












Green Steps Recycling Corner

Highland Green Recycling Guide










2022-Aug-15

What Goes Where?	 Recyclables	 Non-recyclables
Small items go into bags. Blue bags distributed by Highland Green are for recyclables; others you put out are for trash. Pickup schedules are posted in <i>Management Matters</i>	 Blue bags	 Other bags
Larger items go to the dumpsters on Mountain Road. See Casella , HG's recycling company, for details	 The larger dumpster is for "single-stream" (aka "zero-sort") recycling	 The smaller dumpster is for non-recyclable trash
Compost items	 The green bins are for compost	
Special items that are not accepted by Casella	Topsham's Solid Waste Facility , at 97 Townsend Way	
Really special items	Portland's Riverside Recycling Facility accepts lawn and garden chemicals and a wide range of other recyclables	

Appliances

<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>
 Refrigerators, stoves, dish-washers, and similar large appliances	 Topsham's Solid Waste Facility

Batteries

	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>
	Mercury: hearing aids, small remote controls, wireless car keys	 Topsham's Solid Waste Facility , or the Topsham Home Depot accepts rechargeable batteries
	Rechargeable lithium-ion (Li-ion): wireless phones, cordless tools	
	Rechargeable nickel-metal-hydride (NiMH): wireless phones, cordless tools	
	Rechargeable nickel cadmium (NiCd): radios, photo gear; rarely used now	
	Rechargeable small sealed lead-acid (SSLA/Pb): toy vehicles, garden gadgets	
	Non-rechargeable lithium ion (e.g. Energizer Ultimate Lithium): similar to alkaline batteries	
	Alkaline: common in remotes, flashlights, etc.	 (Regular trash)

Cans

	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>
	Tin cans , cleaned	 Blue bags or the large dumpster
	Aluminum cans (soda, beer, etc.), rinsed	 Leave returnables in a separate bag (not blue) for pickup by HG grounds crew. Use blue bags or the large dumpster for non-returnables
	Aluminum foil , clean, no food	 Blue bags or the large dumpster

Cardboard and Paper Products



	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>
	Corrugated cardboard (no food or oil)	 Blue bags or large dumpster
	Thin cardboard (no food or oil)	 Blue bags or large dumpster
	Paper (no food or oil), including envelopes, newspapers, and paperback books	 Blue bags or large dumpster
	Shredded paper , in a paper bag, taped closed, and marked “shredded paper”	 Leave for trash collection
	Carbon or waxed paper	 Regular trash
	Hardcover books (paperbacks are recyclable)	 Donate to library, or regular trash
	Plasticized, tear-resistant paper , such as floppy mailers, or bubble wrap mailers	 Regular trash
	Pressure-sensitive adhesives	 Regular trash
	Wrapping paper, greeting cards, and post cards	 Regular trash

Compost


Compost containers are green bins lined up near the Highland Green dumpsters.

	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>
	Any grown food	 Compost
	Meats and bones	 Compost
	Lobster and other shellfish	 Compost
	Paper towels and napkins (for food, not cleaning)	 Compost
	Coffee grounds and filters	 Compost
	Cheese	 Compost
	Cut flowers	 Compost
	Plastic or decomposable bags	 Regular trash
	Paper or paper bags , except for small amounts used as liners	 Regular trash (clean paper is recyclable)
	Food containers	 Regular trash or plastic recycle (see <i>Plastics</i>)











Construction Debris

	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>
	<p>Construction debris—wood, sheet rock, particle board, etc.</p>	 Topsham's Solid Waste Facility



Drugs

	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>
	<p>Unneeded or expired medicines</p>	<p>Topsham police (lobby is open 24/7), or Brunswick police (secure collection box in lobby, 24/7). For other options, see Maine locations for drug take-back. Please keep pills in original containers when possible</p>



Electronics

	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>
	Phones, tablets, and computers, and chargers	 Many vendors offer trade-ins or free recycling, or Topsham's Solid Waste Facility accepts them
	Audio/video gear	 Topsham's Solid Waste Facility
	Ink and toner cartridges	 Many vendors offer mail-back programs. Costco, Staples, Walmart, and Target have drop off bins for ink cartridges
	Kitchen gadgets	 Topsham's Solid Waste Facility
	Smoke alarms. Some contain a tiny amount of a radioactive isotope, but all may be legally discarded in trash (see this Maine.gov site)	 Regular trash









Furniture

	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>
	Furniture	 Topsham's Solid Waste Facility




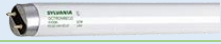



Glass and Ceramics

	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>
	Bottles , rinsed	 Leave returnables in a separate bag (not blue) for pickup by HG grounds crew. Use blue bags or the large dumpster for non-returnables
	Dishes, cups, mugs, drinking glasses	 Regular trash or smaller dumpster
	Mirrors and window glass	 Smaller dumpster

Lawn and Garden

	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>
	Small amounts of brush	 Discard in woods if out of view
	Larger amounts of prunings or yard waste	 Request pickup by HG grounds crew, or discard on the construction road on the back side of the quarry
	Plastic plant pots and seedling trays	 Recycle at Home Depot
	Pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, and fertilizers	 These are accepted once or twice per year locally, but the location (sometimes Brunswick or Bath) and date changes each year. Watch <i>Management Matters</i> for updates. Portland's Riverside Recycling Facility accepts them year round


Lights

<i>What</i>		<i>Where</i>
	Compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) —often coiled, sometimes in other shapes	 Topsham's Solid Waste Facility
	Light Emitting Diode (LED) lamps come in a wide variety of shapes and sizes, many resembling their older counterparts	
	Fluorescent tubes	
	Specialty lights , like this mercury light, are also recyclable	
	Incandescent lights : those good old-fashioned energy-gobbling lights	 Regular trash






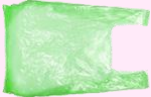









Metal

<i>What</i>		<i>Where</i>
	Aluminum foil , clean, no food	 Blue bags or the large dumpster
	Cookware	 Regular trash
	Wire	 Regular trash
	Scrap metal	 Regular trash



Paint

<i>What</i>		<i>Where</i>
	Paints (even partially used), sealers, coatings, shellacs, stains, and metal coatings.	Topsham's Solid Waste Facility

Plastics

What		Where
  <p>Bottles, jugs, tubs, and bowls; yogurt cups, shampoo bottles, with this logo, rinsed. (Rinsing is not needed for soap bottles.) No small bottles, black plastic, or small loose lids</p>		 <p>Blue bags or large dumpster</p>
 <p>Plastic bags, film, or case wrappers. This includes wrappers for chips, nuts, and seeds, and bubble wrap</p>		 <p>Shaw's, Hannaford's, Target, and Walmart accept this</p>
 <p>Plastic trash bags, and similar</p>		 <p>Regular trash or smaller dumpster</p>
 <p>"Clamshells"</p>		 <p>Regular trash or smaller dumpster</p>
 <p>Toys</p>		 <p>Regular trash or smaller dumpster</p>
 <p>Plastic chairs, swimming pools, and other large plastic items</p>		 <p>Regular trash or smaller dumpster</p>
 <p>Styrofoam packing material or food containers</p>		 <p>Regular trash or smaller dumpster</p>

Rope

What		Where
 <p>Rope, twine, string, etc.</p>		 <p>Regular trash or smaller dumpster</p>

Questions about recycling? Please contact Stan DeOrsey, jsmd@att.net.

Any interested resident is welcome to attend a Green Steps meeting on the first Thursday each month, at 3:30. Questions? Email Lisa Durrell edurr13@aol.com.