Gifford Park's Pride

Gifford Park Neighborhood: A Great Place to Live, Work, Learn and Play

January 1997 — A Publication of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

Historically Speaking...

Johnny Rosenblatt

Johnny Rosenblatt, Mayor of Omaha from 1954-1961, and for whom Rosenblatt Stadium is named, was a Tech High graduate of 1926, and lived in the Gifford Park neighborhood. Johnny's father and mother, Louis and Sarah Rosenblatt and their family of six children lived at 3025 Webster. Louis and Sarah came to Omaha from Russia in 1900 because of the persecutions there. Mr. Rosenblatt peddled baked goods from a horse drawn wagon. Later he worked as a custodian. They first lived at 13th and Davenport, then 23rd and Paul and at 24th and Caldwell. The Webster address was a move up. They were a happy and deeply religious family.

Johnny started working at age 7 as a news boy on the corner of 24th and Farnam. He sold papers for 10 years. His favorite sport was baseball, but he liked football, soccer, basketball and handball too. He won two baseball letters at Tech High and played semi-pro baseball in Omaha until 1935. He spent 10 days as a professional baseball player with the Omaha team in the Western League and played in an exhibition game with Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig in 1927. His full-time job was with Roberts Dairy Company where he was a salesman, advertising manager, wholesaling manager, district manager and general sales manager. One of his duties with the dairy was to participate in civic affairs, and this he did with gusto.

Johnny became chairman of the original baseball stadium committee in 1944. In 1948 he was elected to the city council and became Public Property Commissioner. In 1951 he became Street Commissioner, and in 1954 was selected by the Council to be mayor of the City of Omaha. A new City Charter was adopted in 1957 and Johnny Rosenblatt became the first mayor of Omaha to be elected by the people. He served in this capacity till 1961. The baseball stadium was fittingly named in his honor in 1964.

When Johnny Rosenblatt became mayor, practically the only things west of 72nd Street were cornfields and Boys Town. By the end of his term, rezoning had been approved for the Crossroads shopping center at 72nd and Dodge Streets, construction of Interstate 80 through southwest Omaha had started, and westward development was on its way.

Johnny Rosenblatt died in October of 1979 at the age of 71. He was survived by his wife, Freeda, and son, Steve. Steve Rosenblatt is a past member of the Omaha City Council.

by Eva Swanson

Meeting Date Change

Due to the New Year's Holiday, this month's meeting will be Thursday, January 9.

Next Meeting

Thursday, January 9
7:00 P.M.

Guest Speaker:
To Be Announced

St. Joseph's Hospital
Dining Rooms A, B, & C

FREE PARKING

IN THIS ISSUE...

The last few pages of this issue contain information regarding Christmas tree recycling, garbage collection and all other recycling items. Please take time to review the information and share with your neighbors.

GPNA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Leo Wilwerding 345-1433
VICE PRESIDENT
Mike Bacome 344-3233
RECORDING SECRETARY
Barbara Remmen 341-8331
TREASURER
Jean Peck 344-0722

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

C.D.C.
Chuck Kilgore 341-2757
CLEAN-UP
Chris Foster 342-6006
COMPLIANCE
Leo Wilwerding 345-1433
COURTESY
Candy Bacome 344-3233
HISTORIAN
Eva Swanson 345-1707
LITTER - BUSINESS DISTRICT
Rich Exline 341-4388
MEMBERSHIP
Chris Foster 342-6006
NEWSLETTER
Chris Foster 342-6006
NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION
Mike Bacome 344-3233
OFFICE
Marlene Wilwerding 345-1433
PARK
Mike Bacome 344-3233
PARKING VIOLATIONS
Terry Wilwerding 342-2795
PUBLIC RELATIONS
Anne & Linda Chapman 348-0464
TOOL LENDING
Ed Hendershot 341-0475
WATCH GROUP
Ron Yates 558-6027
WEEDS & LITTER
Jim Wilwerding 551-1344

Omaha's Municipal Code requires all sidewalks to be shoveled within 24 hours after a snowstorm.

