Rubbermaid®
Commercial Products

WHAT DOES GOOD RECYCLING LOOK LIKE?



WHAT DOES GOOD RECYCLING LOOK LIKE?

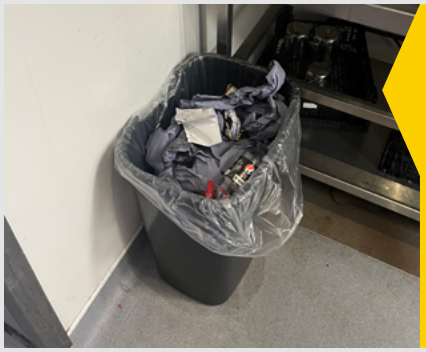
How to implement effective multi-stream recycling in your facility

Whether it's delivery packaging, food leftovers or plastic drinks bottles, businesses are constantly disposing of recyclable waste. With multiple streams to be separated and different areas of your facility generating different types of waste, understanding where to focus your efforts can seem daunting. Here are our simple steps to better recycling and what to look out for in a multi-stream system that'll help you maximise efficiency and long-term budgets.

Make it easy with visible and colour-coded signage

Reduce cross-contamination and boost recycling efficiency by making recycling easy for your customers and employees. Clear and colour-coded signage with familiar symbols will help people quickly identify what type of waste can be recycled where.

Tip: Although you'll need different types of bins in different locations, choosing a manufacturer who can provide consistent colour-coding and messaging across all your containers will help you to embed a culture of recycling compliance within your venue, as well as demonstrate your dedication to sustainability.



Lack of signage showing which waste goes where leads to costly cross-contamination

Symbols, words and consistent colours show users what can be recycled where at a glance



Don't take a one-bin-fits-all approach

Different areas of your facility will have different requirements, meaning a one-bin-fits-all approach isn't going to cut it. Whether it's slim step-on bins for tight spaces in kitchen and food preparation areas, aesthetically designed bins for front-of-house areas, or large waste containers to handle high volumes back of house, choosing the right recycling stations for each area of your facility means you can effectively separate your recyclable waste without interfering with day-to-day operations.

Tip: Go for modular recycling systems rather than single units housing multiple bins. This allows you the flexibility to add and remove streams as your needs change over time, without having to replace the whole unit. Modular systems are also typically easier to maintain and clean versus 'all-in-one' systems.



Bins that don't best use the space available result in missed recycling opportunities

Narrow footprint for recycling that doesn't get in the way of the day-to-day



Food for thought: taking action on organic waste

5x **cheaper to dispose of food waste per kilogram than general waste.**[1]



According to WRAP, for every **£1 invested in food waste management, an organisation stands to make £14 in savings**.[2] By introducing a food waste stream into your recycling set-up, you can save on transportation and disposal costs, as well as make sure you're compliant with England's recycling laws from March 2025.



Durability: a worthwhile investment

Investing in waste and recycling containers that last longer means you buy better and waste less, helping you to support sustainability targets and cut costs. Prioritising durability when selecting your bins could see you cut their environmental impact by **72%** and commercial costs by a third.[3] Look for solutions that come with long warranties for further peace of mind. You can read more about the importance of prioritising durability in this article.

The hidden stream that could be costing you

An often missed internal source of waste in many facilities that can drain budgets and hamper sustainability efforts is the "personal waste" generated by staff rather than operations. Think about where you need bins to capture recyclable waste such as drinks cans and bottles, and food waste.



Start your journey to better recycling today

Our team of waste and recycling experts are on hand to help you understand how much your business could save by improving its recycling products and processes.

You can request a callback here.

[1] https://www.jellybeancreative.co.uk/2023/01/12/as-an-industry-are-we-ready-for-2023-food-waste-legislation/
[2] https://smarterbusiness.co.uk/blogs/a-quick-guide-to-your-food-waste-bins/
[3] RCP Love Sustainability insights report: Why product longevity is a powerful first step to improving commercial sustainability