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This directory is intended to help users properly dispose of, and if possible, divert items from landfill disposal. Northampton County does not promote any particular business. The mention of any business or organization does not constitute its endorsement by the County. This is only to serve as a guide and is not necessarily complete. However, if you would like an item or location added let us know by emailing PUBWRKSCentral@northamptoncounty.org

MATERIAL	WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:		DISPOSAL METHOD
PACKING MATERIALS	Air pillows, bubble wrap and Styrofoam peanuts are not easily recycled, but stores like UPS and Fed Ex. accept them. If reuse is not an option, they should be thrown away in the trash.		Package Shipping Store
PADDED ENVELOPES	Padded envelopes made of the same materials (e.g., paper envelope with paper cushioning) are easily recycled, but if you want to recycle envelopes made of mixed materials (e.g., paper envelope with bubble-wrap inside), you'll have to separate them yourself before recycling. If you do separate the materials, they are not recyclable in most curbside programs.	 	Recycle Trash
PAINT LATEX/WATER-BASED, ACRYLIC	ReStore of the LV offers occasional Latex Paint Collections at their facility in Whitehall Township, Lehigh County. Latex paint can also be dried, mix with an absorbent for large quantities, and disposed of in regular trash.		Trash
PAINT LEAD-BASED	Call the Lead Hotline (800) 424-LEAD for a list of certified contractors for removal		Call Lead Hotline
PAINT OIL-BASED	Use up, donate or bring to a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event. <u>If you cannot wait for or attend a collection event</u> : Paints are not regulated if from a private home; therefore can be disposed of with trash. Dry out with an absorbent material. Divide larger quantities and dispose over several trash pickups. Please see the Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Guide , for more information.		Hazardous Waste
PAINT PRIMER, THINNER, WOOD PRESERVES, VARNISH	Use up, donate or dispose of at a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event. <u>If you cannot wait for or attend a collection event</u> : Paint products are not regulated if from a private home; therefore can be disposed of with trash. Dry out with an absorbent material. Divide larger quantities and dispose over several trash pickups. Please see the Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Guide , for more information. Note: Paint thinner can be filtered through cloth and reused.		Hazardous Waste
PAINT ROLLERS AND BRUSHES	Paint rollers and brushes should be dried out and placed in the trash.		Trash
PAINT CANS	Leftover paint must first be dried with an absorbent material, they can then be disposed of in the trash, lids off.		Trash
PALLETS	Pallets can be "clean" or chemical treated. "Clean" lumber is stamped with the letters HT (Heat Treatment), KD (kiln-dried), or DB (debarked). Do-it-yourselfers want clean pallets for projects. Give away or sell your pallets online through Craigslist, Freecycle, Nextdoor, or local Facebook groups. Check with your municipal yard waste facility or hauler of clean or untreated pallets can be accepted as yard waste if nails or fasteners are removed and pallets are cut down to acceptable dimensions. Use caution reusing treated pallets. Unusable treated pallets are not recyclable and should be disposed of as trash.	 	Yard Waste Drop-Off Locations Treated Wood Drop-Off Locations

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY RECYCLING & DISPOSAL GUIDE A- Z

Department of Public Works 2021

PAPER DRINKING AND SOUP CUPS	These types of drinking cups are coated in plastic and cannot be broken down into pulp and recycled. Please dispose of this item in your regular trash. It is not recyclable through most curbside recycling programs.		Trash
PAPER NAPKINS/TOWELS	Paper napkins should be disposed of in the trash, not your recycling bin.		Trash
PAPER PLATES UNWAXED	Unwaxed paper plates can go in your recycling bin, as long as they are free of food residue.		Recycle
PAPER PLATES WAXED	Paper plates soiled with food residue or waxed paper plates belong in the trash.		Trash
PAPER STRAWS	Due to their small diameter it is unlikely straws will be recycled- they will fall out during a process designed to remove small items of contamination. On the flip side, paper straws are fully biodegradable and compostable and will start to break down in a landfill within a few weeks.		Trash