Holiday Banquet Highlights

The Eighth annual GPNA Holiday Banquet hosted by **St. Joseph's Hospital** was held Thursday, December 12. This year was the best attended event ever with over eighty people in attendance. A delicious traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings was served by **Marriott Host Services**. We were delighted to have many St. Joseph's Hospital representatives, including **Rich Stanko, Gary Honts, Jo Miller, Ann Novotny** and **Rodney Hay**. Other honored guests included: **Councilman, Subby Anzaldo**, and his wife, **Janice**; **Mary Irwin, City Planning Department**; **Fred Salzinger, Creighton University**; **Father John Scott S.J., Creighton University**; **Cindy Smilley, Keep Omaha Beautiful**; **Judy Johns, Police Crime Prevention Coordinator**; and **Loren Johnson, J'N'J Grocery**.

GPNA President **Leo Wilwerding** presided over the event. Door prizes were donated by Subby Anzaldo, Loren Johnson and **Marlene Wilwerding**. Table decorations were made by Marlene Wilwerding, who also organized most of this year's banquet - great job!

The 'Neighbor of the Year' Award was presented to **Chris Foster** for his work with the newsletter, cleanup and tennis program committees. **Ron Yates** was presented the 'Leadership' Award and **Cynde Yates** received the 'Volunteer of the Year' Award (see articles below).

Thanks again to St. Joseph's Hospital and to everyone who attended this year's banquet. We look forward to next year!

Cynde Yates Receives 'Volunteer of the Year' Award

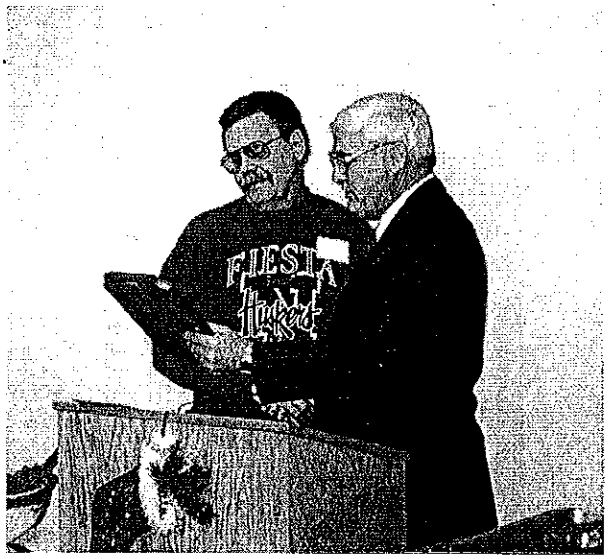
The 'Volunteer of the Year' Award was presented to Cynde Yates. Cynde's volunteer spirit is evident in every project she has been involved with. Here are some of her accomplishments:

Cynde Yates receives the 'Volunteer of the Year' Award. She has been involved with cleanups, Easter Egg Hunts, Halloween haunted houses, Holiday Banquets and more.

- Corresponding Secretary 1994, Recording Secretary 1993
- Supported husband Ron while he was GPNA President
- Participated in the following activities: Easter Egg Hunt, Holiday Banquets, mini-cleanups, spring & fall cleanup, Halloween haunted house, garage sales, tennis program, nominating committee, courtesy committee and work on numerous other committees
- Took over membership in early 1995 (which was the best membership year)
- Started a book for archiving old and current newsletters
- Received Nova 'Leadership Award' in June 1996
- Every project Cynde has organized has been a success

Ron Yates Presented 'Leadership' Award

The 'Leadership' Award was given to Ron Yates. Ron's commitment to our neighborhood has been second to none since the formation of our neighborhood association in December of 1988. Below are some of Ron's accomplishments over the years:



Ron Yates receives the 'Leadership' Award. Ron has logged over 1,200 Watch Group hours and has participated in all sixteen fall and spring cleanups.

