

Dear Recycle Lady



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Dear Recycle Lady,

Do #1 plastics and #2 plastics need to be put in separate bags for curbside pickup? How do these two types of plastic differ? Recycler

**Dear Recycler,**

**Both #1 plastics and #2 plastics can be put in the same bag for curb side pickup. If you take them to the Recycle Center, they must be put in two separate bins. The terms, “#1 plastics” and “#2 plastics”, are simply codes that refers to the type of polymer that makes up the container. The code for #1 plastics is PET or PETE, a shorten form of polyethylene. Clear plastics, such as soda, shampoo and water bottles, are examples PETE plastics. The code for #2 plastics is HDPE, which is a high-density polyethylene. #2 plastics are generally milky or solid colored, for example, milk jugs and detergent bottles. Both types of plastic are recyclable, if clean. Thanks to all of you who recycled plastics, the Recycling Center sold 83 tons (166,000 pounds) of recycled plastics in 2019! Hurrah for Recyclers!**

Dear Recycle Lady,

I love working jigsaw puzzles. Because I work so many, I am beginning to have quite a large stack of completed puzzles. Any suggestions as to where I can donate them? Puzzle Fan

**Dear Puzzle Fan,**

**I, also, love working jigsaw puzzles, as do quite a few people in the area. Local libraries, Senior Centers and nursing homes all have puzzle tables and appreciate donations. Puzzles can also be donated to The Americana in Lewisburg to support their charitable efforts. Not only are puzzles fun to do, they are also good for your brain, so happy puzzling everyone.**

Dear Recycle Lady,

I have several cardboard boxes that are slick on the outside. Can they be recycled? Collector

**Dear Collector,**

**Yes, cardboard boxes that are slick on the outside can be recycled. Put them in with cardboard boxes. Recycled cardboard provides income for The Recycling Center, so recycle them all. Thanks to all who recycled cardboard this year, nearly 700 tons (1,400,000 pounds) of recycled cardboard was sold by the Recycling Center in 2019. The largest buyer of our recycled cardboard is Georgia Pacific in Virginia. Nationally, over half of recycled cardboard is used to make new cardboard boxes. Cardboard can be downcycled into paperboard (used for cereal boxes) or chipboard (used for shoeboxes).**

**Have questions about recycling, or interesting information about recycling? Send questions or requests to [recyclelady@greenbrier-swa.com](mailto:recyclelady@greenbrier-swa.com). Dear Recycle Lady is sponsored jointly by the Greenbrier Recycling Center and Greenworks Recycling.**