

Residents will have the chance to recycle textiles, bulky rigid plastics, Styrofoam, electronics and paper shredding on Saturday, October 24th from 9:00 – 1:00pm at the Town Yard, 37 C St. Please note that the LISTED RECYCLABLES ARE THE ONLY ITEMS WE CAN ACCEPT.

Residents should follow the recycling instructions for each type of item.

1. Textiles

Must be dry and clean. Includes clothing, linens, footwear, purses, belts, and stuffed animals. Items can be ripped and stained. It is estimated that the average U.S. citizen throws away 70 pounds of clothing each year! Out of the 95% of textiles that can be donated or recycled only 15% achieve this result, the other 85% (70 lbs./citizen/year) end up in the trash. When textiles are donated—45% are reused and repurposed mostly as exports, 30% are converted into rags, 20% are used as fiber in home insulation and carpet padding. Only 5% ends up as waste.

<http://www.smartasn.org/educators-kids/SMARTInfographTextileRecycling.pdf>

http://www.belmont-ma.gov/sites/belmontma/files/u346/textile_picture.pdf

2. Bulky Rigid Plastics

Bulky rigid plastics are best defined by formed or molded plastic that maintains its shape when empty and unsupported and are too large to fit in your recycling bin. Examples are trash barrels, laundry baskets, toys, crates, pet carriers and lawn furniture. The recycling of rigid plastics has been increasing in the U.S. and these objects can be recycled into pipe, buckets, automotive products, drums, crates, lidded reusable food storage containers and kitchen tools, such as cutting boards, measuring cups and serving utensils.

http://www.belmont-ma.gov/sites/belmontma/files/rigid_plastic_picture.pdf

3. Expanded Polystyrene Foam (EPS)

This item is commonly known by its brand name, Styrofoam can be recycled, but not curbside. Any foam that has the recycling symbol 6 in the triangle with PS underneath it will be accepted if it is clean, and has no tape, label or cardboard attached. Packing peanuts are now accepted. Over 93 million pounds of EPS were recycled in 2012, including 36.7 million pounds of post-consumer packaging and 56.9 million pounds of post-industrial packaging. EPS can be recycled into new foam packaging or cameras, coat hangers, CD and jewel cases.

<http://refoamit.com/Portals/0/20140712%20What%20we%20recycle%20one%20page.pdf>

4. Electronic Recycling (Fee for some items. Must be paid by check.)

Anything with a plug, excluding large appliances, air conditioners, refrigerators of any size, gas yard and power equipment.

Accepted items:

Small appliances, wires, cables, power tools, light fixtures, computer monitors(\$15.00), TVs (\$15.00), laptops (\$15.00), hard drives, key boards, printers, copiers, stereos, speakers, VCRs, DVDs, scanners, iPODs, computer gaming consoles and cell phones.

http://www.belmont-ma.gov/sites/belmontma/files/u346/electronic_recycling.pdf

5. Paper Shredding (limit 5 boxes) Sponsored by Watertown Savings

Now is the time to clean out your home office and safely get rid of all your sensitive documents that have been accumulating and taking up space. Boxes of your unwanted documents are shredded on-site in seconds. Voluntary cash donations are accepted to benefit the Belmont Food Pantry for this service.

6. Usable Eyeglasses

The Belmont Lions Club will be collecting usable eyeglasses for their Recycle for Sight Program.

7. Books

Hard/Soft cover books, Audio Books / Movies / Music / Game CDs & DVDs will be recycled by Recycle That.

Now that summer is ending and school is beginning make sure you recycle items instead of placing them in the trash. Clothing that doesn't fit anymore, toys and lawn furniture, broken or outdated electronics, and personal documents. You can even start saving Styrofoam instead of throwing it away. Remember, it is always best to reuse so if you know anyone that would want your hand-me-down textiles, books, plastic items, or electronics, please donate before coming down to the event to recycle.

Keeping these items from the trash helps reduce pollution, preserves natural resources and saves the Town money. Thank you for reducing, reusing and recycling. Any questions or suggestions, please contact Mary Beth Calnan, Belmont Recycling Coordinator, at mcalan@belmont-ma.gov or 617-993-2689.