



# Oops!

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The recycling bin located in \_\_\_\_\_  
had these items that cannot be recycled:

### Food and Dirty Items

- Food waste
- Drink containers (not emptied)
- Food soiled items:
- Liquids
- Napkins/paper towels/tissues
- Other:

### Unacceptable Plastics

- Snack packaging (chip bags, candy wrappers, etc.)
- Straws
- Utensils
- Plastic bags/film
- Clamshell containers (with hinged lid)
- Other:

### Warehouse Pick-up Recyclables

Furniture, textbooks, electronics, scrap metal, and pallets can be recycled via Warehouse pick-up, but not in your recycling bin.

(Turn Over)



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**Comments:**

- Cardboard boxes must be flattened before recycling.
- Containers must be empty before recycling.
- Display recycling posters above indoor recycling bins.
- Other:

**Remember:**

Placing unacceptable materials in the recycling bin can contaminate an entire load of recycling and cause it to be rejected by the recycling truck and sent to the landfill.

**Need Help?** Contact our School Green Team!



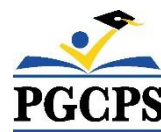
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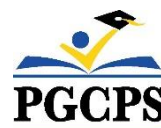
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## Oops Card

### Tips and Suggested Use:

- **Print double sided and cut along lines.**
- Check all items found in bin/can. Add additional notes for other items or comments to help improve.
- Students can periodically check bins and give feedback using Oops! Cards.
- Use the cards to help improve recycling in classrooms, offices, break rooms, etc.
- Use with the Oops! Trash Can Card to encourage participants to correctly sort their waste and increase recycling of acceptable items.
- Remind students: when giving feedback on what they find in the recycling bin, identify incorrect items but keep it positive to encourage participants to recycle!
- Use the Oops cards with a Waste Audit as a student activity.
- Consider having a schoolwide contest focusing on classroom recycling bins; announce the winners weekly—classrooms that had only correct items in the bin for the week.
- Have students record results of the audit to track improvements over time, then share these results with the individual classrooms/offices and your school community. This is a great way to encourage and increase recycling participation. Be sure to keep it positive!