- President of the GPNA 4 out of last 5 years
- One of the founding members of the GPNA
- Treasurer 1989-1991
- Logged over 1,200 hours on Watch Group
- Watch Group chairperson since early 1993
- Started Neighbor Of The Month and Tree Planting programs
- Was selected to go to Portland, Oregon to study Community Policing in October 1994
- Major participation in spring and fall cleanups past 8 years (16 cleanups!)
- Helped new and existing businesses
- Contributor to newsletter - numerous articles and editorials
- Newsletter distribution - Delivered many routes himself
- His leadership has given the GPNA name respect and integrity with City Government
- He has put his heart and soul into our neighborhood day-in and day-out
- Under his leadership, the GPNA has received many awards and achievements
- Ron has committed more time and effort to the Gifford Park neighborhood than anyone

Charles R. Kilgore Jr.
Attorney At Law

4913 Underwood Avenue

558-5000

Personal Injury Law
Worker's Compensation
Injury
Auto Accidents
Insurance Claims

California Bar & Pkg.
510 No. 33rd St.

Serving the Gifford Park Community since 1937
Wayne and Peggy Hill, Proprietors

Refer to the following guidelines when calling in complaints:

To Mayor's Hotline, 444-5555:
Junk Cars;Vehicles Parked on the Grass; Boats, Recreational Vehicles in the Yard; Boats, Recreational Vehicles - Oversized; Vehicle Litter; Vehicles on the Street

To Susan Kelley, 444-5364
Running a Car Repair Business Out of the Home; Other Businesses Out of the Home; Multiple Families in Single Family Dwelling; Fences - Too High or Facing Wrong Way; Garage Sales; All Other Zoning-Related Complaints; Construction with No Building Permit

Reduce the Opportunity of Burglary

1. Lock all your doors and windows. Install dead bolt locks, pins in your windows, and a peephole in your house.
2. Leave a light burning upstairs and downstairs. Exterior areas of your home should also be lighted.
3. Use a timer to switch lights on and off if you are away.
4. Never leave notes on your house doors for family and friends. Burglars look for easy targets, and a note is a signal that no one is home.
5. Join a neighborhood watch program. Neighbors looking out for each other are the best deterrent to burglary.
6. If you think prowlers are in your home, don't enter. Go to the nearest neighbor, call the police, and watch your home until the police arrive.
7. Valuables should be engraved with an Operation ID Number, which is assigned by the Community Crime Prevention Unit of your local police department.
8. Never open the door to a stranger. Require proper identification.
9. Stop milk, paper, and other deliveries "until further notice," whenever leaving town.
10. Have a neighbor pick up your mail and advertising circulars daily. Also, arrange for lawn care.
11. Keep trees and shrubbery near the house trimmed. Don't give the intruder a place to hide.
12. Have a Home Security Survey completed by your local police department.

California
Tacos & More

Homemade Mexican Food

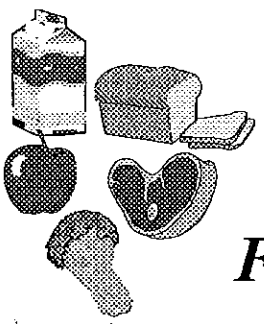
342-0212

33rd & California Street

Dine In or Carry Out

New Winter Hours!

Mon - Thur: 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Fri - Sat: 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.
Sun: 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.



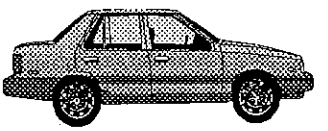
J'N'J
GROCERY STORE

Fresh Meats -- Fresh Produce

Friendly Service

3301 California Street -- 422-1058

WE DELIVER!



7:00 AM - 10:00 PM Monday thru Thursday
7:00 AM - 11:00 PM Friday thru Saturday
8:00 AM - 10:00 PM Sunday

Christmas Tree Recycling

Official Program - City of Omaha, Public Works Department and Environmental Quality Division. *(The locations listed below are closest to Gifford Park)*

Ak-Sar-Ben
69th & Mercy Road Entrance
Parking lot east of entrance gate

Brown Park
U Street between 15th & 18th
East end of parking lot

Orchard Park
66th Street & Hartman Ave.
57 blocks north of Dodge

When: **January 4 & 5, 1997 - 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

REMOVE Nails, Ornaments, Lights, Wires, Plastic Bags, Tree Stand; Wreaths and evergreen roping will NOT be accepted; Flocked trees are OK.