PAPER TUBES PAPER TOWEL, TOILET PAPER	Paper towel and toilet paper tubes can be recycled in your curbside recycling bin. Tubes should be empty, without any other materials still stuck to them.		Recycling
PAPER TUBES CARPET ROLL	Thicker, rigid cardboard tubes – like carpet roll tubes – should be reused or disposed of in the trash. These tubes cannot be recycled curbside or at recycling drop-offs because they are filled with a large amount of glue making them too rigid to bend easily. They will damage recycling sorting equipment.		Trash
PAPERBACK BOOKS	Paperback books, including phone books can be recycled in your curbside bin. Books for Soldiers sends paperbacks to members of the military. You can also take your books to a Better World Books drop-off bin .		Donate or Recycle
PARCHMENT PAPER	Soiled wax-coated paper (microwave popcorn bags, meat/cheese paper, cookie bags & paper plates) go in the trash.		Trash
PARTICLEBOARD	Includes medium density fiberboard (MDF), oriented strand board (OSB), and particleboard. These products are engineered wood composites used in furniture, cabinets, trim and molding, and a variety of other applications. You can give away, sell, or donate leftover construction materials. Contact a reuse company to ask about donating your specific item. If you can't donate or recycle, dispose as trash.		Donate
			Trash
PATIO HEATERS/METAL FIRE PITS	Patio heaters/metal fire pits can be sold or given away. However, not all donation centers accept patio heaters/metal fire pits. Remove and recycle propane tanks from patio heaters and recycle metal at a scrap yard or metal collection bin.		Metal Scrap Recycling
PATIO PAVERS & EDGING	Give away, sell, or donate good condition items. Contact a reuse company to ask about donating your specific item. If you can't donate or recycle, dispose as trash.		Donate
			Trash
PEANUT BUTTER JARS	Empty, rinsed and dry peanut butter jars can be recycled in your curbside bin. To avoid recycling contamination, if your peanut butter jars are not empty it's best to throw your peanut butter jars in the trash.		Recycle
PEPPER SPRAY/MACE	You can contact your local police department for disposal of unused or expired pepper spray or mace. If they do not accepted, you can spray the contents, away from other people, children and pets, against concrete, rock or grassy surface, until the container is empty. If you do not feel comfortable doing this you can put your pepper spray container into a heavy-duty ziplock bag, seal tightly and place into your trash. Empty pepper spray/mace containers should be placed in the trash. Do not put them in your curbside recycling bin.		Contact local Police Dept.
			Trash

<p>PERFUME FULL, PARTIALLY FULL</p>	<p>If you have a full bottle of perfume you don't need or find isn't quite your scent, consider swapping the bottle with a friend, or selling it. For both full and partially used bottles, organizations like Project Beauty Share will gladly take your unwanted fragrances and give them to women in need. Above all, you should never pour out perfume down the drain as this risks contaminating the waterways.</p>		<p>Donate</p>
<p>PEROXIDE HYDROGEN</p>	<p>Peroxide is subject to spontaneous combustion at temperatures slightly above room temperature. Generally, hydrogen peroxide expires six months after being opened, or three years if it is not open. You can dispose of expired hydrogen peroxide that you bought from a drug store by pouring it down the sink. Higher concentrations of hydrogen peroxide need to be diluted with water before they're thrown out.</p>		<p>Use precaution: can be diluted and poured out</p>
<p>PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)</p>	<p>Personal protective equipment (PPE) includes gowns, gloves, masks, goggles and more. Do not put personal protective equipment in your curbside recycling bin or take to a drop-off center. Used PPE should not be donated or used by others. Personal protective equipment should be thrown in the trash.</p>		<p>Trash</p>
