

RECYCLING: ARE YOU DOING IT RIGHT?

From a young age, we've all been taught the importance of recycling and making conscious choices to save the planet. But you may be doing it wrong. Take grocery bags, for example; while made of plastic, they can shut down an entire recycling plant.

Starting today, the Star will bring you 30 days of do's and don'ts of recycling. Before you go dumping all of your paper, plastic, glass and metal products into your recycling bin, here are a few things you should know:

GLASS

Recycle clean glass bottles and jars like wine bottles and spaghetti sauce jars.



BUT

Steer clear of broken glass, ceramics and heat-resistant glass like Pyrex and crystal.



PLASTICS

Recycle clean plastic drink bottles and clean plastic laundry detergent containers. Throw in that plastic container your lunch salad came in as well, after you've washed it out.



BUT

Avoid recycling anything with liquid still inside of it. Never recycle plastic grocery bags — recycle them at your local grocery store instead. And skip bubble wrap, loose plastic wrap and plastic straws.



TIN/METALS

Recycle soda and soup cans. Aluminum foil can also be recycled.



BUT

Don't bother unless you're going to clean out your cans and wipe down that foil first.



PAPER

Recycle newspaper, office paper and phone books.



BUT

If the paper is wet, let it dry it out first.



CARDBOARD

Recycle cardboard including cereal boxes, broken down packing boxes, and the inside of toilet paper and paper towel rolls.



BUT

Skip the greasy pizza boxes or anything with food particles and oil. Also, remove the wax paper from cereal boxes.

