# Empty. Clean. Dry.®

The new way to recycle.



Reduce. Reuse. Recycle. Anyone growing up in the 1970s, '80s or '90s learned the three Rs of recycling in school. We were taught to recycle everything we could. We added recycling containers to our homes, our offices and classrooms and recycling became a part of our culture.

In the 40 years since recycling was introduced, Americans recycle nearly 87 million tons per year. That means that each of us recycles approximately 1.5 pounds per day! However, the recycling model we all grew up with is changing, and we have to change with it.

Trying to recycle unclean or unrecyclable material increases sorting time and slows down the recycling process, damages the facility's equipment and causes contaminants in the bales of clean recyclables that decreases the value of the items. When this occurs, we have to put the ENTIRE load of recyclables into our landfills due to the contamination.







Empty. Clean.



**EMPTY** means making sure there is no food or product residue. Make sure all of that goes into the trash or down the drain as part of the EMPTY process.

**CLEAN** means that empty recyclable containers should be rinsed. So, no mustard in the mustard containers or left over ketchup in the ketchup bottles. If you cannot get a container completely clean, it is best to put it into the trash so as not to contaminate the rest of your recycling material and the overall process.

**DRY** means letting containers dry before placing in your blue container so that the paper and cardboard does not get wet. Wet or soiled paper and cardboard cannot be recycled.

By practicing **Empty. Clean. Dry.** with our families, we can ensure the recycling materials leaving our homes are in fact recyclable. Together, we are caretakers of this blue planet — our home, and largely covered with blue waters that flow beneath blue skies. It is worthy of every effort we can make to protect it for our children's children.

Be sure your recyclables are empty, clean and dry before placing them in your recycling container.

## Recyclable Items



# Paper Office paper Newspaper Envelopes Junk mail Phone books Brochures Magazines Catalogs



Cardboard
File folders
Poster board
Shipping boxes
(folded flat)
Frozen food boxes
Cardboard boxes
Milk cartons



Water bottles
Take-out containers
Soda bottles
Detergent/containers



Metal Aluminum beverage cans Food cans Steel food containers



Glass
Bottles (clear, green and brown)
Jars

## Non-Recyclable Items

Plastic bags or plastic wrap Aerosol cans Aluminum foil Batteries Food waste Pizza boxes Electronic waste Mirrors or ceramics Paint Pesticides Medication Polystyrene foam Tissue, paper towels and napkins Syringes and needles



We'll handle it from here."

# What can **always** go in your recycling container:



Paper (staples okay) newspaper, envelopes, junk mail, phone books, brochures, magazines





#1, 2, 4, 5 and 7 water bottles, take-out containers, soda bottles

# CARDBOARD



Ream wrappers, file folders, poster board, frozen food boxes, cardboard boxes, empty pizza boxes





Alunimum beverage cans and food/steel cans

# What can **never** go in your recycling container:

- Aerosol cans
- Plastic bags
- CD cases
- · Aluminum foil
- Batteries
- Mirrors or ceramics
- Food waste
- Stickers & address labels
- Polystyrene foam
- Tissue, paper towels or napkins

## Special handling

These items should never be mixed with regular recycling and require special handling:

- Incandescent light bulbs
- Fluorescent tubes
- Computers & electronics
- Needles or syringes
- Hazardous waste
- · Paint
- Toxic material containers
- Propane tanks

For more information, please call **800.438.0966** or visit **RepublicServices.com**.



## Vassar Township Notification

Vassar Township, in conjunction with Republic Services®, is pleased to announce a new expanded, curbside recycling collection program. Starting December 19, 2019, residents will have their first carted, curbside recycling collection, and then this new recycling service will occur on an every other week basis thereafter. Please refer to the 2020 calendar included with this flyer for your recycling schedule. All other services and service days will remain the same.

#### How will this system work?

Republic Services will continue to provide each household with one (1) 95-gallon waste container that has the capacity of (3) 32-gallon trash cans and a new 95-gallon recycling container (light blue lid). On your collection day, simply place your containers at the curb with the handle facing your house. Make sure you have a minimum distance of four feet from other objects such as mailboxes, parked cars, and even your bulk items. A Republic Services collection truck will then pick up the container, empty it, and return it to its original location. It's that simple!

#### **Recycling Collection**

Recycling containers should be placed at the curb **no later** than 6 a.m. on your collection day (Thursday). The new recycling containers will be serviced on an every other week basis. Please refer to the new acceptable material guidelines to find out what can now be recycled. Do you generate more than the contents of one container or need another container? Please contact Republic Services for details.

#### Solid Waste Collection

The waste container should be placed at the curb **no later** than 6 a.m. on your collection day (Thursday). If you have more waste than what your container can handle, please bag and place it **next to** the container, **not on top of the container**. The driver can easily empty the container, then refill it with the other bag(s) and empty again. Do you generate more than the contents of one container or need another container? Please contact Republic Services for details.

#### **Container Care**

With the right care, your new containers will last for many years without needing maintenance. Please use trash bags to contain your waste inside the container. This will reduce the need for periodic cleanings. Your container has smooth surfaces that allow it to be easily cleaned with a regular garden hose and dishwashing soap. Do not place hot ashes, construction debris, and/or hazardous

waste in the container, and please do not paint or write on the container. If it is lost or stolen, please provide the serial number to the police then provide a copy of the police report to Republic Services. We will provide you a replacement at no additional charge.

#### Moving

If you move, do not take the containers with you. The containers have been assigned to the property address along with the serial number and should be available for the next occupant/owner of the household.

#### **Prohibited Items**

Items prohibited include dirt, sod or rock, hazardous waste of any kind, liquids of any kind including paint, flammable materials such as oil, or gas, concrete, hot ashes, yard waste of any kind, large amounts of remodeling or demolition materials, whole tires or any other material to be determined as prohibited by State statute.

#### Holidays

When a holiday falls on or before your collection day, there will be no collection on that day, and the rest of that week's recycling and waste collection will be one day later than usual. Holidays observed include New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

#### **Bulk Item Collection**

Republic Services asks that bulk item pickup requests be called in for service and then placed curbside each week for collection. This includes items such as stoves, water tanks, washing machines, furniture and other large waste materials. Those containing CFC's (Freon®-bearing appliances) will also be collected at no additional charge.

#### **Inclement Weather**

In the event that Republic Services is unable to provide service due to inclement weather, collection will take place the next day following the scheduled collection day, or as soon as weather conditions allow. The Township will immediately be notified should service be interrupted due to bad weather conditions. Please feel free to contact Republic Services if you have any questions regarding service during inclement weather.



# 2020 Vassar Township Recycling Schedule

Holiday Recycling

January								
Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa		
			1	2	3	4		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28	29	30	31			

February									
Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa			
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29			

March								
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
29	30	31						

April							
Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
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	13						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
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May								
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31								

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28	29	30					

			July			
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August								
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30	31							

September							
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October								
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November									
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29	30								

	1					
Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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