<p>PESTS</p>	<p>Non-toxic remedies for common pests: Ants - Put chili powder, dried bay leaves, or lemon peels at point of entry; put lemon juice in holes. Fleas - Sprinkle non-iodized salt on carpets; it kills the larvae but won't hurt rugs Flies - Put out a well-watered pot of basil Mice & Rats - Put mashed potato powder or buds in strategic places. Place a separate dish of water alongside the buds. Mosquito Repellent - Plant basil around the house Moths - Place cedar chips or equal parts of dried rosemary and dried mint in locations where clothes are stored. Roaches - Put equal parts of powdered sugar and baking soda in small containers</p>		
<p>PET FOOD BAGS</p>	<p>Pet food bags are not recyclable and should be thrown away in the trash.</p>		<p>Trash</p>
<p>PET WASTE</p>	<p>Pet waste is a health hazard and a water pollutant. If left laying in the yard, bacteria from pet waste can wash directly into storm drains and drainage ditches and eventually into our waterways completely untreated. Pet waste does not make a good fertilizer and is actually toxic to your lawn, causing burns and unsightly discoloring. Beyond your grass, dog feces are one of the most common carriers of heartworms, whipworms, roundworms, parvo and several other diseases. You can scoop up pet waste and flush it down the toilet so that your sewage treatment plant or your septic system can treat it, or seal the waste in a plastic bag and throw it in the trash.</p>		<p>Trash</p>
<p>PHARMACEUTICALS/ PRESCRIPTIONS LIQUID</p>	<p>Mix with an unpalatable substance such as dirt, kitty litter, or used coffee grounds, place the mixture in a sealed plastic bag, and place in regular trash. Remove personal information from plastic bottles and place empty bottles in recycling bin.</p>		<p>Medication Disposal Guide</p>
<p>PHARMACEUTICALS/ PRESCRIPTIONS PILLS, SUPPLEMENTS, VITAMINS</p>	<p>Medication Collection boxes are located at local police departments, County Courthouse and state police barracks. Expired or unused medications can be disposed of anonymously. If you cannot safely dispose at secure collection box, mix with an unpalatable substance such as dirt, kitty litter, or used coffee grounds, place the mixture in a sealed plastic bag, and place in regular trash. Remove personal information from plastic bottles and place empty bottles in recycling bin. See the Medication Disposal Guide for more information.</p>		<p>Medication Collection Box, located at local police depts.</p>
<p>PHONE BOOKS</p>	<p>Phone books can be recycled in your curbside bin or at a municipal drop-off center. To remove your address from phonebook directory delivery: enter your zip code here and selecting from the directory publications list.</p>		<p>Recycle</p>

PHOTOGRAPHS, PHOTOGRAPHIC PAPER	Specialty papers like carbon copies, blueprints, photographs, photographic paper, thermal paper (receipts) and waterproof paper are made of non-recyclable materials and should be disposed of in the trash.		Trash
PILL BOTTLES	Empty pill bottles can be put in your recycling bin. Keep the cap on the bottle. Remove labels to protect personal information. If the bottle still contains medicine, bring to a medicine drop-off box or view the Medication Disposal Guide for additional safe options. You can also contact your local pharmacy or veterinary office to see if they could reuse your empty bottles, or send to Matthew 25: Ministries , where they will be sent to places where medical supplies are needed, or shredded and recycled.		Recycle or Donate
PILLOWS	Pillows can either be reused or thrown away in the trash. Throw pillows in reusable condition can be donated to local thrift stores for reuse. Bed pillows are generally not accepted at thrift stores or charities. They should be thrown way in the trash. If a pillow is not reusable (i.e. torn, stained, or in bad condition) or you cannot repurpose the fabric or filling, they should be thrown away in the trash.		Donate
			Trash
PIPES METAL	Metal pipe (including lead pipe) can be recycled as scrap metal. Do not put metal or plastic pipe in your recycling bin. Pipes should go in the trash if you cannot reuse, donate, or take them to a scrap metal recycler.		Metal Scrap Recycling
PIZZA BOXES	Pizza boxes that are not significantly soiled with food waste can be recycled in your curbside recycling bin. Pizza boxes that are greasy or have food on them should be thrown away. <i>Note:</i> Frozen pizza boxes are not recyclable. These contain a moisture barrier that makes recycling as paper/boxboard difficult. The only exception to this rule is a frozen pizza that is wrapped in plastic, and then boxed.		Trash
