



RECYCLING

POCKET GUIDE



INDIANA UNIVERSITY
SUSTAIN IU

Hello Fellow Hoosier,

IU is making strides to divert 50% of campus waste by 2020—a big goal that will need everyone's support!

To help you contribute to our collective waste reduction success, we've compiled a list of the most commonly asked questions about recycling. We know it can be confusing to know exactly what is recyclable and what isn't so we've got your back.

If you're interested in learning more about how we're working to sustain IU through resource use and recycling initiatives, visit us online at sustain.iu.edu/commitment/resource-recycling.



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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where do I take my recycling?

Look for recycling bins around campus, they are usually placed with trash bins. The city of Bloomington has several recycling locations. Visit greendistrict.com for more information.

How is recycling sorted on and off campus?

Campus recycling is single stream: All recyclables into the same bin
RPS recycling is dual stream: Paper is sorted into one bin and plastics/glass/aluminum into a second bin

City of Bloomington recycling is sorted differently depending on the location. Curbside recycling is single stream.

How much do I need to clean out recyclables?

Small amounts of food are acceptable. If you have a greasy pizza box with cheese stuck on, then it should be trashed. However, a quick rinse should suffice many items, don't worry about getting your containers sparkling clean. The main concern is actually the paper in single stream bins, which can be ruined by food and moisture.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Should I remove plastic bottle caps before placing them in the recycling bin?

Bottle caps are so small, once it is removed from the bottle it is more likely to be incorrectly sorted. It is best to leave caps attached to bottles, but make sure that the bottle is completely empty before recycling it.

What about furniture and office supplies?

The IU Surplus Store will take all IU-owned items including furniture and office items. Please call IU Surplus at 812-855-2475 or visit their website at surplus.indiana.edu to schedule a pick up.

Small office supplies (pens, staplers, power cords, etc.) can be upcycled through the IU Surplus Store *Got Smalls* initiative through the campus mail. Grab a campus mail envelope, mark IU SURPLUS STORE as the recipient, place your unwanted small items in the envelope, and deposit it in your department's campus mail pick up location. IU Mail Service couriers will pick up your small items and deliver them to the IU Warehouse facility (2931 East Tenth Street, Bloomington).

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where can I find signage for a recycling bin?

Visit the RESOURCES section of sustain.iu.edu to download signage to affix or place near your recycling bin.

Are there items that can't be recycled?

Please avoid putting the following materials in your recycling bin.

Aerosol Cans

Plastic, Non-Biodegradable Silverware

Hot Beverage Cups (lids and sleeves **ARE** recyclable!)

Straws

Styrofoam (if it is labeled Plastic #6, it **IS** recyclable!)

Paper Towels (used or unused)

Tissue and Toilet Paper

Facility Operations recycles tires, automotive batteries, all metals, refrigerant CFCs, anti-freeze, motor oil, wooden pallets, and most organic materials.

HOW LONG DOES IT LAST

Waste diversion is key to a sustainable future!

We understand not everything can be recycled, but knowing that small behaviors changes can contribute towards 50% waste diversion by 2020 means we can all play a part!

The list below contains items commonly used on campus, and the amount of time each item will remain in a landfill.

PAPER	2-4 weeks
FOOD	6 months
CARDBOARD	5 years
METAL	100 years
PLASTIC	450 years
GLASS	500 years
STYROFOAM	NEVER