Please share the Christmas spirit and ask a neighbor if you can help them get their tree to a recycling site.

For more information call 492-9955 then select category 6823.

Give a GPNA gift membership to a friend or neighbor.

GIFFORD PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
532 N. 33rd Street, Omaha, NE 68131
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
(Please print clearly)

Membership year: _____ *(Membership year runs from June 1 through May 31)*

Type of membership: Single ($5) _____ Family ($8) _____ Business ($25)_____

Name of business _____

Name _____ _____
(Last) (First)

Spouse _____ _____
(Last) (First)

Address _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Telephone Number: _____ _____
(Home) (Work)

In case of an emergency notify: _____
(Name) (Address) (Phone No.)

May this information be included in the GPNA Neighborhood Directory? Yes _____ No_____

_____
Signature Date

What's Happening in the Neighborhood...

Everyone is encouraged to attend the next general GPNA meeting **Thursday, January 9, at 7 pm (NO meeting January 2) at St. Joseph's Hospital.** You do not have to be a GPNA member to attend. As always there will be plenty of refreshments.

We offer our sincere condolences to GPNA member **Rich Exline** and his family for the loss of Rich's father, **Richard L. Exline**. He passed away in December after being hospitalized recently. Our thoughts are with Rich and his family during this difficult time.

Processing of basic tax returns and possibly electronic filing will be available starting in February at the GPNA office at 33rd and California Street (next to J'N'J Grocery). I.R.S. representatives will provide FREE tax help for our neighborhood on selected Saturdays during the upcoming tax season. More information with dates and times will be available soon.

Good luck to **Loren Johnson**, owner of **J'N'J Grocery**, for opening a second grocery store near 24th and Redick Ave, near Miller Park. If in the area, check out his newly remodeled store.

Garbage, Yardwaste and Recyclables Collection

What You Need To Know

The **Environmental Quality Division** has provided the following information about our garbage, yardwaste and recyclables collection. With the start of the new year it's a good time for all of us to know the rules, which are intended to help each of us, and make Omaha a better, more livable city. Below are resources to receive more information about recycling and solid waste:

By Phone:

24-hour collection complaint hotline: **444-5238**
Recycling hotline: **444-4500**
From a touch tone phone, call In*Touch at **492-9955**, then select from these categories:

Recycling, Curbside	**6820**
Recycling, Drop-off	**6859**
Recycling, Special Topics	**6823**
Garbage Collection	**6822**
Yardwaste Collection	**6821**
Collection Complaints	**6860**

By Fax:

From a touch tone phone, call **FRED** (FaxREplyDocuments) at **444-3610**, then select document 90 for an index of available documents. You must have a fax machine to receive documents.

By Internet:

Information is also available through the Internet from the Environmental Quality Division's home page. Visit it at:
http://omahafreenet.org/ofn/City/Public_Works/HomePage/Index.html

General notes:

- Yardwaste collection will start **March 31**.
- Buildings with less than 5 apartments have normal services.
- Buildings with 5 to 20 apartments have garbage service only for up to 20 trash cans (1 per apartment).
- Buildings with more than 20 apartments must contract their own collection services.
- The only drop-off site operating (as of 1/1/97) is **Weyerhaeuser Recycling, 7202 N 16th St, 68112**. They are open 24 hours-a-day and can be reached at **453-8755**. They accept most recyclables.
- Remember to use clear bags for garbage - DO NOT use dark bags.
- Christmas wrapping paper is OK to recycle.
- More in-depth information is available (see resources listed above) on the following unique items:

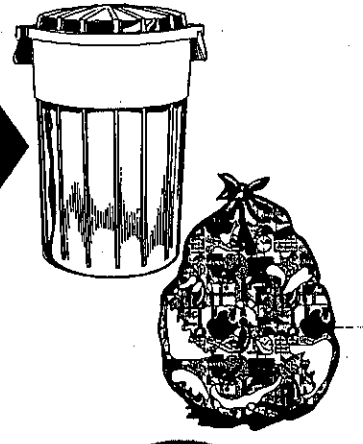
Proper Paint Disposal
Used Motor Oil, Antifreeze & Automotive Battery Recycling
Household Hazardous Waste Alternatives & Disposal
Eliminating Unwanted Mail
Waste Reduction
Avoiding waste through reuse

The GPNA would like to thank **Paul Dunn**, Recycling Coordinator, and **Caryl Robinson**, Environmental Specialist, both with the **Omaha Public Works Department**. Paul provided much of this information, and Caryl spoke at our October 1995 general meeting.

