



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Immediate Changes to Roanoke Valley and New River Valley Recycling
Residents being asked to assist in keeping contamination low

May 29, 2018. . . ROANOKE, VA – Due to recent changes in the recycling market, higher standards have been implemented for recycling in the Roanoke Valley and New River Valley. Recycling communities are being asked to keep contamination low so material collected can be recycled.

Please don't throw things like plastic bags, food waste, and Styrofoam into your bin. It is important for recyclers to ensure collection containers hold only the items permitted for recycling. This includes things like: glass containers, household paper (including newspaper and cardboard), aluminum beverage cans, and steel and tin food containers. The new standards limit the recycling of plastic bottles to those labeled #1 (PET) or #2 (HDPE) ONLY, so recyclers are asked to pay attention to this new practice.

Help make our recycling program a success by following these quick tips.

	YES! For the Recycle Bin
CANS	Aluminum Beverage Cans, Steel and Tin Cans
GLASS	Bottles and Jars
PAPER	Mixed paper, newspaper, magazines, pizza boxes and cardboard
PLASTIC CONTAINERS	Plastic bottles, jugs, food containers - # 1 and # 2 ONLY (Check container bottoms)

NO!
NO Electronics or Paint Cans (RVRA.net)
NO Aluminum foil or cat food cans
NO Food or Liquids (compost)
NO Wood, grass and yard clippings (compost)
NO Shredded paper (look for local event)
NO Toys or Clothing (use donation site)
NO Plastic labeled # 3 up to # 7
NO Plastic Bags (return to retailer)
NO Styrofoam and bubble wrap

By following these new standards, residents who recycle can help localities meet the criteria necessary to avoid tons of recyclables being rejected and sent to a landfill instead – a situation which impacts the tipping fees paid by local governments. Moving forward with a focus on reducing contamination of recycling and putting items into the recycle bin that can be recycled, the Roanoke Valley and New River Valley will be on stronger ground to sustain its commitment to environmental stewardship through effective recycling programs.

For more information, please contact Mary Ann Brenchick, Executive Director of the Clean Valley Council at 540-520-0609 or Teresa Sweeney, Education and Training Coordinator for Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority at 540-998-5707.

About RDS:

Recycling & Disposal Solutions is a Virginia-based recycling and waste management company with three Material Recycling Facilities located in Roanoke and Portsmouth, VA. Please visit RDS-Virginia.com for more information.

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