## Top Recycling Tips for Wilmette and Beyond

1. Plastic bags - Never put recyclables in plastic bags! (Items can be packed loosely in paper bags.) Recycle empty plastic bags in grocery store collection bins.
2. "If you can smash it, trash it" - No soft plastic in curbside bins. Put soft plastic, including mesh produce bags, mailing envelopes, and bubble wrap in grocery store collection bins. Thin film plastic must be "stretchable."
3. Size - Items, Including paper, must be larger than about 2" square. No shredded paper. (Small items fall through machinery.)
4. Lids - Always recycle bottles, tubs, jugs and jars with lids on. No coffee cup lids.
5. Color - Black bottoms of take out containers are not recyclable. Clear tops of takeout containers are.
6. Aluminum foil - Rinse and create a large ball with multiple smaller pieces.
7. Rinsing - Items should be empty and rinsed. No need to fully clean.
8. Paper coffee cups and sleeves - Recyclable (empty). No lids or straws.
9. Aerosols - Recyclable, if *fully* empty, in the curbside bin. If full, dispose of hazardous waste collection.
10. Styrofoam - Not recyclable in curbside bin. Can be taken to Abt or Mount Prospect.
11. Textiles - Donate in any condition at Goodwill, Salvation Army, or clothing drop off bins. Not recyclable in the curbside bin.
12. Pill bottles - Recyclable (empty) in curbside bin.
13. Batteries - Not recyclable in curbside bin.
14. Wine corks - Recyclable at Good Grapes in Winnetka or search for additional outlets.
15. Don't crush plastic bottles or flatten cans.
16. Plastic #1 and #2 - Mostly recyclable.
17. Plastic #6 and #7 - Not recyclable. (Solo cups and many clear plastic cups.)
18. Additional recycling information - Available on this recorded webinar and on the SWANCC website.

Note:  These tips were created in conjunction with the current rules for LRS-Waste Management Services, who currently service the Village of Wilmette.  Many of these tips apply across the area, but check with your local waste removal service to confirm.