Why should I recycle?

The average American generates 4.5 pounds of waste daily. Instead of throwing paper and containers in the trash, recycle them in single-stream receptacles conveniently located throughout campus. These guidelines will help you recycle more and waste less.

What’s recyclable?

• Mixed paper:
  – White writing paper and stationery
  – Tablet paper and tablet cardboard
  – White and colored paper
  – Computer paper (green and blue bar)
  – Colored triplicate forms
  – Post-Its
  – Paper wrappers
  – Magazines
  – Newspaper
  – Blueprint paper
  – All envelopes
  – Junk mail
  – Telephone books
  – Paperback books
  – Manila folders
  – Boxboard (e.g., cracker or cereal boxes)
  – Corrugated cardboard
• Aluminum (cans and clean foil)
• Beverage and food containers (glass, steel and tin)
• Plastic bottles or rigid containers with a #1–7 recycling symbol on the bottom
• Aerosol cans with no remaining propellant
• Styrofoam (excluding packing peanuts)

NOTE: All these materials can be placed in any campus recycling receptacle.

What’s not recyclable?

• Carbon paper
• Wax and plastic-coated papers
• Tissue and paper towels
• Paper or containers soiled by food or organic waste
• Plastic film

For more recycling information, visit http://sustain.ucsd.edu.

UC San Diego Single-Bin Recycling

Single-stream collection simplifies recycling because all recyclable materials can be mixed together in any campus recycling container. Follow these steps when recycling:

• Keep recycling containers free of trash.
• Empty containers before recycling them.
• Ensure paper is dry and free of food, dirt, oil and other debris.
• Remove metal, plastic bindings, rubber bands and plastic bags. (Staples do not need to be removed.)
• Remove lids from glass containers and flatten cans and plastic bottles.
• Before purging files or recycling large quantities of paper or beverage containers, contact the Facilities Management Customer Service Desk, (858) 534-2930, at least 48 hours in advance to obtain a large temporary recycling container.

Trash and recycling bins in offices are emptied once a week. Larger trash and recycling bins in public areas are emptied daily.

To report overflowing bins, Dumpsters or recycling containers, please call (858) 534-2930.

What else can I do to reduce waste?

Waste minimization reduces the amount of trash before it’s generated. Implement at least one item on this list and start reducing waste today!

• Send e-mail messages instead of letters and memos whenever possible.
• Use both sides of a piece of paper.
• Use your personal recycling container as a source for scratch paper.
• Reuse envelopes, boxes and other items whenever possible.
• Don’t use disposable items. Bring reusable mugs, plates and utensils to work and keep a few extra reusable mugs around for meetings.
• Use post-consumer recycled paper whenever possible. If you’re not buying recycled, you’re not recycling. If you are ordering supplies, ask for recycled-content products, such as file folders, envelopes and other recycled paper products.