



Date: _____

Oops!

The recycling bin located in _____
had these items that cannot be recycled:

Food and Dirty Items

- Food waste Drink containers (not emptied)
- Food soiled items: Napkins/paper towels/tissues
- Liquids Other:

Unacceptable Plastics

- Snack packaging (chip bags, candy wrappers, etc.)
- Straws Utensils Plastic bags/film
- Clamshell containers (with hinged lid)
- Other:

Warehouse Pick-up Recyclables

Furniture, textbooks, electronics, scrap metal, and pallets can be recycled via Warehouse pick-up, but not in your recycling bin.

(Turn Over)



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Comments:

- Cardboard boxes must be flattened before recycling.
- Containers must be empty before recycling.
- Display recycling posters above indoor recycling bins.
- Other:

Remember:

Placing unacceptable materials in the recycling bin can contaminate an entire load of recycling and cause it to be rejected by the recycling truck and sent to the landfill.

Need Help? Contact our School Green Team!



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Oops Card

Tips and Suggested Use:

- **Print double sided and cut along lines.**
- Check all items found in bin/can. Add additional notes for other items or comments to help improve.
- Students can periodically check bins and give feedback using Oops! Cards.
- Use the cards to help improve recycling in classrooms, offices, break rooms, etc.
- Use with the Oops! Trash Can Card to encourage participants to correctly sort their waste and increase recycling of acceptable items.
- Remind students: when giving feedback on what they find in the recycling bin, identify incorrect items but keep it positive to encourage participants to recycle!
- Use the Oops cards with a Waste Audit as a student activity.
- Consider having a schoolwide contest focusing on classroom recycling bins; announce the winners weekly—classrooms that had only correct items in the bin for the week.
- Have students record results of the audit to track improvements over time, then share these results with the individual classrooms/offices and your school community. This is a great way to encourage and increase recycling participation. Be sure to keep it positive!