

Recycling Specifications

Recycling, or Co-Mingled Recycling (typically a blue label or container)

*These containers take most of our recycling. Instead of sorting each individual kind of recycling (plastic, metals, paper) we typically use a single stream recycling method, as a catch all, to simplify our recycling practices.

Items that can go in these containers include:

Plastics

- bottles and jars
- any kind of stretchy plastic
- wax coated cups and milk cartons

*No “crinkly” plastics, or food wrappers (such as candy wrappers or chip bags)

Metals

- Aluminum and tin food containers such as soup cans, or soda cans.

Paper

- Any kind of paper
 - Office paper
 - Newspaper
 - Magazines
 - Folders
 - Paperboard (such as cereal boxes)
 - Even Paperback books

*No paper towels or tissues please!

Cardboard

- Corrugated cardboard
 - Shipping boxes
 - CLEAN pizza boxes (greasy pizza box parts can go in Compost!)

*Please break down all boxes. In Residence Halls, please place on ground under Cardboard sign!

Glass (typically a red label or container)

It is very important for glass to be separated out into its own container for the safety of our staff.

- Brown, clear, green (any color!) can all go in the same container.
 - Unbroken glass is preferred (it's a safety hazard for our staff if it is broken).

*No mirrors, light bulbs, ceramics, or window glass please!

Compost (typically a little green bucket, or green tote)

In Academic and office buildings these are often in break rooms (typically under sinks near a coffee pot), or near the recycling receptacles in hallways. Residence Halls typically have one per kitchen space.

*If you would like a Compost bucket for yourself (if you live in South Hall or off-campus) you are welcome to take one from the

- Food waste, including:
 - Food scraps
 - Flowers, or other plants
 - Coffee grounds and filters
 - Food contaminated paper, such as napkins, to-go boxes (from the commons, no Styrofoam containers), and greasy pizza boxes
 - Paper plates and cups (including your to-go coffee cups, please take off plastic lids and recycle them separately!)

**No metal, plastic, glass, or Styrofoam please!

Special Collection (these items will need to be picked up by Waste Diversion Staff, and most often do not have a specified bin)

- Batteries
- Light bulbs
- Styrofoam
- Packing peanuts

*If you are in a Residence Hall, please place styrofoam next to cardboard area neatly. Packing peanuts must be placed in their own bag (such as a plastic grocery bag, or even an unbroken down box) and placed with cardboard!

Trash (often a black label, sometimes referred to as Landfill, large green totes, or dumpsters for Residence Halls)

- Anything not listed above. Some common items that are placed in recycling but are actually trash are:
 - Styrofoam food containers
 - Tissues
 - Food wrappers (candy wrappers, chip bags, crinkly plastic wrapping, condiment packets)
 - Plastic Utensils

Any questions or concern regarding recycling at PLU please contact the Waste Diversion Department, recycle@plu.edu, 253-535-7170