

# RECYCLING AT AUSTIN ISD

	RULE OF THUMB	RECYCLE? YES!	RECYCLE? NO. <sup>1</sup>
PAPER	<p><b>If it tears, <i>recycle</i> it.</b> Paper clips, rubber bands, staples, tape, adhesive labels, sticky notes, plastic tabs, plastic and wire spirals, and glued bindings do not have to be removed.</p> <p><b>If it's wet or has food on it, <i>compost</i> (if available) or <i>landfill</i> it.</b></p> <p><b>If it's coated with plastic or foil, <i>landfill</i> it.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Envelopes (windows ok)</li> <li>• <u>Flattened</u> cardboard boxes</li> <li>• Folders (plastic tabs ok)</li> <li>• Magazines &amp; newspapers</li> <li>• Paper bags</li> <li>• Paper decorations &amp; posters</li> <li>• Paper straw wrappers</li> <li>• Paperback books</li> <li>• Printer/copier paper</li> <li>• Wrapping paper</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foam board (landfill)</li> <li>• Foil- or plastic-lined paper (landfill)</li> <li>• Food/drink-contaminated paper (<i>compost</i> or landfill)</li> <li>• Laminated paper (landfill)</li> <li>• Napkins (<i>compost</i> or landfill)</li> <li>• Paper serving boats (<i>compost</i> or landfill)</li> <li>• Paper towels (<i>compost</i> or landfill)</li> <li>• Pizza boxes (<i>compost</i> or landfill)</li> </ul>
	<p><b>If it falls to the ground when dropped, <i>recycle</i> it.</b></p> <p><b>If it floats to the ground when dropped, <i>landfill</i> it.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plastic baskets</li> <li>• Plastic baskets/bins</li> <li>• Plastic bottles (empty, caps ok)</li> <li>• Plastic straps</li> <li>• Plastic toys</li> <li>• Plastic utensils</li> <li>• Other "heavy" plastics #1-7</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candy wrappers (landfill)</li> <li>• Chip bags (landfill)</li> <li>• Plastic bags (landfill)</li> <li>• Plastic bubble wrap (landfill)</li> <li>• Plastic utensil wrappers (landfill)</li> <li>• Plastic wrap (landfill)</li> <li>• Straws (landfill)</li> <li>• Styrofoam® (landfill)</li> <li>• Vinyl banners/signs (landfill)</li> </ul>
METAL	<p><b>If it's clean aluminum, tin, or steel, <i>recycle</i> it.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aluminum foil (clean, balled)</li> <li>• Aluminum pans</li> <li>• Aluminum trays</li> <li>• Aluminum/tin/steel cans</li> <li>• Empty aerosol cans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aerosol cans w/ chemicals (<i>hazardous waste</i>)</li> <li>• Batteries (<i>hazardous waste</i>)</li> <li>• Electronics (<i>hazardous waste</i>)</li> <li>• Oil cans (<i>hazardous waste</i>)</li> <li>• Paint cans (<i>hazardous waste</i>)</li> <li>• Wire hangers (landfill)</li> </ul>
GLASS	<p><b>If it's clean and unbroken, <i>recycle</i> it.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Glass bottles (labels ok)</li> <li>• Glass jars (labels ok)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broken glass (landfill)</li> <li>• Light bulbs, incandescent (landfill)</li> <li>• Light bulbs, spiral/CFL (search.earth911.com)</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Some of these items—like plastic bags, batteries, and Styrofoam®—can be recycled separately with student and staff volunteers. To find non-traditional recycling/reuse options, visit:

- Austin Materials Marketplace (<http://austinmaterialsmarketplace.org/>)
- Earth911.org (<http://search.earth911.com/>)
- Ecology Action of Texas (<http://www.ecology-action.org/recycling-center>)
- TerraCycle (<http://www.terracycle.com/en-US/>)

**Questions? Ask Jen Cregar, Sustainability Coordinator,  
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# COMPOSTING AT AUSTIN ISD

RULE OF THUMB		COMPOST? YES!	COMPOST? NO.
FOOD SCRAPS		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coffee grounds and filters</li> <li>• Food of any kind</li> <li>• Gum</li> <li>• Tea bags</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooking oil (hazardous waste)</li> </ul>
SOILED PAPER	If it was once living, it can be <i>composted</i> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Napkins</li> <li>• Paper cups</li> <li>• Paper plates</li> <li>• Paper serving boats</li> <li>• Paper towels</li> <li>• Pizza boxes</li> <li>• Tissues</li> <li>• Waxy paper milk and juice cartons (no foil liner)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean paper (recycle)</li> <li>• Foil-lined paper (landfill)</li> </ul>
OTHER		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plants</li> <li>• Plastics clearly labeled compostable</li> <li>• Utensils clearly labeled compostable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plastics not labeled compostable (recycle)</li> <li>• Utensils not labeled compostable (recycle)</li> </ul>

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