



# City of Seattle

## Recyclable and Reusable Material Type Definitions

Updated January 2022

Material	Definition
Aluminum cans	Aluminum beverage cans.
Appliances (white goods)	Appliances, hot water heaters, microwave ovens, including appliances for sale or reuse.
Asphalt (from paving)	Asphalt paving material.
Asphalt roofing shingles	Asphalt roofing shingles.
Brick	Fired clay bricks.
Carpet and carpet padding	General category of flooring applications and non-rag stock textiles consisting of various natural or synthetic fibers bonded to some type of backing material. Also includes carpet padding.
Chemicals, solvents, paints	Oil-based house paint and primers, stains, deck and concrete sealers, and clear finishes (e.g., shellac and varnish). Medical Wastes: Pharmaceuticals and Medications: Both prescription and over-the-counter medications in all forms, both brand name and generic, including pills, liquid medications, creams, and ointments that residents use in their homes or other residential settings. Other chemicals or pesticides and herbicides, gasoline, kerosene, motor oil and diesel oil, asbestos, and explosives. Spill cleanup of flammable liquids (gasoline and diesel). Solvent-based adhesives and glues, including epoxy, rubber cement, two-part glues and sealers, and auto body fillers. Includes water-based glues, caulking compounds, grouts, and Spackle. Includes caustic cleaners whose primary purpose is to clean surfaces, unclog drains, or perform other actions. Absorbents, Spent Sorbents, Spent Paint, Covid cleaning supplies. Cleaning Solution. Spill cleanup of flammable liquids (gasoline and diesel). Nicotine that is expired/unsellable that is going for recycling.
Clean NOT painted or treated dimensional wood waste (includes pallets and crates)	Pallets, scrap lumber, wood toys, fencing, crates. Specify final use when known: Reuse lumber or pallets, recycling, composting, paper pulp, burned for energy recovery, etc. Note that painted and treated wood is listed separately.
Concrete	Portland cement mixtures, set or unset.
Container glass	Food, beverage, and other glass containers; excluding refillable bottles.
Corrugated cardboard (OCC)	Brown uncoated cardboard boxes with a wavy core and uncontaminated (no plastic liners or wax coating), brown paper bags, kraft paper.
Electronics or computers	Small electronic items, including computers, printers, and all related parts, including refurbished electronics for resale or reuse.
Fats, oils, and grease	Fatty byproducts of food preparation, including cooking oil, butter, lard, and gravy. Can be in liquid or solid form.

<b>Material</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Ferrous metals	Magnetic metal items, such as steel clothes hangers, sheet metal products, pipes, some automobile repair parts, and other miscellaneous, magnetic metal scraps.
Fiberglass insulation	Fiberglass building and mechanical insulation - typically batts.
Fluorescent and mixed bulbs	Fluorescent light tubes and compact fluorescent lights, which are small, fluorescent bulbs similar in appearance to incandescent bulbs. These bulbs typically have a spiral or tubular design. Any light-emitting diode (LED) light bulb or lighting fixture. They usually are not coiled in appearance and have an integrated ballast in the base.
Food and/or food scraps	Food wastes, food scraps, spoiled food, donated food. Can include compostable paper.
Gypsum wall board	Calcium sulfate dehydrate sandwiched between heavy layers of Kraft-type paper.
HDPE plastics (#2)	High-density polyethylene—clear and colored containers made from HDPE; coded (#2).
High grade paper	Computer paper, white bond, Xerox, or notebook paper. Some colored paper.
Household batteries	Ni-cad, flashlight, button batteries.
Household items	Mixed-material furniture such as upholstered chairs. Furniture that is made purely of one material, such as plastic or metal, would be categorized according to that material (e.g., plastic products or other ferrous metal). Small electric appliances such as toasters, microwave ovens, power tools, and curling irons. Sporting Balls, Silverware, and kitchen utensils Sporting Equip (soft). Sporting equipment.
LDPE plastics (#4)	Low-density polyethylene—includes mustard and some other squeezable containers; coded (#4). Excludes plastic bags and wrap.
Mattresses	Box springs, wood or steel frame material and fabric from mattresses.
Mixed paper	Envelopes, telephone books, paperback books, cereal boxes, laundry soap boxes, all magazines, and other recyclable paper not included in other categories
Mixed glass	Mirrors, glassware, glass windowpanes, doors and tabletops, safety glass, architectural glass, and windshield and side window auto glass. Broken glass of any color that can be readily distinguished and separated from other materials.
Newspaper	Black and white newspaper, shredded newsprint, and including other paper normally distributed inside a newspaper such as colored advertisements, comics, flyers, tabloids.
Non-ferrous metals	Copper tubing, brass fixtures, insulated wire, small auto repair parts such as generators, water pumps. Aluminum other than beverage cans.
Other aggregates such as rock and gravel	Other aggregates such as rocks and gravel.

<b>Material</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Other construction and demolition debris	Use ONLY for materials that are not specifically listed in other categories that are a result of a construction or demolition activities. "Other construction and demolition debris" may include toilets, sinks, ceiling tiles, non-asphalt roofing waste and combination materials.
Other recyclable plastics/rigid plastics	Recyclable plastics or plastics products for reuse not included in other plastic categories e.g., toys, PVC pipes, reusable plastic containers, etc. This excludes PET, HDPE, LDPE plastics listed in other categories.
Other recycled materials	Use ONLY for materials that are not specifically listed in other categories. Materials may include but are not limited to antifreeze, oil filters, rubber materials, milk cartons/drink boxes, "Tetra" or aseptic packaging, photographic films, as well as furniture and other household goods sold for reuse.
Painted and/or treated wood waste	Dimensional wood waste that is either painted or treated.
PET plastics (#1)	Polyethylene terephthalate—clear and colored beverage containers, coded (#1).
Plastic film	Plastic film, including plastics bags, pallet wrap, building and boat wrap.
Rigid (foam) insulation	Rigid foam insulation.
Soil and dirt	Includes topsoil and dirt. No contaminated soil or dirt.
Stumps, brush, limbs (non-residential)	Stumps, brush, and limbs chipped for mulch, burned for energy recovery, etc.
Textiles	Clothing and apparel, shop rags, blankets for reuse or recycling.
Tin cans	Coated steel cans, usually food containers.
Tires	Automobile, truck, and bicycle tires. Specify final use on "Material Destination."
Used petroleum oil	Motor oil. Specify final use in "Material Destination."
Vehicle batteries	Automobile, truck, boat, motorcycle batteries; excludes industrial batteries.
Yard debris (grass, leaves, pruning, weeds)	Grass clippings, leaves, tree branches and pruning, and weeds destined for centralized composting.