

RECYCLING GLASS HAS ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Glass is 100% recyclable and can be recycled endlessly without loss in quality or purity.

Recycling glass saves raw materials —

Over a ton of natural resources are conserved for every ton of glass recycled, including 1,300 pounds of sand, 410 pounds of soda ash, 380 pounds of limestone, and 160 pounds of feldspar.

Lessens the demand for energy —

Energy costs drop about 2-3% for every 10% of cullet (glass that is crushed or imploded and ready to be remelted) used in the manufacturing process.

Cuts CO2 emissions — For every six tons of recycled container glass used, a ton of carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas, is reduced. A relative 10% increase in cullet reduces particulates by 8%, nitrogen oxide by 4%, and sulfur oxides by 10%.

No processing by-products — Glass recycling is a closed-loop system, creating no additional waste or by-products.

Information from the Glass Packaging Institute. For more facts on glass recycling visit www.gpi.org.

QUESTIONS?

Contact the Town of Westport Department of Public Works at **(203) 341-1120**.

Want to learn more about glass recycling in Westport? Visit **sustainablewestport.org**



SEPARATE GLASS RECYCLING

A BETTER WAY TO RECYCLE

Westport Transfer Station & Recycling Center

300 Sherwood Island Connector

M-F, 7am – 2:30pm

Sat, 7am - noon



WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

Recycling in Westport is either collected by a private hauler or directly deposited by residents at the Westport Transfer Station. Once collected, the mixed recycling is transported to a Materials Recovery Facility (or MuRF) and inspected for contamination. The mixed recycling then travels over conveyor belts, screens, optical scanners, forced air, and magnets as people and machines sort through the paper, plastic, glass, and metals to group like materials together. Then, the sorted recyclables are baled and sold as commodities for reuse.

- While it is convenient for residents to mix recyclables together in the same bin, it can also present problems as well. Glass containers commonly shatter during the collection process.
- Once broken, the shards of glass attach themselves to paper, cardboard, and other recyclables, contaminating them and reducing their market value.
- Machines and employees at the MuRF cannot remove all the broken glass from the other recyclables, or the bits of paper, bottle caps, metal, and straws that contaminate the glass containers.
- Once contaminated, there is a substantial cost to clean the glass before it can be recycled.
- If the contaminated loads cannot be cleaned, they are sent to landfills, and the additional costs passed on to the Town of Westport.

WHAT IS THE SOLUTION?

When glass is separated from mixed recycling, each recycling stream is freed from contamination by the other. The clean, separated glass can now be recycled into new products, and the high-quality mixed recycling commodities become more marketable.

In order to manage increasing costs, and the quality of our recyclables, the Town of Westport has now added a separate glass collection container to the Westport Transfer Station. For instructions on how to recycle your glass, follow the instructions below.

Glass is a Connecticut state mandated recyclable. All residents, businesses, schools, and municipalities must recycle glass.

HOW TO RECYCLE GLASS

While residents may still recycle glass with their mixed recycling, it is strongly encouraged that you recycle your glass separately at the Westport Transfer station. To do so, please follow the instructions below:

Rinse your glass containers and remove lids, caps, and corks.

Place in a box separate from your mixed recycling bin.

Drop-off at the Westport Transfer Station during operating hours.

WHAT IS ACCEPTABLE?

It is essential that you **recycle ONLY acceptable glass**. Unacceptable items will contaminate the entire load and it will either be rejected or cost the Town of Westport contamination fees.

ACCEPTABLE

Beverage Bottles
Juice Jars
Condiment Bottles
Food Jars



NOT ACCEPTABLE

Candle Jars
Ceramic
Clay
Crystal
Drinking Glasses
Lightbulbs
Mirrors
Ovenware
Perfume/Cologne Containers
Window Glass