dry.™** Make sure containers are free of food or other residues. Take a few moments to rinse and dry items before tossing them in your recycling bin.
3. **Don't bag it.** Plastic grocery bags and garbage bags cannot be recycled curbside. Put your recyclables directly into your blue recycling container to be sure those loads don't end up in the landfill.
4. **Understand Recycling Symbols:** It is a common misconception that numbers on the bottom of plastic materials indicate whether an item is recyclable. Be sure to check with your local recycling provider for specific guidance on [recycling plastics](#).

"Items that can be extracted from the waste stream and recycled support a circular economy, giving materials a second life as a new product," said Pete Keller, vice president of recycling and sustainability. "Republic Services is making recycling easier by breaking down some of the perceived complexities and helping more Americans make it part of their daily routine."

To help consumers improve their recycling habits, Republic Services created [Recycling Simplified](#), which provides an array of consumer tips and resources, and a curriculum with at-home and school-based lesson plans for pre-kindergarten through 12th-grade students.

Visit [RecyclingSimplified.com](#) for more information about why and how to recycle.

About Republic Services

Republic Services, Inc. is a leader in the U.S. environmental services industry. Through its subsidiaries, the Company provides superior customer experience while fostering a sustainable Blue Planet® for future generations to enjoy a cleaner, safer and healthier world. For more information, visit [RepublicServices.com](#), or follow us at [Facebook.com/RepublicServices](#), [@RepublicService](#) on Twitter or Republic Services on [LinkedIn](#).

Why should we recycle this America Recycles Day?



IT'S GOOD FOR THE ECONOMY
The recycling industry accounts for about **681K jobs** and **\$37.8B in wages** each year.

REDUCE LANDFILL WASTE
About **32%** of municipal solid waste is recycled. So, by recycling, we're cutting down on waste by a third!

CONSERVE RESOURCES
Creating something out of recycled plastic requires **65-88%** less energy than making it from new plastic.

PREVENT POLLUTION
Return your plastic bags to the grocery store to keep them from ending up in our oceans. **They are recyclable, just not curbside.**

IT'S SIMPLE!
Don't overthink it! Recyclables include **clean cardboard, paper, metal cans, and plastic bottles and jugs.**

When it comes to recycling, everyone has a part to play. Working together this America Recycles Day - and every day - we can make sure recyclable materials don't end up in our lakes and landfills.

Happy AMERICA RECYCLES DAY

Recycling Simplified



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