



The University of Mississippi

Physical Plant Department

Recycling Program



Overview:

The University of Mississippi Physical Plant offers a recycling program within academic buildings and select athletic facilities across the Oxford campus. This recycling program does not apply to game day events.

What Materials Can You Recycle?

The University of Mississippi collects five major categories of materials from campus buildings:

- 1) **Mixed Paper**
- 2) **Aluminum and Steel Cans**
- 3) **Plastic #1 and # 2**
- 4) **Cardboard**
- 5) **Toner Cartridges**

1. Mixed Paper

Paper is collected throughout campus in collection bins labeled “Mixed Paper” or “Paper/Cardboard”. The following paper items can be included within the Mixed Paper collection bins:

Newspapers (i.e. Daily Mississippian, Clarion Ledger, Oxford Eagle)

Newspapers are commonly recycled into paperboard, new newsprint, insulation and animal bedding products. Recycling newspapers saves valuable space in landfills. Please include any inserts (advertisements, comics & coupons) originally delivered with the paper. Do not include rubber bands or plastic bags.

Magazines

Includes magazines with glue or stapled bindings.

Soft back Textbooks

Any plastic sheet covers must be removed from booklets.
Large wire or plastic spiral bindings must be removed.

Hardback Books

The hard covers must be removed.

Phone Books

University and Oxford phone books can be included in the paper recycling bins.

Other Common Paper Items

Paper bags
Manila folders
Junk Mail

Envelopes with or without plastic windows
White or colored office paper

We CANNOT recycle:

- Paper lined with plastic or metal
- Paper coated with wax (e.g. milk cartons, orange juice cartons, etc.)
- Paper with food debris (e.g. pizza box)
- Styrofoam blocks, Styrofoam peanuts or cups.
- Packing material (e.g. bubble pack, padded envelope mailers, etc.)

2. Aluminum & Steel Cans

Aluminum and steel cans are collected together everywhere on campus, regardless of what the label on the bin may indicate (such as “aluminum cans only”). There is no need to separate metal cans on campus.

All aluminum and steel cans are accepted. Most aluminum cans are viewed as beverage cans and some pet food cans are also aluminum. Steel cans like food cans, shaving cream, deodorant and some pet food cans are all accepted. If possible, please rinse all cans and put them loosely into the recycling bin.

As the following commodities tend to burn rather than melt during the recycling process, **we CANNOT recycle:**

- Aluminum foil
- Aluminum pie pans
- Aluminum food trays

3. Plastics

Plastics are collected together with aluminum and steel cans everywhere on campus, regardless of what the label on the bin may indicate (such as “plastic bottles only”). There is no need to separate metal cans from plastic nor is it necessary to remove the top of your plastic bottle before recycling. We do ask that you remove any liquids from the bottle before placing the bottle into the recycling bin.

The plastics industry has developed a coding system to help consumers identify different types of plastic resins used in packaging. The codes can be found on the bottom of most plastic containers. Of the many types of plastics used in packaging, only two types of plastic are currently recycled at the Oxford campus, including:

-  **Plastic Soda/Water Bottles:** The material used to make plastic beverage bottles (polyethylene terephthalate or PETE) is recyclable. These bottles are coded with the number 1 and the letters PETE. About 30 percent of all PETE bottles sold are recycled into a variety of products. The bottles you recycle could end up as carpet backing, sleeping bag insulation, containers for non-food items, tool handles, auto parts and even clothing.
-  **Plastic Milk Jugs:** The plastic used in one-gallon milk and cleaning supplies (high density polyethylene or HDPE) is also recycled to make products such as trash cans, flower pots and plastic pipe. These containers are coded with the number 2

and the letters HDPE. Other common HDPE #2 plastics include: milk jugs, detergent bottles, and other food and liquid containers.

Please do not put any other type of plastic into the receptacle. Metal cans and plastics share a bin and are sorted at the Oxford Recycling Center.

4. Cardboard

All cardboard to be recycled must be broken down and placed behind the paper recycling bin in the hallway of your campus building. (Be sure to remove any Styrofoam or packing material.)

- Corrugated cardboard is used to make new paperboard and corrugated cardboard boxes.
- Cardboard boxes with food residue such as pizza boxes are typically not accepted by the recycling center. The top of the pizza boxes are likely to be accepted if no food residue is visible.

5. Ink/Toner Cartridges

Toner Cartridges can be recycled at the recycle station located in the hallways of academic buildings.

Toner cartridges will then be moved to the Physical Plant to shrink wrap, place on pallets and stored. Once collected, a partnered organization will pick up the pallets of toner cartridges free of charge and then recycle the cartridges for reuse. The partnered organization will provide the university with points based on the number of cartridges received; points will then be converted for use for student projects.

Recycling Collection Process:

Collection bins for recyclables are being placed in all academic buildings and select athletic facilities across campus. These bins will be grouped into “**Recycling Stations**”. The stations will be located on each floor and will consist of; 1- Mixed Paper, 1- Aluminum/Plastic, 1-Toner and 2- trash cans. The bins will be emptied daily by the Physical Plant custodial staff. Small cardboard bins are available for office personnel. All office recyclables should be emptied into the centralized recycling stations for removal. Please place a SAP request, contact your building mayor or email us at recycle@olemiss.edu to request an office recycle bin or to schedule the pickup of large amounts of recycle material.

*Please remember that trash mixed with recycled material contaminates the entire bin and causes all material in the bin to be disposed of as trash.

Drop-Off Recycling Locations

University of Mississippi – Oxford Campus

- **Location #1 –Fulton Chapel** (Aluminum cans, steel cans and plastic only).