

Dear Recycle Lady



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Dear Recycle Lady,

I see people recycling plastic bottles with caps on, but I have always been told to remove the caps before putting the bottles in recycling. Is it really important to remove caps from plastic bottles? Just wondering

Dear Just Wondering,

It is critical to remove the caps of plastic bottles before recycling, as bottles and caps are made from different kinds of plastic. When two kinds of plastic are mixed, one kind contaminates the other, reducing the value of the recycled material. Additionally, it takes extra time for workers to separate caps from bottles before processing. If caps are left on the bottles, they could jam the processing equipment and also, the bottles may not compact properly. More significantly, a capped bottle might explode and become a safety hazard for workers. As you can see, there are several good reasons for removing caps from plastic bottles before putting them into the recycling bin or bag.

Dear Recycle Lady,

I know we can't recycle glass jars, but what about the metal lids? Tossing it All.

Dear Tossing it All,

The Recycling Center accepts all metal lids of glass jars, including the ones with a rubber gasket. They are recycled with steel cans.

Dear Recycle Lady,

I am confused. What is the recycling schedule in Lewisburg/Rolling Hills Estates? Confused

Dear Confused,

Recycling is picked up in Rolling Hills Estates every other week, same as in Lewisburg. Pickups take place on the same day as your normally scheduled trash pickup. In Rolling Hills, that is Thursday. This week, the week of July 15, is pickup week for everyone in the city of Lewisburg. The next pickup week will be two weeks from now, the week of July 29, and every two weeks thereafter. A couple years ago, pickup dates varied, which may be the cause of confusion.

Dear Readers,

Good news for the environment! Six states are now committed to 100% clean energy: Kudos to Maine, New York, Hawaii, California, New Mexico and Washington State.

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.