



DROP-OFF RECYCLING FAQ

VAN BUREN COUNTY, VISIT YOUR NEW & IMPROVED DROP-OFF RECYCLING SITES!

WHAT IS A RECYCLING DROP-OFF PROGRAM?

A recycling drop-off program is a community-based initiative that allows community members to drop off recyclable materials at designated collection sites. This is a great way to recycle when curbside pickup is unavailable.

WHERE CAN I FIND THE RECYCLING DROP-OFF (TRANSFER STATION) NEAREST ME?

You can find the list of drop-off locations at VanBurenCD.org/recycling, or you can contact Van Buren Conservation District at 269-633-9314.

ARE THERE SPECIFIC HOURS OF OPERATION FOR RECYCLING DROP-OFF LOCATIONS?

Yes, our drop-off locations have set hours of operation or accessibility. Check our webpage for their schedule to ensure you drop off your recyclables at the right time.

WHAT MATERIALS CAN I DROP OFF?

Below is a list of what can be dropped off. Please also visit our webpage at VanBurenCD.org/recycling for more information and other program guidelines.

All containers should be empty and dry and free of all food and food residue. Unclean containers and food can cause odors and attract pests. Replace caps on empty plastic containers.

IS THERE A FEE TO DROP-OFF RECYCLING?

Each site varies, see VanBurenCD.org/recycling

DO I NEED TO SORT MY RECYCLABLES BEFORE DROPPING THEM OFF?

No, our drop-off sites collect material in single-stream containers, so all recycling is mixed together. No sorting needed.

CAN I DROP OFF MATERIALS IN PLASTIC BAGS?

No. Avoid placing recyclables in plastic bags into drop-off containers. Plastic bags can create safety, mechanical and quality issues at recycling facilities. Instead, use reusable bins to store and bring your recyclables to the drop-off location. If you must use bags to transport your recycling to the drop-off, make sure to empty those bags into the recycling collection containers and take the bags with you. All recycling should be loose in the bin.

CAN I DROP OFF MATERIALS THAT ARE SOILED OR DIRTY, LIKE PIZZA BOXES WITH GREASE STAINS?

No, it's best to avoid dropping off heavily soiled with food or grease, or containers still full of food, as they can contaminate the recycling stream, and can attract pests, insects, and rodents.



RECYCLE

THANK YOU FOR RECYCLING THESE:



Paper



Cardboard



Metal



Plastic



Glass



Paper and Cartons



Cardboard
(flatten)



Aluminum and Steel Cans
(empty and dry)



Plastic Bottles, Jars and Jugs
(empty and dry)



Glass Bottles and Jars
(empty and dry)

NO!



No Plastic Bags or Plastic Wraps
(store drop-off only)



Do Not Bag Recyclables
(no trash)



No Cords, Hoses or Chains



No Food or Liquid
(empty all containers)



No Flammables, Fuel Tanks, or Batteries



VanBurenCD.org/recycling
269-633-9314



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DO I NEED TO REMOVE LABELS AND CAPS FROM BOTTLES AND CONTAINERS BEFORE RECYCLING THEM?

No, leave labels and caps on bottles and containers.

CAN I RECYCLE PLASTIC BAGS OR PLASTIC WRAP AT THE RECYCLING DROP-OFF?

No. Plastic bags and wrap cause equipment jams at the recycling processing facility. Your household plastic film—like grocery bags, drink case wrapping, cling wrap, and bubble wrap—can be dropped off at almost any large retail or grocery store for recycling. Most people save up their clean and dry plastic film and take it to the grocery store every few months.

CAN I RECYCLE SHREDDED PAPER AT THE RECYCLING DROP-OFF?

Yes, shredded paper is allowed in the recycling container if contained inside a bag. This will ensure the shredded paper doesn't become a litter hazard at the drop-off site and ensure it will make it through the recycling process.

CAN BUSINESSES OR COMMERCIAL ENTITIES USE THE RECYCLING DROP-OFF PROGRAM?

No, the recycling drop-off program is designed for residential use only, both from single-family and multifamily residents.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE MATERIALS I DROP OFF FOR RECYCLING?

The materials you drop off are taken to Recycle Works in Elkhart, Indiana where they are sorted and processed for recycling. They are then turned into new products or materials, reducing the need for new resources and creating a circular economy.

HOW CAN I STAY UPDATED ON CHANGES TO MY LOCAL RECYCLING DROP-OFF PROGRAM?

To stay informed about any program changes, such as new locations or guidelines, sign up for notifications through our website VanBurenCD.org/recycling or social media channels facebook.com/VanBurenCD. You can also visit our website frequently or contact us directly for information updates at 269-633-9314.

WHAT DO I DO WITH ITEMS LIKE LIGHT BULBS OR BATTERIES?

Light bulbs and batteries are considered hazardous waste and should not be placed in regular recycling. You can drop these off for safe and proper disposal at Van Buren Recycle Roundup Events. For more information, call 269-633-9314 or visit us online at VanBurenCD.org/van-buren-county-recycling-collections/.

WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH OLD ELECTRONICS, SUCH AS COMPUTERS OR SMARTPHONES?

We accept electronics at our recycling drop-off sites in South Haven and Paw Paw. Please call us for a full list of acceptable electronics or visit our webpage VanBurenCD.org/recycling-guides for more information. Additionally, we host several electronics recycling events annually. Electronics recycling event dates will be posted on our website.

ARE THERE ANY ITEMS THAT ARE NEVER ACCEPTED AT RECYCLING DROP-OFF CENTERS?

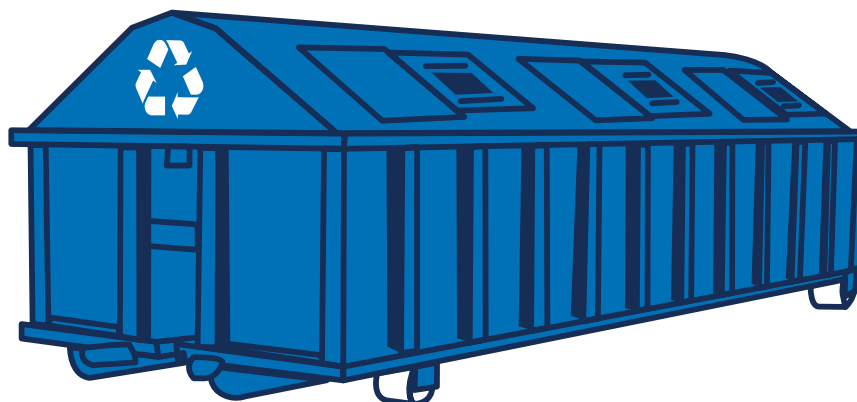
Yes, items like medical waste, hazardous chemicals, and sharp objects are not accepted at our recycling drop-off. These items require specialized disposal methods. Visit our website VanBurenCD.org/recycling or contact us directly at 269-633-9314 for more information.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I MISTAKENLY PUT NON-RECYCLABLE ITEMS IN THE RECYCLING BIN AT A DROP-OFF LOCATION?

Putting non-recyclable items in recycling can disrupt the recycling process and cause safety, labor, and cost issues. Pay attention to signage in the drop-off location to know what can and cannot be recycled in that location.

WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH MATERIALS THAT AREN'T ACCEPTED AT THE DROP-OFF?

Materials that aren't accepted for drop-off, such as hazardous waste or large appliances, should be properly disposed of or recycled at designated facilities. Contact us at 269-633-9314 or visit our webpage VanBurenCD.org/recycling-guides for more guidance.



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