Garbage

- Maximum 32 gallon can; Maximum of 45 pounds.
- Must have tight-fitting lid and secure handles.
- See-through bags only (clear preferred); maximum of 30 pounds.
- Place within 5 feet of curb/alley.
- Maximum of 5 cans and/or bags.

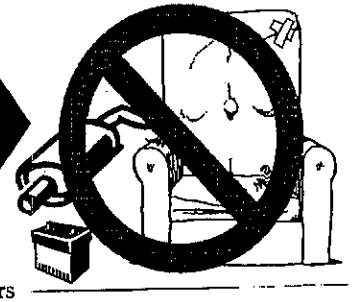
Yes



Prohibited Materials

- Mixture of yardwaste and garbage.
- Rock, concrete or dirt.
- Dead animals.
- All liquids.
- Tires, engines or other large auto parts.
- Bulky items (couches, chairs, stoves, etc.)
- Opaque dark plastic bags.
- Motor oil and automotive batteries.

No

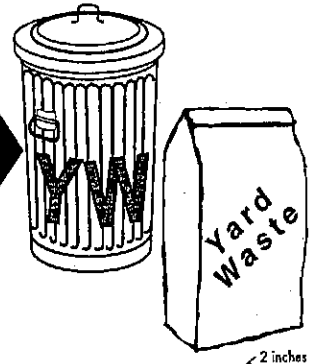


Recycling and solid waste information for Omaha, is available 24-hours per day, 7 days-per-week from the automatic fax back system *FRED* (*FaxREplyDocuments*). Dial *FRED* at 444-3610 using a touch tone phone, then select document 90 for an index of available documents. You must have a fax machine to receive documents.

Yardwaste

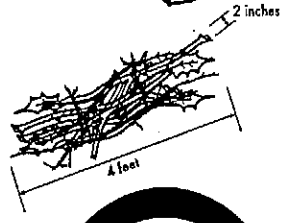
- Trash can marked with a **YW** or special paper bags.
- Unlimited number of marked cans & paper bags.
- Don't mix garbage and yardwaste together.
- Maximum of 45 pounds.
- Maximum of 32 gallons.

Yes



- Bundle branches & brush, then tie with string or twine. Don't use wire or plastic.
- No pieces larger than 2 inches in diameter.
- Maximum of 4 feet long.
- Maximum of 30 pounds.
- Unlimited number of brush bundles.

Yes



- **No** plastic bags or boxes.

  Yardwaste in plastic bags or boxes *will not* be collected.

No

Collection Pointers

- Place all materials at your collection point by 6AM.
- If your collection was missed, call 444–5238 *after* 7PM on your collection day.
- Leave a couple feet of space between your yardwaste, recyclables and garbage containers.
- Plastic bags are not collected for recycling and should *not* be used to hold materials in your bin.
- Recycling and solid waste information for Omaha, is available from In★Touch. With a touch tone phone, dial 492-9955, then select from these categories:

Recycling, Curbside	6820
Recycling, Drop–off	6859
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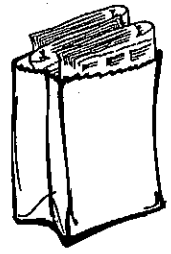
Yardwaste Collection	6821
Collection Problems	6860

Recyclables

Sack #1—Newspaper

- Includes: Coupons, advertisements, *Parade* section and all paper that came with the newspaper.
- *Do not include:* phonebooks or other paper.
- Lay sack on top of bin.

