

Beyond Paper, Cans, and Bottles: How to Recycle Other Items

Most of us are familiar with how to recycle paper, cardboard, metal cans, and plastic bottles. But many other products are recyclable if you know where to take them. Here's a list of locations that accept a variety of items, making it easy for consumers to recycle:

Trace, the Zero Waste Store, 140 Church Street, NW, Vienna, accepts **toothpaste tubes, deodorant containers, empty floss containers, toothbrushes, pens, markers, plastic pencils, and glue sticks for recycling.**

Nordstrom or Nordstrom Rack accepts **empty beauty product containers.**

Most **Home Depot** stores accept **compact fluorescent light bulbs, plastic plant pots, and rechargeable batteries.**

MOM's Organic Market accepts **old shoes, wine bottle corks, and eyeglasses.**

The store also accepts small electronics that can be refurbished for people in need. Once a year, MOM's has a **denim drive**—check the website for details.

<https://momsorganicmarket.com/recycle-center/>

Giant, Safeway, Harris-Teeter, and WaWa accept **clean, dry plastic bags and mailers** for recycling. Mailers must be all plastic, ***with stickers cut off.***

H&M will accept **unwanted clothes or textiles** at their stores. Even if the textiles are no longer usable, they will be turned into things such as cleaning cloths or insulation.

Don't forget to take **clean glass containers** to one of the **purple bins** for recycling located at many locations around Fairfax County.

Hard-to-recycle items can also be taken to the **I-66 Transfer Station in Fairfax County**. It accepts things like used cooking oil, electronics, scrap metal, and some types of batteries, glass, and compost. Details are available online: <https://bit.ly/I-66Transfer>.

Wherever you take your recyclables, ***please make sure they are clean.*** Dirty items contaminate everything else and slow the process.

Source: *Vienna Voice*, February 2023

Recycling is a simple act with a great impact.