

# What is MRF Recycling Contamination ?

**Why Does it matter?**

MRF contamination is simply adding items to the recycling bin that should not be included. If it is not on the list to be included in your bin, it is a contaminant.

“When in Doubt, leave it Out”

# Contamination

- Any items that are not listed to be recycled in a certain stream is considered contaminants to that stream. Regardless of the recyclable content of that item or symbol number for recycling. Clothing, electronics, clothes hangers, medical waste, food items, plants, plastics bags are all contaminants in a single stream that bans those items.
- “When in Doubt, Leave it Out”

# Residue

- Residue is what is left once proper recyclables are sorted and graded in a certain stream. Items such as crushed bottle caps, certain thermoforms, broken plastics, incidental placed items, soiled proper recyclables.

# Why Does it Matter?

Quality.....Product quality is greatly reduced when contaminants are present.

# Why Does it Matter ?

- Safety .....Safety for our workers is our top priority and when contaminants are present it can create an unsafe working environment.

# Why Does it Matter ?

- Work Stoppage.....Contamination causes major work stoppages due to bags and plastic twisting around the motors and shafts.

# ECVC Top 10 Contaminants

1. Plastics Bags.. Full and empty
2. Clothes/ (Clothes hangers, plastic and metal)
3. Styrofoam
4. Electronics
5. Food Waste ( steadily rising number)
6. Hangers/ Electric cords
7. Bio Hazardous Waste/ Diapers, medical tubing
8. Toys , stuffed animals, wagons
9. Auto parts.. tires, bumpers, rotors, brake shoes
10. Metal.. Helium tanks, grill propane tanks



# ZERO WASTE

- Many in the commercial industry are striving for ZERO WASTE. The message sounds good but the reality is that ZERO WASTE contributes a lot to recycling contamination. Everyone is trying to reach the ZERO WASTE level so everything is put into the recycling bins to meet that goal. We can reduce WASTE but it is nearly impossible to obtain ZERO WASTE without causing contamination in another area.







# Comparisons

## 2015/2016

- Mixed paper prices \$125/tn
- Number of persons sorting mixed papers (12)
- Number of persons sorting trash (0)
- Residue/Trash rate (6-8%)
- Number of tons sorted/day 650-800
- Number of persons sorting newspaper (0)

## 2017/2018

- Mixed Paper prices \$5/tn
- Number of persons sorting mixed papers (8)
- Number of persons sorting trash (4)
- Residue/Trash rate (23%)
- Number of tons sorted /day 450-550
- Number of persons sorting newspapers (6)





150,000  
SAVOR

NET WT. 40 OZ (1.13 kg)  
KAUHO RICE

Recycling symbol  
Sustainable packaging  
made from 100% recycled  
paper, including 20%  
post-consumer waste.  
Recycling symbol

PURINA ONE SMART BLEND  
LIGHT WEIGHT

Youth  
CEREAL

POSTERIS  
CEREAL









QUARTERED  
ped  
ed  
SANTITAS  
Purifier  
AUTO DRAIN-UP SMART PUMP  
WITH LOCK-FLOCK HANDLE  
FOR EASY INSTALLATION AT THE TAP  
PATENTED STABILITY BASE  
FOR A MORE STABLE TAP CONNECTION  
FOLLOW TOP SURFACE  
FOR EASY CONNECTION

SANTITAS  
TORTILLA CHIPS  
SANTITAS  
TORTILLA CHIPS  
SANTITAS  
TORTILLA CHIPS

PRODUCT  
OF  
U.S.A.

THE  
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