

Recyclable – but not at the Curb

Many materials are recyclable that are not a part of our curbside recycling program. Some are too large, like old BBQ's. Others, like propane tanks, could pose a hazard to the collector. Some materials like block foam have a limited market and the processors that do accept them are very particular about what they will take. Following is a list of some of the materials that can be recycled at various drop off sites.

Rigid Plastics -Yogurt cups, sour cream cartons, clear plastic “clamshells”, plastic toys that do not contain metal and nursery pots and plastic buckets that are five gallons and smaller can now be dropped off in the self haul recycling area at the transfer stations*. *Clark County residents who have switched from the three-bin system to a recycling cart can recycle yogurt cups, nursery pots and plastic buckets at the curb.*

Grocery Bags – All three transfer stations* have drop off containers for plastic grocery bags. Many grocery stores also have a collection bin for plastic bags in the entrance area or at the front of the store. When bags are included with curbside recycling, they cause damage to the equipment meant for recycling other materials. While recycling grocery bags is good, an even better solution is to take a reusable bag when you shop.

Block foam, or Styrofoam, can be recycled at most of the Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics mobile collection events. For a complete schedule, see www.clark.wa.gov/recycle/waste/index.html and scroll down to “Free Collection Events”. If you do not have internet access, call the City Solid Waste office at 619-4120 and ask for a copy of the mobile collection schedule. Block foam can also be recycled at Pacific Land Clearing. They are located at 4044 Suttle Rd. (west of the Expo Center and south of Marine Drive). They accept only polystyrene block foam (no spongy foam). All foam must be clean and dry. They will accept Styrofoam cups, egg cartons and meat trays if they are clean and dry. Hours are 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The City of Vancouver and Clark County are co-sponsoring monthly block foam collections. They are normally held the first Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For the current schedule see www.RecyclingA-Z.com.

Packing peanuts often can be taken to mailing or shipping services for reuse. They will take both the Styrofoam and the cornstarch packing peanuts and the two types can be mixed.

Shredded Paper can be placed in your curbside recycling bin or cart. Please place it in a paper bag and staple it closed. Shredding services are now available for a fee at West Van Materials. Call 737-1727 for current pricing.

Empty propane tanks can be taken to the self-haul recycling drop off at the transfer stations*. If the tank contains propane, it should be delivered to the household hazardous waste area on set days (listed below).

Large pieces of metal, like the old BBQ and most major appliances (including water heaters) can be recycled at the transfer stations and at Pacific Coast Shredding. There is a charge for major appliances at the transfer stations. Pacific Coast Shredding** pays for some materials, but they are only open during the week, and they can only take refrigerators and freezers if you have a certificate stating that the coolant has been properly removed. If you don't have a way to haul a large item to the transfer station, you can schedule a bulky item pick up by Waste Connections for an additional charge. Call ahead for current prices and hours.

Household Hazardous Waste, like paint, household and automotive chemicals and fluorescent bulbs can be taken to the transfer stations during the set hours and days listed below. There is no charge during those times.

Computers, monitors, laptops and TV's can be recycled for free through the new E-Cycle Washington program. For recycling locations, please call 1-800-Recycle or visit www.ecyclewashington.org. CREAM accepts used computers, computer parts and other consumer electronics from the public at no charge. They are located at 5000 E Fourth Plain, inside the ReStore. Donation hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Lumber, tile, plumbing fixtures and other building supplies can be donated at the Clark County ReStore. They are located at 5000 E Fourth Plain. Store hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. See www.upgradeyourcommunity.org for a list of materials accepted and to learn about volunteer opportunities.

For more recycling and reuse information, see www.RecyclingA-Z.com.

West Van Materials
6601 NW Old Lower River Road
Vancouver, WA 98660
737-1727

6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.
Household Hazardous Waste hours – 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday

Central Transfer and Recycling,
11034 NE 117th Avenue
Vancouver, WA 98662
256-8482

6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.
Household Hazardous Waste hours – 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

Washougal Transfer Station
4020 S grant Street
Washougal, WA 98671
835-2500

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday (hours household garbage is accepted). Recyclables are accepted every day except Sunday.

Household Hazardous Waste hours – 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. the third Saturday of the month, tentatively starting June 20.

Pacific Coast Shredding

901 Port Way

Vancouver WA 98660

737-8335

7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday

Waste Connections can be reached at 892-5370.

Rev. 4/15/09