**March Social Media Captions – Contamination**

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| **Facebook** | |
| Image1-FB-Contamination | It’s easy to toss that plastic bag or pizza box into the recycling bin. It’s plastic and cardboard, after all. But neither of those items can be recycled in most curbside and drop off recycling facilities. These items, and other items that aren’t being recycled in your community, can contaminate the whole bin. This means time is spent removing the contaminate, or, more likely, the entire bin ends up in the landfill. Contaminating the recycling bin with items that aren’t recyclable defeats the whole purpose of recycling. Contact your local government or waste hauler to find out what can be recycled in your community. |
| Image2-FB- Contamination | Plastic bags and plastic film (dry cleaner bags, shrink wrap, bubble wrap, trash bags, etc.) can be recycled, but NOT in most curbside bin programs. Plastic bags and plastic film can get tangled in recycling facility sorters and not only cost time but can also damage the machines, leading to costly repairs. Reuse the bags or plastic film if you can or find a location to recycle it right. Many grocery stores and big box stores will accept the bags and film for recycling. Find a site near you at <https://www.plasticfilmrecycling.org/recycling-bags-and-wraps/find-drop-off-location/> |
| Image3-FB- Contamination | Just say “No” to tanglers in the recycling bin. Tanglers are anything that can wrap around recycling sorting equipment, such as thin plastic bags, plastic wrap that you put around food, garden hoses, cords, clothing, ropes, holiday lights and more. You may be able to recycle plastic bags at grocery stores and big box stores, donate clothes, or find a new use for that old garden hose. But if you can’t, all of those tanglers belong in the garbage bin. |
| Image4-FB- Contamination | 1 in 4. That’s the average number of items in the recycling bin that don’t belong there. What’s the number one item that doesn’t belong? Plastic bags or plastic film. Don’t put them in there, not even to hold other items that ARE recyclable (unless directed to do so by your community or waste hauler.) Reuse those plastic bags as a garbage bag in your car or to pick up pet waste. Or recycle them at participating grocery stores or big box stores. Or, toss them in the garbage bin. Just don’t put them in the recycling bin! |
| Image5-FB-Contamination | Wondering what to do with that old, leaky garden hose? Well, you can’t put it in the recycling bin. You should throw it away or find new life for it as cute gardening décor. You can also recycle the metal pieces at a scrap metal recycling facility. <https://earth911.com/home/garden/recycling-mystery-garden-hoses/> |

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| **Instagram** | |
| Image 1-IG- Contamination | 1 in 4 of the items in the recycling bin don’t belong there. We can do better. Contact your local government or waste hauler to find out what can be recycled in your community. |
| Image2-IG- Contamination | Wondering what to do with that old, leaky garden hose? Well, you can’t put it in the recycling bin. You should throw it away or find new life for it as cute gardening décor. You can also recycle the metal pieces at a scrap metal recycling facility. Learn more at <https://earth911.com/home/garden/recycling-mystery-garden-hoses/> |

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| **Twitter** | |
| Image1-TW- Contamination | The wrong things in your recycling bin can cost time and money to remove at the sorting facility. Contact your community or waste hauler to find out what you can recycle.  [https://www.rubicon.com/blog/recycling-contamination](https://www.rubicon.com/blog/recycling-contamination/) |
| Image2-TW- Contamination | Just because you want to recycle something doesn’t mean you can. Contact your community or waste hauler to find out what you can recycle.  [https://www.rubicon.com/blog/recycling-contamination](https://www.rubicon.com/blog/recycling-contamination/) |