

Dear Recycle Lady



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Dear Recycle Lady,

Does the Recycling Center pay for Aluminum cans? Do they need to be rinsed out? Wondering

Dear Wondering,

Yes, the Greenbrier Recycling Center does accept and pay for Aluminum cans. However, before recycling, be sure they are clean, empty and dry. To receive cash for cans, they must be taken to the Recycling Center in Ronceverte. If you are coming from Lewisburg drive through Ronceverte until you cross the first bridge. There is a sign at the end of the bridge that shows a right turn. If you are coming to Ronceverte on 219 South, take a left at the end of the first bridge. Then, take a left when you come to the intersection. The Center is on your right. Turn into the road on the right-hand side of the building. There is a sign on the right-side of the building with a large arrow pointing to the door that goes into where aluminum cans are weighed, and cash paid. Interestingly, according to studies, Americans now earn about \$1 billion US Dollars per year through recycling their aluminum. If you want to donate your cans to the Center to help off-set operating costs, there are bins behind the building for depositing aluminum cans.

Dear Recycle Lady,

My daughter is trying to convince me to recycle aluminum cans and other items. What are the advantages of recycling? Prospective Recycler

Dear Prospective Recycler,

Glad you asked. There are many excellent reasons for recycling. In this column I will discuss the advantages of recycling aluminum cans and I will discuss other forms of recycling in future columns. Instead of continuously using up natural resources, recycling conserves not only these natural resources, but also energy. For example, making new aluminum cans out of recycled ones saves approximately 95% of the energy it takes to produce new aluminum. According to the Windstar Institute, a manufacturing company could make 20 new aluminum cans using the same amount of energy necessary to make one new aluminum can from bauxite ore. The Reynolds Metal Co. said that recycling just one can saves enough energy to power a TV for three hours. Recycled aluminum cans can be used to make a wide range of items that include pie plates, aluminum foil, bicycle items, airplane parts, house siding, lawn furniture, small appliances, floor tiles, makeup products and chemicals. Surprisingly, a boat made with recycled aluminum was sailed from Hawaii to Japan. As you can see, recycling cans does conserve both energy and natural resources. Recycling is particularly important in the case of aluminum cans, because recycling aluminum does not damage its structure and it can be recycled indefinitely.

Dear Recycle Lady,

I have several old and damaged cell phones that I would like to get rid of. Does the recycling Center accept these phones? Cleaning out

Dear Cleaning out,

Yes, the Recycling Center does accept cell phones, but does not pay for them. They are boxed and sent to a company that repurposes the phones and their parts.

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