

NYC Waste Characterization Study

DRAFT REFUSE MATERIAL SORT CATEGORIES

CATEGORY		DESCRIPTION
Paper		
1	NEWSPAPER	Printed ground wood newsprint. Advertising "slicks" (glossy paper), if found mixed with newspaper; otherwise, ad slicks are included with mixed low grade.
2	PLAIN OCC/KRAFT PAPER:	Old unwaxed/uncoated corrugated container boxes and Kraft paper, and brown paper bags.
3	WAXED OCC/KRAFT PAPER:	Old waxed/coated corrugated container boxes and Kraft paper, and brown paper bags.
4	HIGH GRADE PAPER:	White and lightly colored bond, rag, or stationery grade paper. This includes white or lightly colored sulfite/sulfate bond, copy papers, notebook paper, envelopes, continuous-feed sulfite/sulfate computer printouts and forms of all types, excluding carbonless paper.
5	MIXED LOW GRADE PAPER:	Includes junk mail, magazines, colored papers, bleached Kraft, boxboard, mailing tubes, carbonless copy paper, ground wood computer printouts, paperback books, and telephone directories.
6	COMPOSTABLE/SOILED PAPER:	Paper towels, paper plates, waxed paper, tissues, and other papers that were soiled with food during use (e.g., pizza box inserts).
7	OTHER NONRECYCLABLE PAPER:	Predominantly paper with other materials attached (e.g. orange juice cans and spiral notebooks), and other non-recyclable papers such as carbon copy paper, hardcover books, and photographs.
Plastic		
8	PET BOTTLES:	Polyethylene terephthalate bottles.
9	HDPE NATURAL BOTTLES:	High-density translucent polyethylene (#2) milk, juice, beverage, oil, vinegar, distilled water bottles with necks.
10	HDPE COLORED BOTTLES:	High-density colored polyethylene (#2) bottles. Liquid detergent bottles, some hair care bottles with necks. Petroleum bottles are not included.
11	OTHER PLASTIC BOTTLES:	Plastic bottles not classified in the above-defined PET or HDPE categories; also includes #3-#7, unknown bottles, petroleum bottles, and other dark colored bottles with necks.
12	JARS & TUBS:	#1-#7 wide mouth jars and tubs, without a neck, such as yogurt, cottage cheese, and margarine.
13	EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE:	Packaging and finished products made of expanded polystyrene. Includes Styrofoam products such as plates and bowls.
14	OTHER RIGID PACKAGING:	#1-#7 and unmarked rigid plastic packaging (excluding expanded polystyrene). Includes clamshells, salad trays, lids, cookie tray inserts, plastic spoons, and toothpaste tubes.

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Plastics, continued

15	CLEAN SHOPPING/DRY CLEANER BAGS AND FILM:	Labeled grocery and merchandise, dry cleaner, and newspaper polyethylene film bags that were not contaminated with food, liquid or grit during use.
16	OTHER FILM:	Film packaging not defined above, or: was contaminated with food, liquid or grit during use; is woven together (e.g., grain bags); contains multiple layers of film or other materials that have been fused together (e.g., potato chip bags). This category also includes plastic sheeting, photographic negatives, shower curtains, any bags used to contain food or liquid (e.g., produce and bread bags), and used garbage bags.
17	PLASTIC PRODUCTS/OTHER PLASTICS MATERIALS:	Items that are predominately plastic with other materials attached such as disposable razors, pens, lighters, toys, and 3-ring binders. Finished plastic products made entirely of plastic such as toys, toothbrushes, vinyl hose, forks and spoons, plastic lawn furniture. Includes fiberglass resin products and materials.

Glass

18	CLEAR CONTAINER GLASS	Manually sortable glass that is greater than 3" x 3"
19	GREEN CONTAINER GLASS	Manually sortable glass that is greater than 3" x 3"
20	BROWN CONTAINER GLASS	Manually sortable glass that is greater than 3" x 3"
21	MIXED CULLET	clear, green or brown glass not manually sortable (under 3" x 3"); glass shards
22	OTHER GLASS	window glass, mirrors, light bulbs (except fluorescent tubes), glassware, and blue/red/yellow glass bottles.

Metal

23	ALUMINUM CANS:	Aluminum beverage cans (UBC) and bi-metal cans made mostly of aluminum.
24	ALUMINUM FOIL/CONTAINERS:	Aluminum food containers, trays, and foil; other aluminum products and scrap such as window frames, cookware.
25	OTHER NONFERROUS:	Metals not listed above that are not derived from iron, to which a magnet will not adhere, and which are not significantly contaminated with other metals or materials.
26	TIN FOOD CANS:	Tinned steel food containers, including bi-metal cans mostly of steel.
27	EMPTY AEROSOL CANS:	Empty, mixed material/metal aerosol cans. (Aerosols that still contain product are sorted according to that material—for instance, solvent-based paint.)
28	OTHER FERROUS:	Ferrous and alloyed ferrous scrap metals to which a magnet adheres and which are not significantly contaminated with other metals or materials.
29	MIXED METALS/MATERIALS:	Items that are predominately metal with other materials attached such as motors, insulated wire, and finished products containing a mixture of metals, or metals and other materials.

