

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Trash, Recycling & Food Waste Information for Fairfax Residents

### **Q. Why is there a new service?**

**A.** Starting July 1, the state of Vermont mandated that all food waste be kept out of the trash. To help all Fairfax residents with this new requirement the town set up this new service.

### **Q. I am concerned about having too much recycling in a two week period to fit in the current bin. What can I do?**

**A.** The 96-gallon bins are very large, and designed to accommodate two weeks of recycling for the average home. We recommend doing your best to break down all cardboard. When we conducted a waste audit of the recycling from Fairfax in March, we found that there was a 26.19% contamination rate. Therefore to reduce contamination and prevent overflow, only put approved materials into your recycling bin. Please see the next page for a poster of acceptable and unacceptable materials.

### **Q. If I already compost at home, how can I opt out of receiving a food waste bin?**

**A.** To have your new food waste bin removed, just call us at **802-424-2885** and we will pick it up.

### **Q. Won't food waste sitting for two weeks be more of a draw for wildlife?**

**A.** The bins are designed to contain the food waste and not attract wildlife. To help ensure wildlife stays away, we recommend storing the bins someplace that is not already attractive, such as in a shed, a garage, or close to your home.

### **Q. Can I place meat and bones in my food waste bin?**

**A.** Yes! meat and bones can be placed in your food waste bin.

### **Q. How do I keep the food waste bin clean? Are there liners for it?**

**A.** You can purchase BPI certified compostable bags online or at various stores. We also recommend regular washing and rinsing of the bins.

### **Q. How do I avoid bad odors around my home from the food waste bin?**

**A.** There are many ways to reduce odor from your food waste bin: you can layer the top with sawdust, paper shred, or other compostable material as you put in food scraps, you can line the bins with a BPI certified compostable liner, or you can keep it in a cool area.

### **Q. What do I do if my bin breaks or the bin provided does not fit my needs?**

**A.** To have your food waste bin replaced, just call us at **802-424-2885** and we will replace it. If you are producing more food waste than the bin can fit or are running into critter issues, you are welcome to use 5-gallon buckets with lids and we will pick those up as long as you put it out at the curb before your service.

### **Q. What time of day will my food waste service be?**

**A.** Your food waste will be collected at a similar time to when your recycling is typically collected.

### **Q. When is my service day?**

**A.** We recently launched an app called Fairfax Recycles, and within this app, you can see your service schedule, set up reminders, and search where items go. Download the app from the Google Play Store and on the App Store.

**Additional questions?** Please contact us at **802-424-2885**.



# ZERO-SORT® RECYCLING

Toss **ONLY** the Zero-Sort recyclables listed below into your recycling bin

## CARDBOARD/PAPER



**Corrugated Cardboard**  
(Wavy center layer)



**Boxboard**  
(Dry-food boxes, egg cartons, & rolls)



**Junk Mail, Periodicals, & Office Paper**  
(Paper bags, envelopes, & catalogs)

## PLASTIC



**Plastic Bottles, Jugs, Tub, & Lids**  
(Empty kitchen, laundry, & bath containers)



**Aluminum & Steel Cans**  
(Foil & empty food & beverage cans)



**Glass Bottles & Jars**  
(Empty food & beverage bottles & jars)

## REMEMBER TO RECYCLE BETTER!

No items smaller than 2" in size

All containers are empty, rinsed, & dry

Cardboard is flattened & broken down

There are NO items from the NOT ACCEPTED list in the recycling bin



For recycling tips and resources, visit [casella.com/RecycleBetter](http://casella.com/RecycleBetter) • 800-CASELLA



## NOT ACCEPTED

**DO YOUR PART TO RECYCLE BETTER™**  
THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW **DON'T** BELONG IN YOUR RECYCLING BIN



PLASTIC BAGS



BAGGED RECYCLABLES



CLOTHING/TEXTILES



TANGLERS



SCRAP METAL ITEMS



BATTERIES



MEDICAL WASTE



FOOD WASTE/LIQUIDS



ELECTRONICS



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OR EXPLOSIVES



PLASTIC WRAP, FILMS, OR TARPS



WOOD, WASTE, OR TIRES



DISPOSABLE ITEMS



WAXY COATED PAPER ITEMS



CERAMICS OR BAKING GLASS