



May 28, 2018

RE: REVISED ACCEPTABLE ITEMS LIST

Dear Client;

With the precipitous drop in commodity markets; the greatly increased industry expectations of purity rates on sorted recyclable commodities; and several long standing issues marketing certain recyclable materials, GFL must request changes to the **Acceptable Items list**. We are requesting immediate re-education of residents and are willing to participate in this process. We are hoping that enforcement of the new list could be by August 2018. The list we request would be as follows:

PAPER

Office paper, newspaper, flyers and mailed paper including envelopes, magazines and catalogues, corrugated cardboard, boxboard - for example cereal boxes (no liners) and door to door shipped boxes

CONTAINERS

Steel/tin food cans (labels are not required to be removed)

All Beverage Containers

Plastics - Molded, rigid plastic containers and tubs with lids grade 1 & 2 ONLY, all must be rinsed (eg: detergent bottles; yogurt containers; condiment containers; plastic medicine bottles, etc)

In addition, we would like to also provide a short FAQ to help clarify this list:

Q: Do we need to instruct residents to pull off the small plastic bits from some fibres products, such as envelopes, Kleenex boxes, toy boxes?

A: Residents do not need to remove these small bits of plastic. If residents choose to do so, it is welcome but not mandatory.

Q: What about soft cover books? Hard cover books?

A: Please remove the book covers (as many are plasticized).

Q: Some clam shells sold in stores are made from plastics 1 or 2... what about these?

A: We cannot guarantee these items will be recycled. This material is thin and not rigid, furthermore, it is often laminated with other materials. However, if these items are grade #1 or #2, they will not be rejected at the curb collection.

Q: Anything other than a plastic container with a lid that has a number 1 or 2 should technically go in waste?

A: Yes, the other grades of plastic are not consistently marketable and also make sorting a proper grade of other materials (such as paper) much more difficult.

Q: Should non-deposit tetrapaks be pulled out?

A: Unless it is a tetrapak that has a deposit (many do as beverage containers) then we cannot recycle it.

Q: What about photos?

A: Not recyclable.

Q: Flour bags, pet food bags (empty)?

A: Any paper container that contained a food item should not be put into the recycling. These paper containers (coffee cups, flour bags, pet food bags etc) often have a plastic or other material like aluminum laminated onto the inside of the paper; and often have food residue left in them as well. Either case makes the material non-recyclable.

Q: What about shredded paper? Redirect to organics?

A: Shredded paper is technically recyclable. Through the sorting process, much of it is lost as the pieces are often so small. It is also acceptable in the Organics however.

Q: Tin and aluminum food plates?

A: There is a high likelihood these items have food residue remaining on them, also they are often a laminated material that is not purely tin/aluminum. Only if the item is purely tin/aluminum and fully cleaned is it acceptable in the program.

Q: How much less recycling do you expect to collect as a result of implementing these changes?

A: GFL expects total collected blue bag recycling weights will only decrease slightly provided that we embark on positive messaging and promotion of the majority of materials that are still acceptable. An estimate would be a 10-15% drop in materials; however, with proper promotion we could gain that much back in increased participation as a result of 're-upping' our educational and promotional efforts at the same time as amending the Acceptable Materials Lists and what is collected at the curb.

Q: How does GFL plan to implement these changes to the Acceptable Items list?

A: GFL is prepared to partner with all Municipalities in designing and disseminating new promotional materials. We intend to softly encourage acceptance on the curb for some time prior to any attempt to reject collection of Unacceptable Materials. Please contact GFL to formulate a strategy for your specific Municipality. GFL believes working cooperatively with our Partners and the ratepayer is the best potential path forward for all Parties.

Sincerely,
GFL Environmental Inc.



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