Recycling at school

Paper



- Mail, office, and school papers
- Magazines and newspapers
- Flattened boxes and cardboard
- Notebooks and soft cover books

Metal



- Food and beverage cans

Cartons



- Milk cartons and juice boxes
- Soup and soy milk cartons

Plastic



No plastic bags

Recycle plastics # 1, 2, and 5 that are:

- **Bottles:** water, soda, juice, salad dressing, liquid soap
- **Jugs:** milk, juice, laundry detergent
- **Cups:** yogurt, pudding, fruit
- **Tubs:** margarine, cottage cheese
- **Containers:** produce, deli, takeout

Glass



- Food and beverage bottles and jars

NOT ACCEPTED

Paper towels, plastic utensils and straws, food and drink pouches, laminated paper

Find preparation instructions and a detailed list of accepted and not accepted items at **HennepinCounty.gov/recycling-guide**

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Avoid contamination

If you are not sure an item can be recycled, put it in the trash can. It is best to keep out items that will cause contamination because they make the recycling process more difficult.

Clean and empty



All items placed in the recycling must be empty. For food containers like yogurt and applesauce cups, there needs to be less than a spoonful of food left in them.

No plastic bags



Plastic shopping bags and film are not accepted in recycling containers. Contact the person in charge of recycling at your school or the Hennepin County school recycling specialist at 612-596-1498 to ask about recycling options.

No shredded paper



Shredded paper is too small to sort at recycling facilities and contaminates other materials. Only shred what you need, and talk to your school's recycling program manager about using a shredding service if you don't already have one.

Reduce your waste

Bring your own containers



When packing your lunch, use reusable containers and bags instead of plastic ziplock bags or disposable drink or food pouches. This will avoid single-use packaging and minimize the amount of waste you generate.

Collect recycling at events



Be sure to put out clearly labeled recycling containers when you hold events. Find more event recycling tips and resources at **HennepinCounty.gov/eventrecycling**.

Hennepin County
Environment and Energy
HennepinCounty.gov/schoolrecycling
612-596-1498

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