



Frequently Asked Questions about the Zero Waste AVL Residential Curbside Recycling Program

Q: What is the basic idea of the [Zero Waste AVL Recycling Program](#)?

A: The new blue 96 gallon recycling roll cart allows residents to recycle a greater volume of materials without sorting or separating materials. The program also increases the types of materials accepted for curbside recycling, making it easier to identify what can go in the cart.

Q: What am I supposed to do with the old recycling bins?

A: They are yours to keep. You may use them to store recyclables in the home before bringing to the roll cart, or for your other storage needs. If you don't want them, simply place them inside the blue recycling roll cart and they will be recycled.

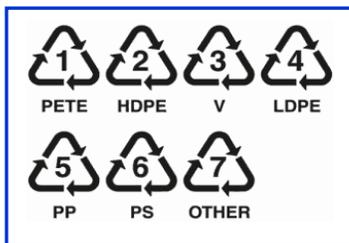


Q: Does my collection date change with the new recycling roll carts?

A: No. Your [recycling collection date](#) remains the same.

Q: Where am I supposed to put this big blue roll cart?

A: The base of the blue roll cart is approximately the same size as the diameter of a standard stackable recycling bin—just much taller. Try to store it where you stored your bins.



Q: Which plastics are accepted for recycling?

A: We accept plastics #1 through #7—usually found imprinted within the symbol on the bottom of the container. Most types of grocery store plastic food containers are now recyclable—just look for the number. Plastic lids and caps are also now recyclable, but do not need to have a number on them. Remember to remove all caps and lids from containers before placing in the recycling cart. Please check the Zero Waste AVL Recycling Website for the most [current list of recyclable materials](#).

Q: Can I recycle refrigerated milk and juice cartons with plastic spouts, or unrefrigerated juice box and soy milk type cartons with plastic spouts?

A: Yes. Called “gable top and aseptic” cartons, these materials are now being accepted. Cartons with or without plastic spouts are all accepted. The caps from these containers may also be recycled.

Q: Do I have to bag the recyclables?

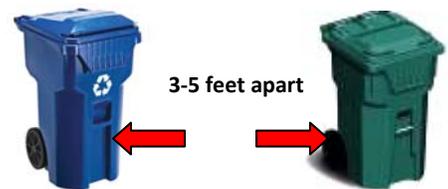
A: No, please don't place recyclable material into plastic bags before placing into the blue roll cart. Continue to bag only your trash, disposed of in your green roll cart. We can not recycle plastic bags in curbside collection. Please return plastic bags to the grocery or retail store for recycling.

Q: Where do I get more information on how to recycle materials that are not accepted for curbside recycling roll cart collection?

A: For more information on how to recycle appliances and other specialty recycling materials, please visit: www.asheville.gov/recycling.

Q: Why were my recyclables not collected?

1: If blue recycling carts and green trash carts are placed too close together on the curb, or too close to utility poles, mailboxes, cars, or other curbside objects, the sanitation crews can not access them with the mechanic lift system on the trucks. If the crews can not access them, they can not collect your recyclables or trash. Check to see if the crew left a sticker on your cart with specific details of why they were not able to collect that day.



Please keep blue and green roll carts 3-5 feet apart on the curb for collection.

2: Recyclables are collected bi-weekly not each week like trash collection. Recyclables are collected on the scheduled pick up day only.

3: Blue recycling carts are not for trash disposal. Recycling Carts with large amounts of trash will not be collected.



Q: When will I receive my 96 Gallon Blue recycling roll cart?

A: The carts will be delivered in phases, to City of Asheville resident households, according to neighborhood, beginning in the month of March 2012.

Q: I have a very large household. Can I get an additional blue recycling cart?

A: Yes. While most households only require one cart, residents may receive an additional cart free of charge.

Q. Do recyclable food containers need to be put in the dishwasher?

A. No. Some remaining food residue in your container is fine. Simply lightly rinse- there is no need to wash recyclables in the dishwasher

Q: Did the City of Asheville test the new recycling carts before adopting the new program?

A: Yes. The City [conducted a pilot test](#) in four Asheville neighborhoods, Burton Street, Park Avenue, Norwood, and Parkway Forest. Of respondents surveyed, 93.5% “agreed or strongly agreed that: “the new recycling service with a roll cart is more convenient than the old program.”

On average, across all four neighborhoods, recycling volume increased by over 50% in the Asheville Zero Waste AVL Pilot Program.

Q: Can you recycle broken glass inside the recycling roll cart?

A: Yes. If glass bottles or jars become broken in the cart, they can still be recycled. The roll carts are designed to keep any broken glass contained safely while being stored, and while it is being emptied into the recycling trucks. The larger carts with closable lids decrease any overflowing materials that might fall out, which is a cleaner and safer recycling collection method.

Q: Do the materials really get recycled if they are unsorted?

A: Yes. The recyclables are brought to Curbside Management’s recycling collection center, where they are sorted, compacted and then sent out to be made into new products.



For more information about recycling, please visit:
www.ashevillenc.gov/recycling

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