

Recycle Right. It Matters.

YES! Recycle these items in the blue barrel.



YES



Paper

Includes computer/writing paper, junk mail, catalogs, phone books, newspaper, magazines & paper bags

YES



Plastic Bottles, Cups & Containers

Includes cups, laundry & shampoo bottles, berry clamshell containers, margarine tubs and yogurt/plastic containers

YES



Milk & Juice Cartons

Includes ice cream cartons & juice boxes

YES



Cardboard & Paperboard

Includes cereal, soda, laundry detergent & other paperboard boxes
Remove liners & any plastic wrap
Break down large boxes

YES



Metal Cans

Food & beverage cans only
Includes pet food cans, aluminum foil, aluminum pie plates, etc.

YES



Glass Bottles & Jars

Food & beverage containers only

Why should I recycle? Does it really make a difference?

Yes! For every ton of material recycled, the City of Mesa receives revenue which goes into the City's general fund. This helps to support many of the services provided by the City of Mesa such as parks, libraries, street maintenance and emergency response services. On the flip side, the City of Mesa pays a disposal fee for every ton of material that is buried in the landfill.

My plastic bags say they are recyclable. Why can't I place them in the blue recycle barrel?

Plastic bags and plastic wrap get tangled in the machines used to sort recyclables which slows down the sorting process and damages the equipment. Instead you should recycle them at your local retailer so they can bypass the sorting system.

Why can't I bag my recyclables in plastic or paper bags?

Recyclables should be dry, relatively clean, loose and not bagged when placed in the blue barrel. Collected material is sorted at a rate of up to 25 tons per hour and unfortunately staff cannot open or empty bags due to the risk of possibly

contaminating loose recyclables with unknown or non-accepted material such as food, animal waste, diapers or yard trimmings. Bagged material will be pulled from the sorting line and sent to the landfill.

What if I place non-acceptable items in the blue recycle barrel?

Placing non-acceptable items such as Styrofoam, plastic bags, clothing, yard waste or any other items listed on the back of this flyer in the blue recycle barrel can jeopardize Mesa's recycling efforts. Under the City of Mesa's recycling contract, the vendor reserves the right to refuse contaminated loads or impose substantial penalty fees so please remember to only recycle the items listed above. If you have a question about a specific item, feel free to send an email to waste.info@mesaz.gov.

For more information, visit mesarecycles.org or call City of Mesa Customer Service at (480) 644-2221. Esta información esta disponible en español.



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NO! Do not recycle these items in the blue barrel.



Non-Accepted items

Unfortunately, some things are not recyclable due to their specific composition or form OR cannot be recycled in Mesa's blue barrel due to the limitations of the sorting process at the materials recovery facility. And while intentions might be good, placing non-acceptable items in the recycle barrel causes more harm than good. Non-acceptable items lower the value of accepted materials as well as can damage the sorting equipment.

NO

Bagged Recyclables

Due to unknown contents, bagged recyclables will be landfilled to avoid contaminating other material. Items should instead be loose, dry, empty and relatively clean.



NO

Foam Products

Cups, take out containers, plates, packing material, etc. (There is no current market for these types of items.)



NO

Specialized Glass & Ceramics

Window & auto glass, lightbulbs, bakeware, drinkware, mirrors, tile, picture frame glass, etc. (Due to their specific use, these items contain additives and can't be recycled with regular glass.)



NO

Hoses & Cords

Garden hoses, light strands, extension cords, strapping material, etc. (These items get tangled in the sorting equipment.)



NO

Plastic Bags & Wrap*

Plastic bags, bread/produce bags, storage bags, tarps, case wrap (bottled water, paper towels, bathroom tissue), shrink wrap, soft plastic packaging, etc. (This material gets tangled in the sorting equipment.)



NO

Paper Plates & Napkins

Paper towels, facial tissue, greasy pizza boxes, etc. (Paper items that are dirty and/or greasy eliminates their ability to be recycled.)



NO

Pet Food Bags

These bags are typically made of different components such as paper, plastic and/or wax lining which can't be separated for recycling.



NO

Pouches

Coffee & liquid soap refill bags, baby food & drink pouches, etc. (Pouches have different material layers which can't be separated for recycling.)



NO

Lumber & Yard Waste

Grass, branches, plywood, etc. (Yard waste can be composted at home or by participating in Mesa's Green Barrel Program.)



NO

Textiles

Clothes, shoes, rags, linens, rugs, etc. (These items can be taken to your local donation center.)



NO

Food Waste

Food waste can be composted at home to produce fertilizer.



NO

Wire Hangers & Scrap Metal

Appliances, electronics, batteries, pots & pans, auto parts, etc. (These items damage the sorting equipment. Contact a local scrap metal recycler for available options.)



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*Clean & empty plastic bags & wrap should be recycled at your local retailer.