

## Recycling the Right Way

Recycling is not all that tricky, but some people waste a lot of time with unnecessary steps. Below are some tips to make sure you're using your time wisely at the recycling bin...

**Cans do not need to be crushed** – recycling centers take them either way and it saves you a step as long as you have the space to store the uncrushed containers.

**Greasy or food covered cardboard is NOT recyclable** and in fact putting things like used pizza boxes into your recycling bin can contaminant the whole load.

**You don't need to worry about getting all the remaining food from jars or cans** before throwing them in the bin – the machinery at the recycling center will zap the excess food away – in fact, you can even recycle bottles with lemon or lime slices in them!

**Glossy paper like magazines or flyers can be recycled** at most facilities now (this was not always the case in the past).

**The best option before recycling is always to see if you can re-use or re-purpose.** Remember that recycling takes quite a bit of energy so it should be a last resort.

Last but not least – **don't throw items like toys or dishes into the recycling bin** – while they may be made of material that can be recycled most municipal centers are not set up to accept materials in those forms. The right place for items like used dishes or a toy is a thrift or resale store where they can be re-purposed for someone else.