

# RECYCLING BASICS

## Focus on recycling these basic materials:

### Metal Cans



### Paper & Cardboard



### Glass



### Plastics



## DOES IT MATTER?

Does it matter if you toss leftover food scraps, grass clippings, or a bottle of old salad dressing into your recycle container? Does anyone even notice? Can it really cause an entire truck load of items to be rejected at the recycle center? The answer is yes, yes, and yes!

Contamination is on the rise and can affect the cost of recycling for everybody.

Tossing all eligible recycling items into one container, (single-stream recycling), is one of the most common recycling methods today. With the ease of this system, however, comes greater chances for contamination.



Contamination tends to change seasonally and summer brings more yard waste, hoses, and food scraps that do not belong in the recycling stream.

Plastic bags are a constant issue for single-stream recycling and never belong in your container.

What you toss in the container really does matter. If you are unsure of what items are eligible in the city of Thornton recycling container, visit [www.cityofthornton.net/trashrecycling](http://www.cityofthornton.net/trashrecycling) and look for the Recycling Basics flyer.