

How to Use Blue Carts

The program is very simple. Residents are asked to place all their recyclables in the blue cart in their alley or at the curb. There is no need to separate recyclables. Below is a list of materials considered recyclable.



- Glass jars and bottles
- Aluminum cans, foil and pie tins
- Tin or steel cans
- Cereal boxes, paper towel rolls
- Cardboard (flatten all boxes)
- Plastic bottles and containers (numbers 1-5 and 7 accepted)
- Junk mail
- Magazines and catalogs
- Telephone books
- Paper bags
- Office paper and file folders
- Newspapers and inserts
- Beverage cartons (milk, juice, soy cartons)

A separate city recycling truck will empty the blue cart every other week and the contents will be delivered to a recycling center.

If you feel you need an additional blue cart, call 311. When your new blue cart is delivered, an existing black cart will be removed to manage space in the alley.

Certain items should **NOT** be placed in the blue carts:

YARD WASTE – Yard waste is recycled separately. It should be bagged and placed beside the blue cart. Yard waste will be picked up by a separate truck during the months of April through November. Through a composting process, yard material decomposes into a nutrient-rich soil additive that can be used as a natural fertilizer.

NON-RECYCLABLE TRASH – Non-recyclables should continue to go into your black garbage cart for regular city trash pickup. These items belong in your garbage cart: food scraps, Styrofoam or #6 plastic, plastic bags.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE & ELECTRONICS – Take all household hazardous waste and old computers to the city's Household Chemicals and Computer Recycling Facility, 1150 N. North Branch St., which is two blocks east of the Kennedy Expressway at Division Street. The facility is open on the following days:

- Tuesday (7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)
- Thursday (2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.)
- The first Saturday of every month (8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)

The following materials are accepted at the Household Chemicals and Computer Recycling Facility:

- Computers and related equipment
- Cell phones
- Paints, cleaners, solvents and other chemicals.

Batteries

Household and rechargeable batteries can be recycled at all Chicago Walgreens (at the photo desk) and all Chicago Public Libraries.