PLANT POTS/TRAYS	Plant pots made of plastic are recyclable. You can take them back to the garden store you purchased them from, or to Lowe’s or Home Depot, which both offer a garden pot recycling program. Otherwise plant pots made of plastic should be placed in the trash.		Garden Supply Store
			Trash
PLANTS	You spread dead plants on your lawn and mulch them with a lawnmower. Some plants can be composted as garden residue in your backyard compost pile or at your municipal yard waste site. Some species of invasive plants and weeds (ex. Japanese Knotwood, Bamboo, Poison Ivy) should not be composted or even burned in a brush pile, they have the potential to survive in compost or make contact with the ground and re-root, spreading to new locations. They should be bagged and disposed of in your trash.		Compost
			Trash
PLASTIC  PETE	Plastic #1 The easiest and most common plastics to recycle are made of polyethylene terephthalate (PETE) and are assigned the umber 1. Plastic #1 can be recycled curbside or at a recycling center. An exception are clam shell containers, commonly used for grocery store fruit. These containers should be placed in your household trash.		Recycle
PLASTIC  HDPE	Plastic #2 Number 2 is reserved for high-density polyethylene (HDPE) plastics, and is usually found in heavier containers such as milk jugs. Like plastic number 1, it is widely accepted curbside and at recycling centers.		Recycle
PLASTIC  PVC	Plastic #3 Plastics marked number 3 are made of Vinyl or PVC, and can be difficult to recycle. They are accepted by some plastic lumber makers and recycled into decks or paneling.		Vinyl Recycling locator
PLASTIC  LDPE	Plastic #4 Plastics marked number 4 are made of LDPE (low density polyethylene) and are found in squeezable bottles and plastic grocery bags. While LDPE is not often recycled through curbside programs, some cities do accept it. Plastic shopping bags can be returned to designated bins at many stores for recycling.		Grocery Store
			Trash

<p>PLASTIC  PP</p>	<p>Plastic #5 These plastics are made of polypropylene, and cannot be recycled through most curbside programs. You can recycle them through Preserve’s “Gimme 5” program, which accepts all types of clean #5 plastics. Visit preserveproducts.com/recycling for details.</p>		<p>Mail in recycle program</p>
<p>PLASTIC  PS</p>	<p>Plastic #6 (Styrofoam) Plastic number 6, or polystyrene, is often difficult to recycle. Some plastic #6 products, such as cups, CD and DVD cases, are easier. The EPS Industry Alliance offers a mail-in program for recycling; visit www.epspackaging.org for details.</p>		<p>Mail-in recycle program</p>
<p>PLASTIC  OTHER</p>	<p>Plastic #7 Made of mixed plastic, number 7 plastics have traditionally not been recycled, though some curbside programs now take them. Confirm with your municipality to find out whether they do.</p>		<p>Municipal Recycling Drop-Off Locations</p>
<p>PLASTIC LINERS- RIGID</p>	<p>Includes plastic molds from spas or pools, landscape water features, and truck beds. You can give away, sell, or donate good condition items. If your liner is ripped an unusable you can dispose of as trash.</p>		<p>Trash</p>
<p>PLASTIC PROCESSORS</p>	<p>PA DEP offers a list of plastic processing companies that may buy various types of plastics.</p>		<p>Plastic Processors</p>
<p>PLASTICS AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL</p>	<p>PA DEP offers a list of locations to recycle agricultural plastics, this list was generated in 2016, therefor contact locations for confirmation of accepted material. If there is no location near you, agricultural and horticultural plastic should be thrown away in the trash.</p>		<p>Agricultural Plastic Outlets</p>
<p>PLASTICS BARRELS & DRUMS</p>	<p>Plastic barrels or plastic drums should be reused or should be disposed of in the trash.</p>		<p>Trash</p>
<p>PLASTICS BUCKETS, LAWN FURNITURE, PLAY STRUCTURES, TOYS</p>	<p>Plastic buckets, lawn furniture, play structures and toy can potentially be donated if in good condition. Or they can be recycled as bulky rigid plastics at some municipal drop-off locations. Contact specific drop off locations before visiting to verify if they can take a specific item. Bulky rigid plastics describes plastic containers and items with a #2 (HDPE) or #5 (PP) in the chasing arrow symbol on them that are larger than what is acceptable in curbside recycling. Be sure to remove all metals, including handles, and other non-plastic items before recycling. Please note: Hasbro® toys and games can be recycled through a free mail-in program sponsored by TerraCycle®.</p>		<p>Municipal Recycling Drop-Off Locations</p>
