









# WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?

## Social Media Guide for Common Recycling Questions

The N.C. Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service (DEACS) has developed *Where Should These Go?* to answer the most frequent questions about where to take items that don't belong in the bin. The social media posts below coordinate with the *Recycle Right NC* information campaign materials designed for use by local recycling programs and private recycling collectors.

**Together, we can recycle more and recycle better. #RecycleRightNC**

IMAGE	TEXT FOR FACEBOOK AND TWITTER CAPTION
<p><b>WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?</b></p>  <p><b>CERAMIC ITEMS</b> Ceramic is a different material that cannot be mixed with glass (different components and different melting points). <b>ANSWER: THE LANDFILL</b></p> <p><b>WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!</b></p>	<p>Ceramics are hard to sort, so reuse or repurpose them! Broken pieces are great for art projects. Otherwise, put them in the trash. #RecycleRightNC</p>
<p><b>WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?</b></p>  <p><b>HOUSEHOLD GLASS</b> Mirrors, windows and glassware can't be remanufactured. <b>ANSWER: THE LANDFILL</b></p> <p><b>WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!</b></p>	<p>What kind of glass is recyclable? Bottles and jars! Drinking glasses, glass dishes and Pyrex are made to withstand high temperatures and aren't recyclable. Neither are mirrors or window glass. Take these unbroken household glass items to a thrift store. #RecycleRightNC</p>
<p><b>WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?</b></p>  <p><b>PUMPS OR TUBES</b> They are made of multiple materials that can't be separated for recycling. <b>ANSWER: THE LANDFILL</b></p> <p><b>WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!</b></p>	<p>Pumps and tubes are made of multiple materials and can't be recycled. Put them in the trash. Don't contaminate — recycle right for our state! #RecycleRightNC</p>
<p><b>WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?</b></p>  <p><b>DISPOSIBLE CUPS</b> Truth is, your single-use cup belongs in the trash — along with its lid and straw. It's that simple. <b>ANSWER: THE LANDFILL</b></p> <p><b>WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!</b></p>	<p>Don't toss that cup in the recycling bin! Put it in the trash. These single-use items are often contaminated with liquid. Even when clean, cups get crushed and mis-sorted in the recycling machinery. #RecycleRightNC</p>
<p><b>WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?</b></p>  <p><b>STYROFOAM</b> Styrofoam breaks down into tiny pieces in the recycling machinery. <b>ANSWER: THE LANDFILL</b></p> <p><b>WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!</b></p>	<p>Styrofoam doesn't belong in the recycling bin. Instead, reduce your single-use! If clean, take it to a participating grocery store. Otherwise, it belongs in the trash. Don't contaminate — recycle right for our state! #RecycleRightNC</p>
<p><b>WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?</b></p>  <p><b>TANGLERS</b> Cords, hoses, wires, plastic gloves, etc. get caught in the recycling machinery. <b>ANSWER: THE LANDFILL</b></p> <p><b>WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!</b></p>	<p>Did you know that several times a day, plastic bags, hoses, wires and string lights shut down the recycling equipment for 30 minutes at a time? Don't contaminate — recycle right for our state! #RecycleRightNC</p>

## WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?

### HOUSEHOLD AND CAR BATTERIES

These are fire hazards at the recycling center.

**ANSWER: HAZARDOUS WASTE OR LANDFILL**

**WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!**



Batteries don't belong in the recycling bin; they are fire hazards at a recycling center. Put household batteries in the trash. Take rechargeable ones to a local retailer. Take car batteries to a participating convenience center or hazardous waste collection. #RecycleRightNC

## WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?

### APPLIANCES

Take appliances to a participating convenience center.

**ANSWER: CONVENIENCE CENTER**

**WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!**



While appliances are NOT accepted in your curbside recycling, there are other ways to keep them out of the landfill. Call your local government to see if they accept appliances at the convenience center or if a collection service is offered for these items. #RecycleRightNC

## WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?

### ELECTRONICS

Take computers, televisions and other electronics to a participating convenience center.

**ANSWER: CONVENIENCE CENTER**

**WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!**



While electronics are NOT accepted in your curbside recycling, there are other ways to keep them out of the landfill. Call your local recycling convenience center to find out if they accept these items and more! #RecycleRightNC

## WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?

### CLOTHING AND TEXTILES

Donate clothing and textiles to a participating convenience center or thrift store.

**ANSWER: CONVENIENCE CENTER**

**WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!**



The average American throws out 82 lbs. of textiles a year. Clothes take up to 40 years to break down and emit greenhouse gases. However, 95 percent of textiles can be recycled — just not in your curbside bin. Bring them to a convenience center or a thrift store. #RecycleRightNC

## WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?

### HAZARDOUS AND MEDICAL WASTE

Take hazardous waste to a convenience center or call 877-623-6748 for other drop-off locations. Call your local public health department for medical disposal information.

**ANSWER: CALL HAZARDOUS WASTE AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

**WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!**



Real people sort your recycling — medical waste can harm them! Call your local public health department for medical disposal information. Hazardous waste never belongs in the recycling bin either. Call 877-623-6748 for drop-off locations. #RecycleRightNC

## WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?

### PLASTIC BAGS AND WRAP

Return clean, dry plastic bags, wraps and packaging to the grocery store.

**ANSWER: BACK TO THE STORE**

**WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!**



Plastic bags and packaging wrap around recycling machines, shutting down a facility several times a day. Take them to the grocery store, bring your own bags, or when possible, buy products that aren't packaged in plastic. #RecycleRightNC

## WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?

### PAPER TOWELS AND NAPKINS

Compost paper towels and napkins; this paper is too thin to recycle and often, too dirty.

**ANSWER: THE COMPOST**

**WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!**



Paper towels, tissues and napkins aren't recyclable. They are often dirty, but even when clean, they are too thin to be recycled into paper. Put them in the compost or trash bin. Don't contaminate — recycle right for our state! #RecycleRightNC

## WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?

### FOOD WASTE

Place food waste in your compost.

**ANSWER: THE COMPOST**

**WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!**



Food and liquids in the recycling bin contaminate other recyclables. Plus, it's gross for the people who sort your recycling. Empty and rinse containers before placing them in the recycling. Put other food waste in the compost. #RecycleRightNC

## WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?

### SHREDDED PAPER

Shredded paper is like confetti! at the recycling facility, except it is no party for the machines or the workers. Compost it, shred less, and let that in fact piece of paper be recycled!

**ANSWER: THE COMPOST**

**WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!**



Compost it or shred less — but don't put shredded paper in your recycling bin! If you do, this stuff goes EVERYWHERE at the recycling center! Keep it out! #RecycleRightNC

<p><b>WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?</b></p>  <p><b>RECEIPTS</b> This type of thin "paper" can contain non-recyclable layers and chemicals.</p> <p><b>ANSWER: THE LANDFILL</b></p> <p><b>WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!</b></p>	<p>Think receipts are recyclable? Think again! This type of thin paper can contain non-recyclable layers and chemicals. Refuse receipts or put them in the trash. Don't contaminate — recycle right for our state! #RecycleRightNC</p>
<p><b>WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?</b></p>  <p><b>STYROFOAM AND PLASTIC EGG CARTONS</b> Recycle paper egg cartons but toss Styrofoam and plastic ones in the trash.</p> <p><b>ANSWER: THE LANDFILL</b></p> <p><b>WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!</b></p>	<p>Buy paper egg cartons and recycle them! Avoid Styrofoam and plastic ones — they can't be recycled curbside. Some grocery stores will take Styrofoam but most don't. #RecycleRightNC</p>
<p><b>WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?</b></p>  <p><b>LIDS</b> Screw caps on, but toss lids in the trash.</p> <p><b>ANSWER: THE LANDFILL</b></p> <p><b>WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!</b></p>	<p>Flat things are perceived as paper by the recycling sorting machines. Put that lid in the trash! #RecycleRightNC</p>
<p><b>WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?</b></p>  <p><b>SCRAP METAL</b> Scrap/mixed metals such as ladders, pots or hangers harm the machinery.</p> <p><b>ANSWER: CONVENIENCE CENTER</b></p> <p><b>WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!</b></p>	<p>Metal belongs in the recycling bin, right? Only if it is a CAN. Don't be tempted to put pots and pans, hangers and other metal items in the curbside recycling bin. Take them to the scrap metal collection at your recycling convenience center. #RecycleRightNC</p>
<p><b>WHERE SHOULD THESE GO?</b></p>  <p><b>GREASY PIZZA BOXES</b> When it comes to pizza boxes, only recycle the clean ones, but toss the greasy ones in the trash.</p> <p><b>ANSWER: THE LANDFILL</b></p> <p><b>WHEN IN DOUBT, KEEP IT OUT!</b></p>	<p>Never seen a clean pizza box to recycle? No problem: tear off the clean top and recycle it; compost the greasy cardboard or put it in the trash. You are a recycling hero! #RecycleRightNC</p>



The N.C. Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service (DEACS) is a non-regulatory division of N.C. DEQ offering technical and financial assistance to businesses, manufacturers, local governments, institutions, economic developers and citizens in environmental management. For questions, call 1-877-623-6748. [www.recyclenc.org](http://www.recyclenc.org)