Beverage Cartons

30	POLYCOATED PAPER CONTAINERS	Bleached and unbleached paperboard coated with HDPE film. This includes polycoated milk, ice cream, and aseptic juice containers, including those with plastic spouts attached, and frozen/refrigerator packaging. Excludes juice concentrate cans.
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Organics

31	LEAVES AND GRASS:	Non-woody plant materials from a yard or garden area, including grass clippings, leaves, weeds, and garden wastes.
32	FOOD:	Food wastes and scraps, including bone, rinds, etc. Excludes the weight of food containers, except when container weight is not appreciable compared to the food inside.
33	TEXTILES: <i>recyclable cotton clothing, shoes</i> <i>reusable not reusable</i>	Rag stock fabric materials including natural and synthetic textiles such as cotton, wool, silk, woven nylon, rayon, and polyester. Shoes.
34	CARPET/UPHOLSTERY: <i>2 cats</i>	General category of flooring applications and non-rag stock textiles consisting of various natural or synthetic fibers bonded to some type of backing material. Also includes non-rag stock grade textiles such as handbags, heavy linens, and draperies.
35	DISPOSABLE DIAPERS/ FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS: <i>2 cats</i>	Diapers made from a combination of fibers, synthetic, and/or natural, and made for the purpose of single use. This includes disposable baby diapers and adult protective undergarments. Feminine hygiene products.
36	ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS:	Animal carcasses not resulting from food storage or preparation, animal wastes, and kitty litter.
37	RUBBER PRODUCTS: <i>cats</i>	Finished products and scrap materials made of natural and synthetic rubber, such as bath mats, inner tubes, rubber hoses, and foam rubber. <i>tires</i>
38	MISCELLANEOUS ORGANICS	Wax, bar soap, cigarette butts, briquettes, and fireplace, burn barrel and fire pit ash, vacuum cleaner bags and contents, and other organic materials not classified above.

Appliances and Electronics

39	SMALL APPLIANCES:	Small electric appliances such as toasters, microwave ovens, power tools, curling irons, and light fixtures.
40	AUDIO/VISUAL EQUIPMENT:	Stereos, radios, tape decks, VCRs, and cell phones.
41	COMPUTER MONITORS:	Items other than televisions containing a cathode ray tube (CRT) such as computer monitors and laptops.
42	TELEVISIONS:	Television sets containing a cathode ray tube (CRT).
43	OTHER COMPUTER EQUIPMENT:	Computer items not containing CRTs such as processors, mice and mouse pads, keyboards, and disk drives.

Construction Debris

44	UNTREATED WOOD	Untreated, milled lumber commonly used in construction for framing and related uses, including 2 x 4's, 2 x 6's. Stumps and other wood prunings.
45	TREATED/ CONTAMINATED WOOD	Lumber and wood products that have been painted or treated so as to render them difficult to compost (with generally 50% or more of the surface area treated). This includes painted and chemically treated lumber, plywood, strandboard, and particleboard. Predominantly wood and lumber products that are mixed with other materials in such a way that they cannot easily be separated.
46	ROCK/CONCRETE/ BRICKS	Rock gravel larger than 2" diameter, Portland cement mixtures (set or unset), and fired-clay bricks.
47	OTHER CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS	Construction debris (other than wood) that cannot be classified elsewhere, and mixed fine building material scraps. For example, floor sweepings from construction activities containing sawdust, nails, wire, etc.

Household Hazardous Wastes

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48	OIL FILTERS	Metal oil filters used in cars and other automobiles.
49	ANTIFREEZE	self explanatory
50	WET-CELL BATTERIES:	Wet-cell batteries of various sizes and types as commonly used in automobiles.
51	GASOLINE/KEROSENE:	Gasoline, diesel fuel, and fuel oils.
52	MOTOR OIL/DIESEL OIL:	Lubricating oils, primarily used in vehicles but including other types with similar characteristics.
53	LATEX PAINTS:	Water-based paints and similar products.
54	WATER AND SOLVENT-BASED ADHESIVES/GLUES:	Water or oil/resin/volatile solvent-based glues and adhesives, including epoxy, rubber cement, two-part glues and sealers, and auto body fillers.
55	OIL-BASED PAINT/SOLVENT:	Solvent-based paints, varnishes, and similar products. Various solvents, including chlorinated and flammable solvents, paint strippers, solvents contaminated with other products such as paints, degreasers.
56	PESTICIDES/ HERBICIDES /RODENTICIDES	Variety of poisons with the purpose of discouraging or killing insects, weeds, vermin, or microorganisms. Fungicides and wood preservatives, such as pentachlorophenol, are also included.
57	DRY-CELL BATTERIES:	Dry-cell batteries of various sizes and types as commonly used in households. Includes cell phone and button cell batteries.
58	FLUORESCENT TUBES:	Fluorescent light tubes and compact fluorescent bulbs (CFL).
59	MERCURY-LADEN WASTES	Thermostats, thermometers, and other items containing mercury.
60	COMPRESSED GAS CYLINDERS, FIRE EXTINGUISHERS	self explanatory
61	ASBESTOS	Asbestos and asbestos-containing wastes (if this is the primary hazard associated with these wastes).
62	HOME MEDICAL PRODUCTS	Syringes, IV bags, medical tubing.
63	OTHER POTENTIALLY HARMFUL WASTES:	Caustic acids and bases whose primary purpose is to clean surfaces, unclog drains, or perform other actions; photography chemicals, chemistry sets. Household disinfectants. Pool chemicals. Explosives.
	Miscellaneous	
64	MISCELLANEOUS INORGANICS	Other inorganic materials not classified elsewhere.
65	CERAMICS	Whole or fragmented ceramic or porcelain products larger than 1/2 inch screen

Books
Bikes + parts
pots + pans