



## Ideas to Recycle more effectively

1. First - reduce your waste stream:
  - Use reusable **coffee cups, water bottles, and metal utensils** always. Say “no” to purchasing water (or pop) in plastic bottles.
  - Say “no” to **plastic straws**.
  - Take your own **reusable shopping and produce bags** (preferably cloth /canvas) with you to the store.
  - **Avoid excessive packaging** of grocery products. For instance, avoid whole fruits and vegetables prepackaged in plastic bags.
  - Keep a **reusable take-home container** in your car for restaurant leftovers.
2. Choose **products with recyclable packaging** like cardboard boxes, paper, glass, or metal instead of plastic. Then recycle.
3. Avoid “aspirational” recycling. You may “wish” a product was recyclable, but putting it in the bin may cross contaminate the batch (e.g., plastic bags, greasy pizza boxes). **When it doubt, throw it out!**
4. Know what your recycler will accept: consult the recycling guide at [mydisposal.com](http://mydisposal.com). No plastic bags, plastic wrap, plastic films, snack bar wrappers, plastic utensils, Styrofoam, #6 plastic, pouches, light bulbs, batteries, or aerosol cans.
5. All items to be recycled are **clean and empty**.



Village of  
**HOMER  
GLEN**

*Community and Nature . . . in Harmony*