



February 2020

Dear Utility Customer:

The recycling landscape is changing, and we must change with it. We can do that by paying closer attention to which items can and cannot go into the recycling bin. Residents can take simple steps to improve their recycling habits: avoid placing plastic bags and cords in the recycling bin and toss greasy pizza boxes and Styrofoam containers in the trash.

Placing non-recyclable items, or trash, in the recycling bin causes contamination. When that happens, recycling companies have to slow sorting speeds to remove the contaminants, causing processing costs to rise. China has been a primary destination for poorly sorted paper and plastic, but China will no longer accept imports of recyclables with more than 0.5 % of non-recyclable material or contamination. Our recycling contains too much trash. China's policy change is shining a light on some long standing issues and much needed improvements required of our recycling programs.

Recycling is important to our community. It provides jobs here and across North Carolina. Many businesses rely on high-quality recycled materials to make new products. Most importantly, recycling protects and conserves our natural resources.

Recycling messaging has been confusing for residents. The Town of Troutman is promoting simple, easy steps residents can do to recycle the right way and reduce contamination. We are urging residents to recycle only the items on our local recyclables list and when in doubt, throw it out.

Recycling right and being "cart smart" will have huge impacts on our community, our state and our natural resources.

Sincerely,

Town of Troutman

Town of Troutman

400 North Eastway Drive ■ Post Office Box 26 ■ Troutman North Carolina 28166
Phone: 704.528.7600 ■ www.troutmannnc.gov ■ Fax: 704.528.7605



GET CART SMART

PUT THESE ITEMS IN YOUR RECYCLE CART

PLASTIC #1 & #2

Bottles, tubs, jugs & jars



No pumps Empty and rinse

METAL & ALUMINUM

All cans & aluminum foil



Empty and rinse

CARDBOARD & PAPER

Cardboard, paper, magazines & cartons



Flatten cardboard

Please **DO NOT** put your recyclables in plastic bags or put plastic bags and wrap in your recycle cart. Plastic bags and plastic wrap clog up the machinery which causes hours of down time each week.



Benfield Sanitation Services
282 Scotts Creek Road, Statesville NC 28625
704-872-2668

STOP!

Everyone knows plastic bottles and cans go in the recycling bin, but the following items are often mistaken as curbside recyclables. Please **DO NOT** put these items in your recycle cart.

When in doubt, throw it out!



No Glass bottles, jars, windows, mirrors, light bulbs, household glassware or ceramic items.



No plastic bags or wrap. Clean, dry plastic bags, wraps and packaging can be recycled at your grocery store.



No clothing, shoes or textiles, these items can be taken to your local thrift store.



No batteries, paints, oils, or any other hazardous material.



No needles, syringes or other medical waste.



No paper towels and napkins; this paper is too thin to recycle and often, too dirty.



No food waste.



No small paper pieces and packaging, or shredded paper.



No styrofoam.