

MRF SURVEY: Acceptable Materials Worksheet

Recycling WORKS Date 3-28-25 MRF Facility Name_ MRF Location (city, state) _

Please fill out the form below to convey acceptable and problematic materials. It is recommended that the local program representative and MRF operator/plant manager complete this worksheet together every six months and during the creation or renewal of processing contracts. We encourage this document be used in the RFP process as well.

Mark whether each item is: YES: Acceptable

NO: Detrimental or NO: Non-detrimental or NO: But recycled

Detrimental items: Can shut down or damage equipment, harm employees, and/or substantially degrade the value of material.

Non-detrimental items: Not accepted, but do not cause any major problems. Item ends up in residual.

But recycled items: Not formally accepted, do not cause major problems but may be pulled off line to be recyced in some cases.

PRO TIP

This tool is meant for use with your MRF, and uses industry terms. All educational materials should use terms easy to recognize and understand by your community audience and not necessarily the terms used in this document.

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VES: Acceptable NO: Non-de	o: But recycled
s: Acceptable Non-de	. But lec'
AEZ. MO. MO. MO.	0.

YE	N.	N.	N.	5./		
				PAPER PRODUCT		
K				Cartons (gable top e.g., milk, orange juice, and aseptic e.g., juice boxes, soup)		
	X			Cold Cups (e.g., paper soda fountain drink cup)		
Ø				Hard Cover Books		
 				Hot Cups (e.g., coffee cup)		
A				Mail		
			A	Kraft Bags		
×				Magazines		
4				Newspaper		
⊠				OCC (old corrugated cardboard)		
Ø				Office Paper		
×				Paperback Books		
,ÀŢ				Paperboard Boxes (e.g., cereal, tissue)		



MRF SURVEY: Acceptable Materials Worksheet (pg. 2/6)

VES: Acceptable NO: Detrimental NO: Non. detrimental NO: Rut recycled								
PAPER PRODUCT (cont.)								
⊠				Pizza Boxes				
₩				Shredded Paper Directions on how to prepare:				
		Q		Take-out Containers				
₩				Tissue Paper				
A				Wet Strength Paper (e.g., frozen food boxes, ice cream containers, six-pack carriers)				
				Other:				
				GLASS PRODUCT				
K				Bottles & Jars				
Œ				Drinking Glasses				
¥				Ceramics (e.g., mugs, dishes)				
		B		Pane Glass (e.g., mirrors, windows)				
				Other:				
				ALUMINUM PRODUCT				
	×			Aerosol				
K				Cans (e.g., beverage container)				
Ø				Foil or Foil-like Container (e.g., pie plate)				
Ø				Other Aluminum Containers (e.g., pet food)				
				Other:				
				STEEL PRODUCT				
	K			Aerosol				
区				Cans				
K				Pots & Pans				
			A	Scrap Metal Directions on how to prepare:				
Ø				Spiral Wound Container (e.g., canned potato chips, nuts, coffee, refrigerated biscuit dough)				
				Other:				



MRF SURVEY: Acceptable Materials Worksheet (pg. 3/6)

How do you describe which plastics are accepted?

By resin type/number (e.g., #1-7, #1 and #2 only, #1, 2, 3, 4, and 5)

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VES: Acceptable NO: Non: detrime No: But recycles PLASTIC PRODUCT							
PLASTIC PRODUCT							
Ď				Bags, Wrap, Film (if Yes, check all that apply: ☐ accept bag of bags ☐ accept loose)			
×				Buckets (any size)			
Ø				Bulky Plastic (e.g., crates)			
		Ø		EPS Foam Packaging (e.g., foam blocks, coolers, packing peanuts)			
		K		EPS Foam Food Service Packaging & Containers (e.g., foam cups, to-go boxes, meat trays)			
#				Flower Pots			
ľΧ				HDPE Bottles Jars & Containers (e.g., #2 milk jugs, shampoo bottles, bleach bottles)			
K				LDPE Bottles & Containers (e.g., #4 squeezable cosmetic and travel bottles, honey bottles)			
K				PET Bottles & Jars (e.g., #1 soda, water, and juice bottles, peanut butter jars)			
NQ.				PET Cups (e.g., #1 clear plastic fast food cups, iced coffee cups)			
K				PET Thermoforms (e.g., #1 fruit and produce containers, deli and bakery)			
K				Polypropylene Bottles (e.g., #5 syrup bottles, ketchup bottles, medicine bottles)			
R				Polypropylene Containers & Lids (e.g., #5 yogurt containers, margarine tubs)			
\$				PVC Bottles & Containers (e.g., #3 cleaning product bottles, candy trays, blister packs)			
			A	Toys Size or preparation requirements: Remove Bu-Henies			
Þá				Other Containers & Packaging (e.g., baskets, molded packaging, food storage containers)			
				Other:			
Plastic Size Restrictions? No NC							
Other Pr	Other Preparation Requirements?						



