



## Rule #1: Keep It Clean!

*Contaminated recycling ends up in the landfill, and costs you money!*

### YES:

- Aluminum cans, foil and trays (*clean*)
- Steel and tin cans (*clean*)
- Cardboard (*clean, no wax coating*)
- Mail, junk mail, envelopes, office paper
- Magazines and catalogs
- Newspapers and inserts
- Phone, paperback and hardcover books
- Paper food boxes and egg cartons
- Paper grocery bags
- Paper cups (*clean and empty*)
- Paper milk and juice cartons (*rinsed*)
- Juice and soy milk boxes (Tetrapaks) (*rinsed*)
- Plastic bottles, jars and tubs (*rinsed*)
  - (*NO plastic film, caps, dome tops or straws*)
- Nursery pots and flats (*clean*)
- Glass bottles, jars (*rinsed*)
- EMPTY aerosol cans
- Small pieces of scrap metal  
(*clean, less than 20 lbs; 20 inches*)

### Recycle for FREE:

- Aluminum cans
- TVs, Monitors, CPUs, Laptops
- Fluorescent light bulbs of all types
- Vehicle batteries

### NO:

- Styrofoam of any kind
- Bubble, shrink and food wrap of any kind
- Plastic bags & film
- Food-soiled products of any kind
- Paper towels, plates, napkins, tissues
- Prescription vials
- Shredded paper
- Needles and syringes, medical waste
- Disposable diapers
- Cloth, fabrics, rags, rope, rugs, carpet
- Construction/demolition materials
- Wires/extension cords/Christmas lights
- Ceramics and dishes
- Mirrors and window glass
- Batteries of any type
- Light bulbs of any type
- Hazardous/flammable/toxic waste
- Small appliances
- Large toys/bikes/tire chains
- Propane bottles

### Recycle for small fee:

- Household batteries
- Motor oil, antifreeze, cooking oil
- Large and small appliances
- Small electronics & peripherals
- Scrap metal
- Green waste
- Latex Paint
- Tires



*Recycling may NOT be dumped in opaque plastic bags. Avoid bags of any kind. Collect your recyclables in cardboard boxes or paper grocery bags.*

## August 2018 Changes in Recycling Pricing; Policies

Recycling prices at the Orcas Transfer Station increased on August 9th. The cost for a 32-gallon can of recycling went from \$4 to \$5; and a ton of recycling from \$200 to \$250—a 20 percent increase.

In January, China announced dramatic restrictions on several categories of recyclable waste coming from the United States. This has dramatically increased our costs here on Orcas to dispose of recyclables—more than 2,000 percent since January 2017.

Another reason for the price increase: contamination. Garbage in the recycle bins.

You are holding a piece of our “Recycle 2.0” effort—an education project that will run through the end of 2018. It will include new printed guidelines (like this), mailings, news and info in the local papers and social media. New educational efforts will begin at the transfer station, including signage, handouts, and volunteer screeners on-site.

The focus will be on the worst offenders: food and food residue, Styrofoam and bubble wrap, shredded paper, clothing and fabrics. It will also focus on “wishful” recycling items like bicycles, vacuums, strollers and other odd configurations of metal and plastic.

ORS will also be moving ahead quickly with the development of a sorting/baling facility that will allow for much more efficient handling of commodities like aluminum, cardboard, glass, and other materials.

You can keep track of all these efforts on the ORS/Exchange website, at [www.exchangeorcas.org](http://www.exchangeorcas.org).

If you have further questions, or would like to get involved, feel free to contact our Executive Director, Pete Moe, directly at [pete@exchangeorcas.org](mailto:pete@exchangeorcas.org).

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING COOPERATION AND PATIENCE WHILE WE CONTINUE OUR  
EFFORTS TO CLEAN UP THE ORCAS WASTE STREAM, ON THE WAY  
TO A ZERO-WASTE FUTURE!

