

# Prince George's County Public Schools Recycling Program

Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) can recycle materials via mixed (single stream) recycling bins and dumpsters, warehouse pickup, and ink and toner return programs.

## Acceptable items in PGCPS recycling bins and dumpsters:

### Paper

- ✓ Office paper (place shredded paper in a clear plastic bag), colored paper
- ✓ Envelopes, files, folders, notebooks and notebook paper, catalogs, junk mail
- ✓ Paper bags, newspapers (including inserts), magazines, posters
- ✓ Wrapping paper (no plastic or glitter)

### Cardboard

- ✓ Cardboard (flatten boxes)
- ✓ Empty milk/juice cartons and juice boxes (remove straw)

### Plastic

- ✓ Empty plastic containers numbered 1, 2, 3, 5, or 7
- ✓ Empty plastic bottles and caps, plastic drink cups (No #6 plastics)
- ✓ Empty plastic narrow-neck and wide-mouth containers, including caps and lids
- ✓ Empty plastic cereal bowls (remove paper top), fruit/salad cups and lids (No #6 plastics)

### Metal

- ✓ Empty metal food and beverage containers and lids
- ✓ Aluminum foil, aluminum pie pans
- ✓ Empty metal cans (for soup, vegetable, fruit, etc.)

### Glass

- ✓ Empty food and beverage containers of any color

## Unacceptable Items—Do not place these items in PGCPS recycling containers:

- Textbooks, furniture, electronics and accessories, scrap metal—complete a Material Transfer Form to schedule a warehouse recycling pickup
- Empty ink cartridges and toner tubes— return to manufacturer via pre-paid labels in original box
- ✗ NO #6 Plastics (our recycling facility does not accept #6 plastics), no Styrofoam or Polystyrene
- ✗ NO Food
- ✗ NO Dirty/Food-soiled paper trays, plates, or pizza boxes, NO paper cups
- ✗ NO Tissues or napkins
- ✗ NO Plastic utensils, straws, condiment packets
- ✗ NO Plastic bags/film—no trash bags, sandwich bags, grocery bags, bubble wrap, etc.
- ✗ NO Snack packaging—chip bags, granola/energy bar wrappers, candy wrappers, etc.
- ✗ NO Drink or food pouches
- ✗ NO Hazardous materials, broken glass; No Branches or yard materials



**GREEN BY CHOICE**

Prince George's County Public Schools Recycle!

Find out more at [www.pgcps.org/recycling](http://www.pgcps.org/recycling) or contact the PGCPS Recycling Team at 301.952.6544.

Date:

# PGCPS Simple Recycling Audit

Please look in all recycling and trash bins within your area and complete the following for each bin you audit. You do not need to rummage through the bin, simply conduct a visual assessment.

**PLEASE TAKE A PHOTO** of the inside of the bins you visit to share with your team.

Location Audited (Room # or Area):

<b>Recycling Bin</b>	List all <b>recyclable</b> items you can see within the <u>recycling bin</u> .	# of recyclable items counted (# correct items in the recycling bin):  _____
	How many recyclable items in the recycling bin are heavily food soiled or unsuitable for recycling? Please identify the item and the reason for its unsuitability.	# of dirty recyclable items counted (# incorrect items in recycling bin):  _____
	List all <b>non-recyclable</b> items you can see within the <u>recycling bin</u> .	# of non-recyclable items counted (# incorrect items in recycling bin):  _____
<b>Trash Bin</b>	List all <b>recyclable</b> items you see in the <u>trash can</u> . (Heavily food soiled and dirty items belong in the trash.)	# of recyclable items counted (# incorrect items in trash can):  _____

Share the photos of the bins you visited with your team. Discuss the items that were sorted correctly and incorrectly, and create a plan for how your team will help improve recycling (and decrease the number of incorrect items in bins).

**Now share this information with your school.** After implementing your team's plan to improve recycling, conduct another recycling audit and compare the results before and after.



## GREEN BY CHOICE

Prince George's County Public Schools Recycle!

Find out more at [www.pgcps.org/recycling](http://www.pgcps.org/recycling) or contact the PGCPS Recycling Team at 301.952.6544.