Yes



Sack #2—Mixed Paper

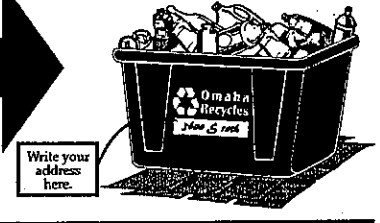
- Includes: Magazines, catalogues, cereal boxes, junk mail (including mailing labels and plastic windows), detergent boxes, office and school paper.
- *Does not include:* pizza boxes, juice boxes, milk cartons, phonebooks, tissue paper, paper plates, or frozen food boxes.
- Lay sack on top of bin.

Yes

Loose in the bin—Containers *(Not in plastic bags)*

- Plastic bottles marked 1, including: Bottles that held pop, cooking oil, mouth wash, shampoo, and cleaners.
- 1 *not included:* plastic cups, toys or cookie trays.
- Plastic bottles and tubs marked 2, including—bottles and tubs that held milk, juice, cleaners, margarine, whipped topping, and yogurt.
- 2 *not included:* motor oil or auto product bottles, lawn chemical bottles, toys or cookie trays.
- Glass bottles & jars.
- Aluminum cans.
- Steel (tin) cans, including—empty aerosol cans, empty and dry paint cans. Tip: Place end (lid) of food cans inside can and crimp closed.
- Corrugated cardboard. Flatten and place on ground under bin.

Yes



To purchase a second bin for recycling call 444–5098.

Recycling Collection Tips

- Write your address on the bin using a permanent marker.
- Remove snap top lids and screw on caps from all containers and place in garbage.
- *Do not include:* plastic bags, Styrofoam®, motor oil bottles, plate glass, syringes, light bulbs, drinking glasses or pizza boxes.
- Flatten all boxes.
- Remove bin from curb as soon as possible after collection.
- All recyclables set out for collection must be in a green bin. (Except large pieces of cardboard that should be placed under the bin)

Plastic Containers ♺1 & ♺2

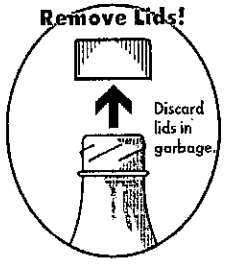
We must all work to be sure that only the correct plastics are collected for recycling. If the wrong type of plastic is included, it will lower the value of the recycled material, and will cause problems in the recycling process. Those problems could cause recyclable material to be landfilled, so please be careful what you place in your recycling bin and keep this as a reference.

Yes!

(All plastic containers must be marked with a ♺1 or ♺2 *and cannot be included in the list to the right!)*

- ♺ 1 & 2 liter pop bottles
- ♺ Detergent bottles
- ♺ Dishwashing liquid bottles
- ♺ Milk jugs
- ♺ Cleaning product bottles
- ♺ Shampoo bottles
- ♺ Hair conditioner bottles
- ♺ Cooking oil bottles
- ♺ Yogurt containers
- ♺ Margarine tubs
- ♺ Sport drink bottles
- ♺ Whipped topping containers

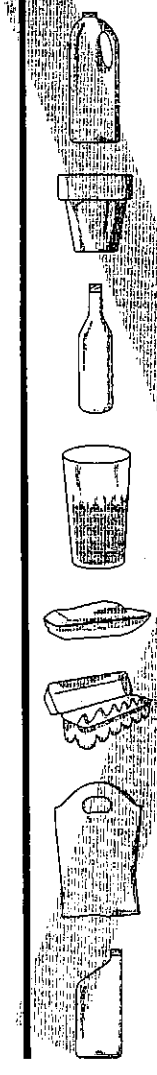
- All ♺1 containers must be *bottles* with *screw top lids*. No snap top containers.
- Containers marked ♺2 may be bottles or snap top containers.



Wash 'em & Squash 'em!

No!

