



# Spokane's recycling

*Read. Watch. Listen.*

Residents in Spokane have been recycling for decades, but how does it work? How are major changes in Washington State's approach to recycling going to affect Spokane?

## READ

Doughton, Sandi. "With Recycling's Dirty Truths Exposed, Washington Works toward a Cleaner, More Sustainable System." The Seattle Times, 26 Apr. 2020, [www.seattletimes.com/pacific-nw-magazine/with-recyclings-dirty-truths-exposed-washington-works-toward-a-cleaner-more-sustainable-system/](http://www.seattletimes.com/pacific-nw-magazine/with-recyclings-dirty-truths-exposed-washington-works-toward-a-cleaner-more-sustainable-system/). Accessed 13 Apr. 2022.

This article provides an explanation of the former process Washington state used when selling recyclables to China and shares the major changes now that Washington must process its own recycling.

Wohlfeil, Samantha. "If You Recycle a Plastic Bottle in Spokane, Where Does It Go? And Other Recycling Questions." Inlander, 25 June 2019, [www.inlander.com/spokane/if-you-recycle-a-plastic-bottle-in-spokane-where-does-it-go-and-other-recycling-questions/Content?oid=17844875](http://www.inlander.com/spokane/if-you-recycle-a-plastic-bottle-in-spokane-where-does-it-go-and-other-recycling-questions/Content?oid=17844875). Accessed 13 Apr. 2022.

This article takes us to Spokane's Spokane Materials and Recycling Technology (SMaRT) Center to find answers on whether Spokane's recycling is harming other countries, what items are getting reused at a high rate, and what materials are waiting for buyers.

## WATCH

KREM 2 News. "Confusion Lingers over What You Can Recycle in Spokane." YouTube, 29 Jan. 2020, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=5TKJuVCPFI0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5TKJuVCPFI0). Accessed 13 Apr. 2022.

KREM reporter Shayna Waltower covers the reasons behind Spokane's switch to bi-weekly recycling and the increased costs to the city after the 2018 embargo from China.

## LISTEN

Blumberg, Alex. "Recycling! Is It BS?" How to Save the Planet, Gimlet Media, 21 Jan. 2021, [www.gimletmedia.com/shows/howtosaveaplanet/brh3jeg?utm](http://www.gimletmedia.com/shows/howtosaveaplanet/brh3jeg?utm). Accessed 13 Apr. 2022.

Climate journalist Kendra Pierre-Louis explains how common items in your recycling bin get recycled, what effect it has on climate change, and terms like "downcycling" and "dirty MRF".

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