<p>PLASTICS PARTY TRAYS</p>	<p>Plastic party trays and deli trays (such as those from grocery stores) are made from plastic that is not currently recyclable locally due to fluctuations in recycling markets and should be thrown away. Try to avoid them by selecting reusable options and avoiding products packaged in low-value plastics.</p>		<p>Trash</p>
<p>PLASTICS PALLETS</p>	<p>Plastic pallets are not recyclable curbside. Contact your municipal recycling drop-off center to see if plastic pallets are accepted. Lehigh Polymers recycles plastic pallets. Contact (610) 438-5251 for more information. Plastic pallets can be reused or last case scenario thrown away in the trash.</p>		<p>Municipal Recycling Drop-Off Locations</p>
<p>PLASTICS PET CARRIERS</p>	<p>Many local thrift stores and some animal rescue centers accept pet carriers. Contact individual locations for details. Plastic pet carriers can also be recycled as bulky rigid plastics at municipal recycling drop-off locations.</p>		<p>Donate</p>
<p>PLASTICS TAKE-OUT CONTAINERS</p>	<p>Plastic take-out containers are generally made of low-value plastics, which are currently not accepted in recycling due to changes in international recycling markets and should be thrown away. Community members may choose to avoid them by selecting reusable options and avoiding products packaged in plastic to-go containers and other low-value plastics.</p>		<p>Trash</p>

PLASTICS TUBES	Plastic tubes, like tooth paste tubes, should be thrown away in the trash. They are not locally recyclable.		Trash
PLASTICS TUBS	Plastic tubs, including yogurt tubs and sour cream tubs, are accepted in curbside recycling or at municipal recycling drop-off locations. Tubs must be empty and dry.		Recycle
PLATE GLASS	Plate glass, sheet glass, or flat glass are large sheets of glass used in windows and vehicle windshields. Plate glass is not recyclable. You can give away, sell, or donate good condition items. If you can't donate or if the item is broken, dispose as trash.		Trash
PLAYING CARDS	Playing cards can't be recycled as paper since they're plastic coated. They should be put in the trash.		Trash
PLEXIGLASS	Plexiglass is not recyclable. For large pieces contact your hauler or municipality for bulk collection or you can drop-off at a transfer station or landfill for disposal.		Trash
PLUG-IN AIR FRESHENER	Scented refills, car freshener scents, plug-in refills, aromatherapy refills, essential oil bottles, diffuser sticks and potpourri should be disposed in your household trash.		Trash
POLYSTYRENE STYROFOAM	Food grade Styrofoam (polystyrene) and other Styrofoam to-go containers and cups should be thrown in the trash. They cannot be recycled locally and are not biodegradable.		Trash
POPSOCKETS®	TerraCycle® and PopSockets® have partnered to create a free recycling program for PopSockets products, PopSockets packaging, and phone cases from any brand.		TerraCycle® Mail-in recycle program
PORCELAIN	Porcelain products will not be accepted with your household recycling. Porcelain, including sinks and toilets, in reusable condition can be dropped off to certain stores for resale and reuse or recycled. Contact your trash hauler to see if you can schedule a pickup of the item or to see if it is acceptable to be curbed with trash/bulk pickup.		Trash
POST-IT NOTES	Post-It notes are made of recyclable material and are recyclable in your curbside bin, though items smaller than 3" x 5" are often difficult to capture in recycling processing equipment and fall through the sorting processing.		Recycle
POSTERS	If a poster is made of paper, it is recyclable. Glossy paper is OK. Laminated or Mounted Posters are not recyclable. Laminated posters have a shiny, plastic coating on both sides. Mounted posters are on a board to provide them with more rigid support.		Recycle plain paper
			Trash
POTATO CHIP CANISTERS	These containers are made of multiple/mixed materials (paper tube, foil lining, metal bottom) that cannot be easily separated for recycling. Empty chip canisters can be disposed in your household trash.		Trash
POTTING SOIL	Unusable potting soil can be thrown away in your trash.		Trash
POTS & PANS	Gently used pots and pans can be donated to college students, local thrift stores or recycled as scrap metal. Contact location before donating to verify what they can accept. Pots and pans that cannot be reused can be recycled as scrap metal.		Metal Scrap Recycling