(Plastics on this list cannot be recycled in your recycling bin, *even if the item is marked with a ♺1 or ♺2)*



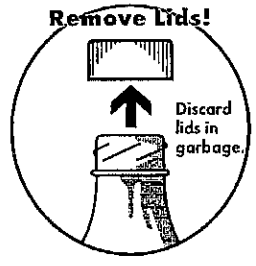
- ⊘ Lids and caps
- ⊘ Plastic drinking glasses
- ⊘ Plastic toys
- ⊘ Ice cube trays
- ⊘ Dish drainers
- ⊘ Automotive product bottles
- ⊘ Plastic bags
- ⊘ Lawn chemical bottles
- ⊘ Motor oil bottles
- ⊘ Buckets
- ⊘ Automotive parts
- ⊘ Plastic paint cans
- ⊘ Drain cleaner bottles
- ⊘ Flower pots
- ⊘ Plastic egg cartons
- ⊘ Plexi® glass
- ⊘ Plastic cookware
- ⊘ Plastic cups and plates
- ⊘ Frozen food trays
- ⊘ Cookie trays
- ⊘ Bedding plant trays
- ⊘ Children's play pools
- ⊘ Plastic furniture
- ⊘ Rubbermaid® products
- ⊘ Plastic forks, spoons and knives
- ⊘ Hangers
- ⊘ Lawn edging
- ⊘ Plastic items marked ♺3, ♺4, ♺5, ♺6 or ♺7

Glass Bottles & Jars

We must all work to be sure that only glass bottles and jars are collected for recycling. If other types of glass are included, it will cause problems in the recycling process. Those problems cause recyclable material to be landfilled, so please be careful what you place in your recycling bin and keep this as a reference.

Yes!

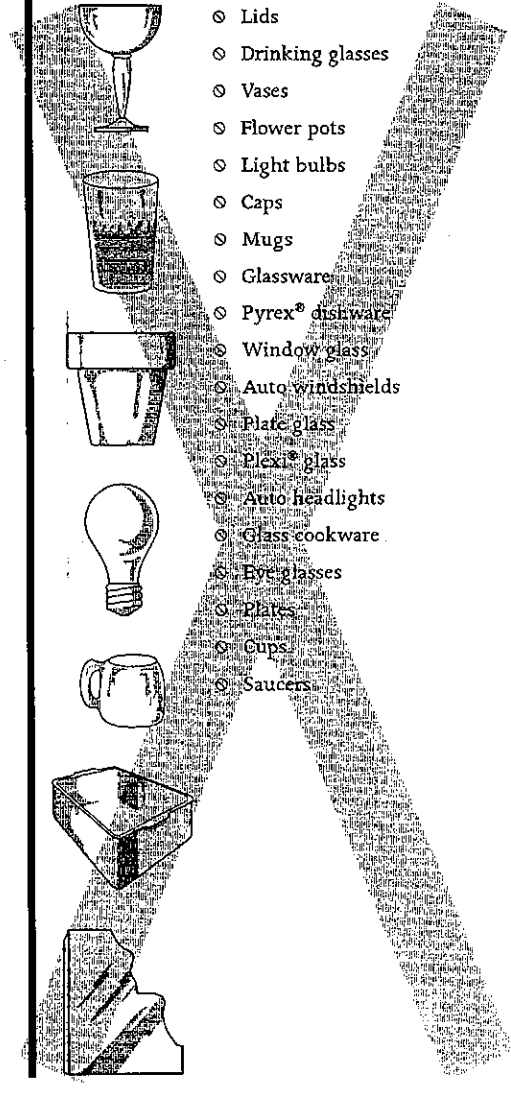
- ♻ Ketchup bottles
- ♻ Pickle jars
- ♻ Mayonnaise jars
- ♻ Pop bottles
- ♻ Wine bottles
- ♻ Beer bottles
- ♻ Juice bottles
- ♻ Baby food jars
- ♻ Apple sauce jars



Rinse well

A glass reminder—
If it's not called a bottle or a jar—
Don't try to recycle it!

No!



- ⊘ Lids
- ⊘ Drinking glasses
- ⊘ Vases
- ⊘ Flower pots
- ⊘ Light bulbs
- ⊘ Caps
- ⊘ Mugs
- ⊘ Glassware
- ⊘ Pyrex® dishware
- ⊘ Window glass
- ⊘ Auto windshields
- ⊘ Plate glass
- ⊘ Plexi® glass
- ⊘ Auto headlights
- ⊘ Glass cookware
- ⊘ Eye glasses
- ⊘ Plates
- ⊘ Cups
- ⊘ Saucers