SITE SURVEY: Acceptable Hard-to-Recycle Materials Worksheet (pg. 4/6)

Recycling works Date 3-28-25 **Drop-Off Site Name & Location**

Please fill out the form below to convey acceptable and problematic Hard-To-Recycle materials commonly dropped off at your site. It is recommended that the local program representative complete this form.

Mark whether each item is: YES: Acceptable

NO: Detrimental or NO: Non-detrimental or NO: But recycled

Detrimental items: Considered illegal/illicit dumping, can shut down or damage facility, harm employees, and/or require substantial clean-up activities or hauling costs.

Non-detrimental items: Not accepted, but do not cause any major problems. Item ends up in garbage.

But recycled items: Not formally accepted, do not cause major problems but may be set aside to be recyced in some cases.

PRO TIP

This tool is meant for internal use and uses industry terms. All educational materials should use terms easy to recognize and understand by your community audience and not necessarily the terms used in this document.

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	eplable	himental Nor	detrime	recycled		
ES: A	C. De	mimental NO: Nor	O. But	10		
45	Mo	MC	No			7
			HA	PD-TO-PE	CVCIEN	I

			HARD-TO-RECYCLE MATERIAL	PROCESSOR/FACILITY
	Ø		Ammunition	
	女		Appliances–freon (e.g., refrigerators, air conditioners)	
	M		Appliances–large metal or white goods (e.g., stoves, dryers)	
	X		Appliances-small metal or plastic (e.g., microwaves, coffee pots)	
		A	Auto Tires	
	₩.		Batteries (if Yes, check all accepted: ☐ Li ☐ NiCad ☐ NiMH ☐ alkaline)	
		ZZ	Bicycles & Bike Parts	
Ø			Books	
K			Ceramics	
		K	Electronics–Cables & Wire	
		K	Electronics-Computers, Tablets, Cell Phones	
		M	Electronics-TVs (if Yes, check all accepted: ☐ CRT ☐ flat screen)	
	Ø_		Concrete	
	K		Cooking Oil	
	P		EPS Foam Blocks	



SITE SURVEY: Acceptable Hard-to-Recycle Materials Worksheet (pg. 5/6)

YES: Acceptable NO: Non-detrimental NO: But recycled						
				HARD-TO-RECYCLE MATERIAL (cont.)	PROCESSOR/FACILITY	
		ΙŲ		EPS Foam Packing Peanuts		
		赵		Fire Extinguishers		
		K		Furniture		
		ţZI		Household Hazardous Chemicals		
M(Large/Bulky Plastics (e.g., crates, buckets, chairs)		
		Z		Latex Paint		
		K		Lightbulbs (if Yes, check all accepted: ☐ LED ☐ CFLs ☐ fluorescent tubes)		
		1¢		Lumber/Building Materials		
		(X)		Mattresses & Box Springs		
		K		Motor Oil		
\				Plastic Bags, Wrap, Film		
		Ø		Plate Glass (e.g., mirrors, windows)		
		₩.		Printer Cartridges		
			7	Scrap Metal		
区				Shredded Paper		
		□\$		Syringes		
		ĎΨ		Textiles		
		□	. 🗆	Yard or Wood Waste		
oo you have a reuse/free materials center?						
						



MRF/SITE SURVEY: Acceptable Materials Worksheet (pg. 6/6)

It is recommended that the local program representative and MRF operator/plant manager complete this worksheet together.

Rank the top five (5) unacceptable items that are causing the most problems at your facility (e.g., degrading other commodities significantly, being dropped off illicitly, damage or stoppage to MRF equipment, presenting danger to staff and/or becoming high volume residual).

Please rank with numbers "1" through "5." Put a "1" in the box of the worst contaminant. Only rank the top five and leave everything else blank.

Top 5 Prohibitive Items (Choose only 5 and rank 1-5)

If an item is currently accepted at your facility, it cannot be a prohibitive item.

K	Batteries		Glass: indicate if bottles/jars or other types of glass
	Bulky Plastics (e.g. furniture, toys, buckets)		Mattresses/Box Springs
	Cartons	\square	Needles
	Ceramics (e.g., dishes, mugs)		
	Clothing/Bedding	Ш	Plastic Bags or Wrap (e.g. film, dry cleaner bags, pet food bags, pouches)
	Concrete		Small Appliances (e.g., coffee pots, microwaves)
	Cooking Oil	V	Large Appliances (e.g., refrigerators, washers/dryers)
K	Diapers		Scrap Metal (e.g., pots and pans, rebar)
	EPS Foam (e.g., foam blocks and/or food service packaging)		Shredded Paper
			TVs
	Flammables (e.g., propane tanks, batteries, fuel)		Tanglers (e.g., wire, hose, cords, rope, chains)
	Electronics (e.g., computers, tablets, cell phones)		Wood
Н	Food or Liquid		Yard Waste
	Furniture		Other:
K	Hazardous Waste (e.g., mercury devices, paint, solvents, motor oil)		Other: