

CONTAMINATION GRADING SYSTEM



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE GRADING SYSTEM

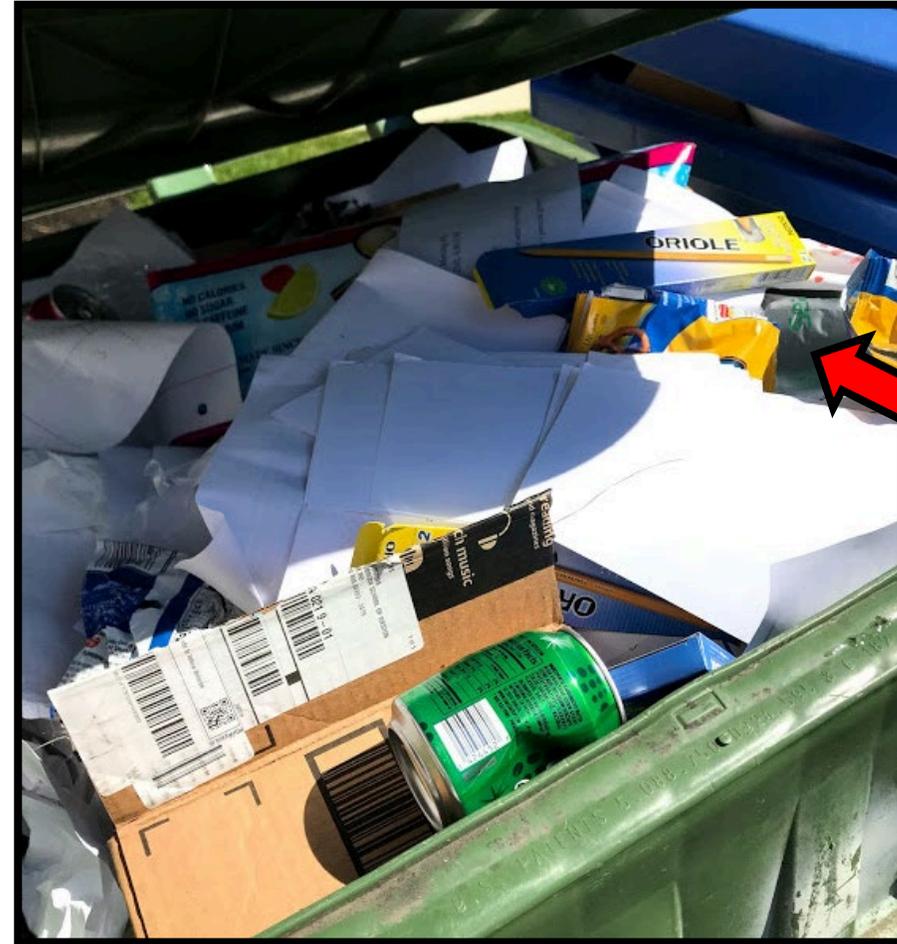
The following recycling contamination grading system was developed as an informal training tool to help evaluate the quality of the material you are collecting and to highlight potential issues with your waste diversion programs. It was created based on conversations with one materials recovery facility (MRF) in Massachusetts, and may not apply to all businesses and institutions.

Please check with your hauler and/or end site to learn about their specific contamination thresholds, as this may vary. Haulers often provide guidance about what is an acceptable amount of contamination in terms of a percentage by weight or volume.

Remember that your hauler's driver determines whether a load is rejected or requires added fees because of contamination. When asking for feedback from your hauler and end site, photos can be a helpful tool for identifying specific contaminants and improving the quality of your collected material.



GRADE A



Indicates very limited or zero contamination, wet or dry.

GRADE B



GRADE C



Indicates many incorrectly sorted materials or some liquid/food contamination

GRADE F

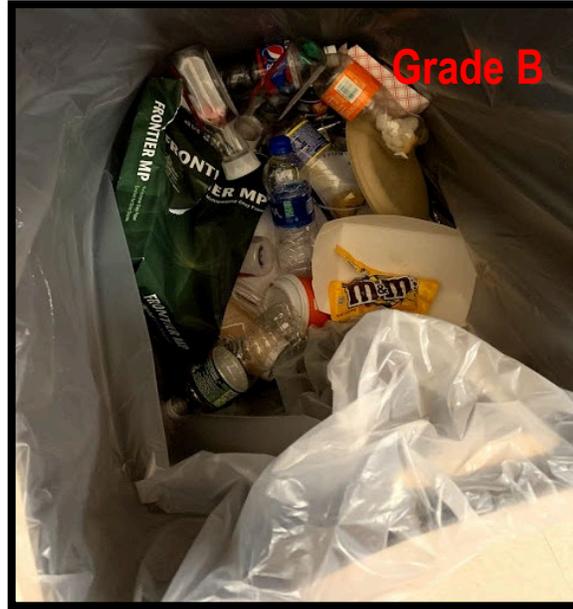


Indicates high levels of contamination that would be difficult to remove

RECAP



Grade A



Grade B



Grade C



Grade F

CONTAMINATION QUIZ

Q1



How
would you
classify
the
contents
of this
recycling
bin?

Q1



Answer:
Grade B

Small amounts of
contained liquid
contamination, plastic bags

Q2



How would
you
classify
the
contents
of this
recycling
dumpster?

Q2



Answer:
Grade F

Recyclables should not be bagged, incorrectly sorted materials within bags (ex: gloves, film plastic)

Q3



How
would you
classify
the
contents
of this
recycling
cart?

Q3



Answer:
Grade A

Only a few straws, no
food/liquid contamination

Q4



How
would you
classify
the
contents
of this
recycling
bin?

Q4



Answer:
Grade C

Visible liquid
contamination, incorrectly
sorted items (ex: straws,
utensils, chip bags)

Q5



**How
would you
classify
the
contents
of this
bin?**

Q5



Answer:
Grade F

Q6



**How
would you
classify
the
contents
of this
organics
bin?**

Q6



**Answer:
Grade C**

Many plastic gloves,
parchment paper may not
be accepted by your
organics end site

Q7



**This is your
trash
dumpster.
Can you spot
the waste ban
items?**

Q7



Cardboard,
paper, and
yard waste are
all waste ban
items.

THANK YOU!

info@recyclingworksma.com
888-254-5525

www.recyclingworksma.com

