

Steel or Tin Can Recycling

Cans with paper labels usually containing food items:

- Soup Cans
- Veggie Cans
- Coffee Cans





Steel Can Recycling Preparation

- 1) Is it steel or aluminum? If a magnet sticks it is STEEL.
- 2) Most Steel cans have a paper label which does not need to be removed.
- 3) Rinse your cans of any leftover food.
- 4) Completely remove the lid and insert this into the can. If possible, pinch the top so the lid will remain inside. This also prevents animals or birds from becoming entrapped in the can.
- 5) Place your cans in a trash bag for transport to the HSB Recycle Center.
- 6) Attach the Steel Can sticker to the outside of the bag if available.

Please Note: Metal paint cans or aerosol cans are not considered food grade. These are excluded from the recycling program.

Why Recycle Steel Cans?

Most people call them "tin cans," but the containers your green beans, corn, carrots or other vegetables come in are mostly made of steel. These cans typically have a paper label on the outside.

The term "tin" comes from the fact that these cans have a micro-thin coating of tin inside, to protect the flavor and prevent the can from corroding.

Steel cans make up about 90% of the U.S. food can market.

Americans use about 100 million steel cans every day. That's 36.5 billion cans a year.

About 71% of steel cans are recycled, making them one of the most recycled packaging products in America.

In addition, steel cans typically contain at least 25% recycled steel, but many are made almost entirely of recycled steel.

Where does this recycled steel come from? Mainly from scrap metal.

Recycling steel saves at least 75% of the energy it would take to create steel from raw materials. That's enough energy to power 18 million homes.

During the recycling process, steel cans (in bales or loose) are fed into the furnaces of a steel mill or foundry. They may be mixed with new steel.

Some of the new "mini" steel mills manufacture their products from 100% recycled steel.