PRESSURE MEASURING DEVICES*	Devices used to measure pressure, such as barometers, manometers, sphygmomanometers (blood pressure cuffs), and vacuum gauges often contain large amounts of mercury and should not be disposed of in the trash. The mercury is typically visible as a bright silver liquid. American Diagnostic Corporation offers a mail-in return program for sphygmomanometers. You can contact the manufacturer regarding collection options or a collection site accepting mercury-containing bulbs from the Bulb Disposal Locations list.		Hazardous Waste Bulb Disposal Guide
			Contact Manufacturer
PRESSURE TREATED WOOD	Pressure treated wood can be disposed of with your trash. If you have more to dispose of than you want to put with your weekly collection you can bring it to a construction and demolition site for disposal.		Construction & Demolition Drop-Off Locations
PRINTER CARTRIDGES	<u>In-Store Return:</u> Some retail office supply stores take back used ink cartridges. Some locations include: Best Buy®, Staples® and Target™ stores. <u>Mail-back Option:</u> vendors such as Hewlett Packard and Lexmark have a mail back program that allows customers to returned used cartridges. Refer to manufacturer of the cartridge to see if they participate and their process of collection. Do not put ink or toner cartridges in your recycling bin, if you cannot return to a store or mail back your cartridges, dispose of them in your trash. Cartridges for Kids is a fundraising opportunity for schools and businesses.		Best Buy, Staples, or Target
			Mail-in programs: contact manufacturer
PRINTERS AND COPIERS	Printers and copiers are considered electronics waste and should be disposed of properly. You can take your unwanted/non-working copiers and printers to Best Buy® or Staples® for free recycling.		Best Buy or Staples
PROPANE TANKS	Most retail stores that sell 20 lb. (gas grill size) propane tanks offer free exchange programs to get a new filled tank. Blue Rhino offers a free recycling program for 20 lb. tanks that are no longer needed. Write "RECYCLE" on the tank and take it to any Blue Rhino location . Most scrap yards will accept empty propane tanks, however removing the valve may be required as proof the tank is empty. Smaller tanks are often not refillable but can be recycled at a Northampton County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event. For more information, see the Propane Tank Disposal Guide .		Blue Rhino locations
PROPANE TANKS SINGLE USE- 1 POUND	You can contact a metal scrap recycler to see if they accept 1-lb tanks. Small propane tanks (1 pounders) can be placed in the trash if completely evacuated. Divide larger quantities and dispose over several collection periods. Consider buying an adapter that allows you to refill them from a larger propane tank. You can find locations that sell and refill the cylinders through refuelyourfun.org . Do not place propane tanks in your curbside recycling bin.		Metal Scrap Recycling
			Trash
PUMPS AND SPRAYER TOPS	Pumps and sprayer tops from bottles are not recyclable. Place them in the trash. Make sure to rinse and recycle plastic containers and bottles.		Trash
PUZZLES	Puzzle pieces are too small to be sorted through recycling processing equipment. If you have intact puzzles you can donate them to a thrift store or community center. Puzzles with missing pieces can be discarded in your trash.		Donate
			Trash
PVC	PVC and other construction-type plastic should be disposed of in the trash. It is not recyclable curbside. You can look for a Vinyl Recycling locator if you have large quantities.		Vinyl Recycling locator
			Trash
PYREX	Pyrex and other heat-treated bakeware and kitchen glass cannot be recycled, so if it's no longer useful in the kitchen, throw it in the trash, or repurpose it.		Trash

*Mercury is a naturally occurring, highly toxic, heavy metal that moves between water, air, and soil as a result of natural and human activities. It is a persistent and bioaccumulative toxin (PBT), which means that it accumulates in animals and people, becoming more concentrated as it moves up the food chain, causing harm to people and the environment. Mercury should not be discarded in the trash, flushed down the toilet, or left on the side of a road. All mercury containing products should be disposed of as a hazardous waste.