

**G**reen  **Quest**

**R**ecycling

# Where does my recycling go?



Baling



Commercial & Residential  
Single Stream



Shredding



Transloading



Transportation

# Cardboard

- ▶ Recycled cardboard is a high quality material that can be used as packaging materials and boxes. Cardboard can be recycled many times without losing its strength. Corrugated cardboard containers that get used for shipping have a high percentage of post consumer recycled content.
- ▶ Cardboard from the Lincoln area goes to Sonoco in Hutchinson Kansas, International Paper in Cedar Rapids Iowa or West Rock in Pruitt New Mexico. All three of these mills are using the Cardboard to make new Cardboard boxes.

# Mixed Paper

- ▶ Mixed office paper is an industry term that describes a wide variety of low grade paper. It can be recycled into many products, including facial tissues and toilet paper, paper towels, napkins, egg cartons, paper grocery bags and paperboard. Paperboard is a product that is commonly used to make game boards, book covers, and a variety of other products.
- ▶ Mixed Paper from the Lincoln area goes to Georgia Pacific in Muskogee Oklahoma to be made into Tissue.

# Newspaper

- ▶ Newspaper can be used for a number of fiber manufacturing processes. Not only can it be recycled back into a fiber product it can also be used for insulation.
- ▶ Recycled fiber in the Lincoln are go to Cartones in San Juan Del Rio Mexico to be made into Kraft envelopes.

# PETE #1 Plastics

- ▶ PET is one of the most commonly used plastics in consumer products, and is found in most water and pop bottles, and some packaging. It is intended for single use applications; repeated use increases the risk of leaching and bacterial growth. PET plastic is difficult to decontaminate, and proper cleaning requires harmful chemicals. Polyethylene terephthalates may leach carcinogens.
- ▶ The plastic is crushed and then shredded into small flakes which are then spun into polyester fiber. This recycled fiber is used to make textiles such as fleece garments, carpets, stuffing for pillows and life jackets, and similar products
- ▶ PETE in Lincoln goes to Mohawk in Summerville Georgia and spun back into fiber for Carpet.

# HDPE # 2 Plastic

- ▶ HDPE plastic is the stiff plastic used to make milk jugs, detergent and oil bottles, toys, and some plastic bags. HDPE is the most commonly recycled plastic and is considered one of the safest forms of plastic. It is a relatively simple and cost-effective process to recycle HDPE plastic for secondary use.
- ▶ HDPE plastic is very hard-wearing and does not break down under exposure to sunlight or extremes of heating or freezing. For this reason, HDPE is used to make picnic tables, plastic lumber, waste bins, park benches, bed liners for trucks and other products which require durability and weather-resistance.
- ▶ HDPE from Lincoln goes to Central States Reprocessing in Lincoln Nebraska or KW in Troy Alabama where it is grinded washed and sent to several manufactures that make plastic products

# Aluminum Cans

- ▶ Aluminum Cans can be recycled forever. Once a can arrives at a mill it will be back on the shelf in as little as 3 weeks.
- ▶ Aluminum Cans in the Lincoln area goes to Tri Arrows in Logan Kentucky, Novellis in Bera Kentucky or Constellium in Muscle Shoals Alabama.



# Steel/Tin Cans

- ▶ "Tin" cans are actually steel cans coated in a thin layer of tin. The tin and steel are separated during the recycling process. All steel contains recycled steel. Much of the steel is used on the east coast of the U.S. and in Canada.
- ▶ Steel from the Lincoln Area goes to a number of mills in Illinois and Indiana. Made into Ingot and sent out to make new steel products.

# Glass Bottles

- ▶ All types of used glass containers can be reused indefinitely to make new glass products. It is actually easier to manufacture new glass containers from recycled glass than from raw material.
- ▶ Glass from the Lincoln area goes to Ripple Glass in Kansas City. Ripple cleans and color sorts the glass. Once processed it is sent on to an end user to make new glass bottles or sent to be made into insulation.