



NEVADA CITY RECYCLER

SPRING | 2025



How Plastic Bags Disrupt Recycling Efforts

When recyclables arrive at the material recovery facility, they go through an automated sorting process engineered to efficiently separate different material types. For this process to work, recyclables must be loose to move smoothly through the sorting equipment.

While it might not seem like a big deal, bagging recyclables compromises our recycling efforts. Plastic bags wrap around the sorting system, causing the equipment to jam. When this happens, operations must shut down, and workers have to climb into the machinery to cut away the bags and free the gears. Bagged recyclables often don't make it through the sorting process. Instead, they end up in landfills, losing their chance to be repurposed into new products. Give recyclables a second life: recycle loose and skip the bag! See below other ways to support recycling.



Keep food and liquid out of your recycling cart. Ensure all recyclables are free from food residue and liquids. Contaminated items can spoil entire batches of recyclables, making them improper for reuse.



"Tanglers", such as wires and cords, pose the same risks as plastic bags. They can easily get wrapped around the sorting equipment, causing jams and delays. Avoid placing these items in your recycling cart.



Don't bag your recyclables or toss loose plastic bags into your curbside recycling bin. Instead, try to reuse them for shopping or bring them to a local "take-back" program.



Only place accepted materials in your recycling cart: plastic containers, aluminum cans, glass containers, paper, and cardboard. All items should be clean and dry.



How to Dispose of Items Too Large for the Curbside Cart

Mattresses, tires, refrigerators, and other household appliances are commonly left on roadsides and sidewalks when it's time to discard them. While you may hope someone will pick them up and put them to use, this is not the best disposal alternative.

The safest and most responsible way to discard these items is by bringing them to the McCourtney Road Transfer Station. For a small fee, you can ensure your unwanted items are handled and disposed of properly, giving you peace of mind and helping keep your community clean. Visit **home.wm.com/nevada-city** to find service rates and additional information.

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Give Us a Call

For questions about service, billing, our additional disposal alternatives, contact WM at (530) 274-3090 or email cssacramento@wm.com. For inquiries about the new food waste collection, call (530) 615-2020 or email nevadacountyorganics@wm.com.