

# SWANCC Community Awareness Information

## Who SWANCC Is

The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) is an intergovernmental agency that was established in 1988. The Agency's mission is to provide residents in the region with a variety of waste management services, programs and resource materials, to include collections for special materials that cannot go into the curbside recycling program or should not go into the garbage due to toxicity or recoverability (reuse and recycling).

The Agency is comprised of the following 23 communities:

- Arlington Heights
- Barrington
- Buffalo Grove
- Elk Grove Village
- Evanston
- Glencoe
- Glenview
- Hoffman Estates
- Inverness
- Kenilworth
- Lincolnwood
- Morton Grove
- Mount Prospect
- Niles
- Palatine
- Park Ridge
- Prospect Heights
- Rolling Meadows
- Skokie
- South Barrington
- Wheeling
- Wilmette
- Winnetka

## Community Programs

These programs are for SWANCC residents only. For information on locations and drop-off details, visit [swancc.org](http://swancc.org).

- Battery Recycling
- Compact Fluorescent Light Bulb (CFL) Recycling
- Document Destruction Events
- Electronics Recycling
- Holiday Lights Recycling
- Mercury Thermometer Disposal
- Prescription Medications and Sharps Disposal



## Educational Programs

These materials and programs are to assist educators and residents about the benefits of waste reduction practices (reduce, reuse, recycle and rebuy).

- America Recycles Day Resources
- Certificate of Achievement
- Crafts From Trash Activities
- Earth Day Resources
- Environmental Awareness Calendar
- Presentations and Workshops
- Resource Materials and Curricula
- Teaching Tools and Media for Loan
- Waste Reduction Grants



## Resources

Resources are posted at [swancc.org](http://swancc.org).

- Books and Media For Loan
- Eco-Cleaning Guide
- Eco-Friendly Marketplace
- Eco-Landscaping Guide
- Green Pages: Reuse and Recycling Directory
- Informational Videos:
  - Composting at Home
  - Recycling 101
  - Programs for Special Materials
  - Household Paint and Chemicals
  - Electronics Recycling - It's the Law
- Waste Reduction Solutions



## Stay Connected







Join the Agency's online community for upcoming event reminders and information on waste reduction, recycling and sustainability.

- Elist for Educators
- Elist for Residents
- Facebook
- Twitter
- YouTube
- (847) 724-9205



# General Recycling Guidelines

Arlington Heights | Barrington | Buffalo Grove | Elk Grove Village | Evanston | Glencoe | Glenview | Hoffman Estates | Inverness | Kenilworth | Lincolnwood  
Morton Grove | Mount Prospect | Niles | Palatine | Park Ridge | Prospect Heights | Rolling Meadows | Skokie | South Barrington | Wheeling | Wilmette | Winnetka

PLACE IN RECYCLING CONTAINER	 ACCEPTABLE	 NOT ACCEPTABLE
<p><b>PAPER</b></p> 	<p>Includes newspaper, magazines, junk mail, office paper, cardboard boxes, aseptic cartons to include milk, juice and soup containers, cereal/food boxes and paper egg cartons. Flatten all boxes.</p>	<p>Materials should be free of plastic bags and wrappers. <b>DO NOT</b> include bath tissue, paper towels, photos, laminated paper, or paper coated with food, wax or foil.</p>
<p><b>PLASTIC</b></p> 	<p>Plastic containers numbered 1-5 and 7. Caps can be left on empty bottles. Labels do not need to be removed.</p>	<p>Containers should be empty and free of excess liquids and food residue. <b>DO NOT</b> include utensils, plates, toys, plant pots, garden hoses or pools.</p>
<p><b>METAL</b></p> 	<p>Includes clean aluminum, tin and steel cans, foil trays and empty aerosol cans. Labels may remain on the containers. Place metal lids inside cans.</p>	<p>Containers should be empty and free of excess liquids and food residue. <b>DO NOT</b> include fire extinguishers, propane and helium gas tanks, utensils, hangers, small appliances, batteries or auto parts.</p>
<p><b>GLASS</b></p> 	<p>Rinse glass bottles and jars to include clear, amber, blue and green glass. Labels do not need to be removed.</p>	<p><b>DO NOT</b> include light bulbs, mirrors, bakeware, ceramics, drinking glasses, window or auto glass.</p>

**What About Plastic #6?**

Many recycling programs on a national level no longer include #6 PS plastic, known as polystyrene (check with your local hauler). It comes in expanded (fluffy) and rigid (clear) forms. According to

industry experts, #6 PS plastic is not easily recycled because it is mostly air, often coated with food contaminants, and can cost more than other commodities to recycle due to its lightweight nature, lack of competitive markets and high

transportation costs.

However, *Abt Electronics*, 1200 N Milwaukee Ave., and *Dart Container Corp.*, 315 Evergreen Dr., in Aurora take polystyrene from homeowners.

Both companies have drop-off programs for plastic foam packaging and washed out food service items. Visit Abt at [abt.com/green/](http://abt.com/green/) and Dart Container Corp., Inc. at [dartcontainer.com](http://dartcontainer.com) for details.



Plastic bags and wrappers should be stuffed into one bag and tied closed. Recycle them at your nearest participating grocery or retail store.

**RECYCLE  
PLASTIC BAGS**

**Items on the NOT ACCEPTABLE list may contaminate an entire load of recyclables and SHOULD NOT be placed in your recycling cart or bin.**

- |                    |                 |                     |             |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------|
| NO auto parts      | NO combustibles | NO holiday lights   | NO toys     |
| NO batteries       | NO foam         | NO needles/syringes | NO utensils |
| NO clothes hangers | NO food/garbage | NO paint cans       | NO wires    |

**NO Household Chemical Waste. Visit [swancc.org](http://swancc.org) for information on proper disposal.**