

# KEEP CEDAR LAKE BEAUTIFUL

*Recycle Right*



## PLASTIC

Numbers 1-5, 7  
(NO PLASTIC BAGS)

## GLASS

Glass bottles  
Glass jars

## PAPER

newspapers  
magazines  
junk mail  
paper (no shredded paper)  
milk or juice cartons  
flattened cardboard

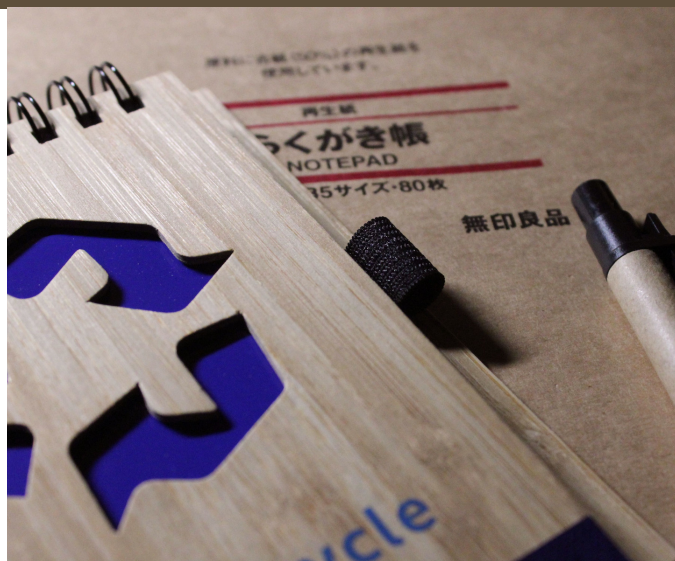
## METAL

food cans  
beverage cans

## HOW DO I RECYCLE RIGHT?

The Recycling Drop Off Center located at the Cedar Lake Public Works Facility (8550 Lake Shore Drive) is for household recyclables only. Recyclables must be **EMPTY**, **CLEAN**, and **DRY** with all labels removed. Illegal dumping and contamination (including plastic bags) result in entire loads being landfilled. By recycling right, we can ensure that valuable recyclables are properly managed as a commodity.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT  
[WWW.LCSWMD.COM](http://WWW.LCSWMD.COM)





# EMPTY, CLEAN, & DRY

courtesy of Republic Services

Republic Services, one of the nation's largest recycling haulers, has launched an "EMPTY, CLEAN, & DRY" campaign.

The goal of the campaign is to re-educate the public and encourage residents to change the way they think about recycling.

These three simple steps will help reduce contamination in the recycling waste stream and ensure recyclables are repurposed into new materials as intended.

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*The Recycling Industry has hit a speed bump*

## UNIVERSAL RECYCLING GUIDELINES

- **No plastic bags.** Comingled loads are sorted mechanically. Plastic bags gum up the machinery and can shut down a whole line. Dispose of plastic bags (grocery bags, bread bags, newspaper bags) at your grocery store. Even better: skip the bag and bring your own tote.
- **Don't bag your recycling and throw it in your bin.** All recyclable materials should be loose. When dumped at the recycling center, they are sorted by a series of conveyer belts and processes. You can see this mechanical sorting on YouTube if you search for "MRF," which stands for "material recovery facility."
- **Some items are never recyclable.** These include: plastic bags, toys, clothing, diapers, styrofoam, and yard waste. Never throw these materials in your bin—even if they are plastic.
- **Just because a plastic item has a recycle symbol on it doesn't mean it's recyclable.** Currently, haulers in our county are taking plastics 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7: you can find the number on the bottom of the item. Translated, this means items such as plastic bottles and jars, milk or juice jugs, margarine and yogurt tubs. Never recycle shrink wrap, Ziploc bags, plastic pouches, or shipping plastic.
- **When in doubt, throw it out.** It's better than contaminating the whole load.

courtesy of Marianne Peters, Marshall County



**1. Empty:** Remove any remaining food or liquid contents from your recyclable item before placing it in a recycling container;

**2. Clean:** Lightly rinse the recyclable item to remove any remaining residue; and

**3. Dry:** Gently shake out excess water or let the recyclable item air-dry before placing it in a recycling container.