

Timbercrest Retirement Community
RE-THINKING RECYCLING
March 1, 2018

Many Timbercrest residents prefer to recycle rather than fill up our landfills with materials that can be re-used; fortunately, the Timbercrest Administration agrees. Recently Timbercrest changed waste-collectors to Wabash's Republic Recycling Company, and so it seemed like a good time for an ad hoc Recycling Committee to update Timbercrest's recycling procedures.

In Neighborhood Homes the current methods will continue: place trash in black bags and recycling in white bags. **ALL RECYCLED PRODUCTS CAN GO IN THE SAME BAG**; sorting is no longer necessary!

In the Manor, new, yellow bins have been strategically placed so that all residents will have a bin close by, and **ALL RECYCLED MATERIALS CAN GO INTO THESE BINS**. In some wings, the Launderette is large enough for both trash and recycling bins. Since current residents are accustomed to placing paper products in the smaller, trash janitorials; that option will continue. Larger items, like tin cans, milk jugs, plastic bottles, pop cans, are best placed in the new bins. Even larger bags of recycling can go into the yellow bins.

Outside the kitchen loading dock are four large DUMPSTERS. The smaller one, closest to the kitchen, is for **RECYCLING ONLY**. The one closest to the F-Wing garage is for **BROKEN-DOWN CARDBOARD ONLY**. The two in the middle are for **TRASH ONLY**. They are properly marked. If you cannot break down **LARGER BOXES**, place them on the carts beside the big, kitchen freezer, and someone else will break them down for the dumpster.

The most important concept in recycling is everything must be **CONTAMINATION FREE!** Maintenance personnel **CANNOT** go through our recycling to see if we are following proper procedures. Therefore, it is the responsibility of all residents to recycle properly. The Recycling Committee has tried to be as specific as possible about what can and cannot be recycled—on the lists provided on Launderette or Janitorial doors.

- ❖ If any product (like laundry soap or catsup bottles, or food cans) has not been fully cleaned, that substance will contaminate the entire bin, which must then become trash.
- ❖ If any non-recyclable item is thrown into a bin, that renders the entire bin non-recyclable, and it becomes trash. Please familiarize yourself with what is or isn't recyclable.

Some members of the Recycling Committee suggested other ways to re-use some non-recyclable items. Some local businesses will take used plastic shopping bags and egg cartons. Therefore, there will be containers in the **VENDING ROOM**—behind The Nook on A Street—to collect **EGG CARTONS** (cardboard and styrofoam), **PLASTIC SHOPPING BAGS**, and incandescent **LIGHT BULBS**.

The Recycling Committee has tried to think of many items that Timbercrest residents use, but of course there will be questions. If you have a question, talk with Wanda Miller or Ruthann Angle. However, a good rule of thumb may be: if in doubt, throw it out. Thanks to all for your participation and cooperation, and for helping to save the earth.

Recyclables

Paper - NO contamination

Brochures
Calendars, catalogs
Envelopes
Magazines (slick and pulp)
Newspaper
Paper (staples okay)
Paper-back books
Phone books
Shredded paper (in plastic bags)
Undecorated greeting cards (no glitter, etc.)

Glass - rinsed or washed clean

(Wrap in newspaper and tape lightly)
Colored and clear
Canning jars
Cosmetic containers

Plastics - MUST be rinsed/washed clean! NO #6s or #7s)

#1 to #5 plastics
Cosmetic containers
Laundry- and dish-soap bottles
Shampoo bottles
Water, beverage & milk bottles (not waxed cartons)

Cardboard - No contamination

Cardboard boxes, i.e. tissue, cereal, cracker
FLATTENED; if you can't flatten them, take to the box-collection area near Kitchen's large cooler.
File folders
Poster board
Toilet tissue cores

Aluminum/Metal - MUST be rinsed/washed clean

Beverage cans
Food cans (can leave labels on)
Cooking utensils
Scrap metal

Non-recyclables

Aerosol cans, i.e. hair spray
Aluminum foil
Bread wrappers
Ceramic
Food waste
Medical mailing envelopes
Mirrors
No. #6 plastics
Pill bottles
Pizza cartons (carry out)
Pyrex
Stickers/address labels (sheets)
Styrofoam
Used tissue, napkins or paper towels
Waxed containers (milk, take-out, frozen-food cartons, etc.)
Window glass
Yogurt containers (individual)

Special Handling

Batteries (take to collection boxes in the Copy Room (up front) or in the Hub area—close to the copier)
Cell phones (collection box near copier in the Hub) for the youth fundraising project of the Manchester Church of the Brethren
Clothing (donate to favorite second-hand outlet; there is a local Thrift Shop)
Egg cartons—cardboard & styrofoam for a local retail store (collection box in Vending Room—behind The Nook—on A Street)
Electronics (contact Maintenance)
Lightbulbs (take to collection box in the Vending Room—behind The Nook—on A Street)
Medicines (do NOT dispose in the toilet or trash; hold for annual collection by our Nurses)
Plastic shopping bags (return to grocery store or take to collection box in Vending Room—behind The Nook—on A Street)
Printer-ink cartridges (collection box near copier in the Hub) for the youth fundraising project of the Manchester Church of the Brethren
Paint (hold for town collection)
Stamps—canceled (put in collections boxes on the sign-up tables by the diningrooms)