

# 2025 Reuse & Recycle in Hopewell Valley

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Updated January 25, 2025



## Curbside Recycling

**Mercer County Improvement Authority** (609) 278-8086, [mcianj.org](http://mcianj.org)  
Call your Public Works Department if you need more recycling buckets

### List of Acceptable Materials in Curbside Recycling Bucket:

[mcianj.org/recycling](http://mcianj.org/recycling). Do **NOT** put recyclables in plastic bags!

Remove caps from bottles. All plastic containers must be **clean**.

Now accepting #5 Plastics!

Dates (schedule reminders: 'Recycle Coach' App <a href="http://recyclecoach.com">recyclecoach.com</a> )			
Jan. 14, 28	April 8, 22	July 1, 15, 29	Oct. 7, 21
Feb. 11, 25	May 6, 20	Aug. 12, 26	Nov. 4, 18
March 11, 25	June 3, 17	Sept. 9, 23	Dec. 2, 16, 30

## More Ways to Reuse or Recycle

See [hopewellvalleygreenteam.org/recycling/recycling-tips](http://hopewellvalleygreenteam.org/recycling/recycling-tips) for the most up-to-date version of this information with web links.

### **Batteries:**

- **Alkaline Batteries:** Select Staples Stores (call ahead)
- **Button Cell:** Pennington Farmers Market, see **Events**
- **E-Bike:** Sourland Cycles, Halter's, REI
- **Rechargeable:** Home Depot, Lowe's, Staples. See [call2recycle.org](http://call2recycle.org)

**Bikes:** Boys & Girls Clubs of Mercer County Bike Exchange

[bgcmercer.org/bgc-bike-exchange](http://bgcmercer.org/bgc-bike-exchange); Pedals for Progress, [p4p.org](http://p4p.org)

**Books:** Mercer County Library Hopewell Branch; New Legacy Books [newlegacybooks.com](http://newlegacybooks.com) (books must have ISBN barcode); Bryn Mawr-Wellesley Book Sale (in Princeton) [bmandwbooks.com](http://bmandwbooks.com)

**Bras & Lingerie:** The Bra Recyclers [thebrarecyclers.com](http://thebrarecyclers.com); I Support the Girls [isupportthegirls.org/get-involved/how-to-donate](http://isupportthegirls.org/get-involved/how-to-donate)

**Building Materials:** Habitat ReStore [habitat.org/restores/donate-goods](http://habitat.org/restores/donate-goods)

**Cell Phones:** phone companies, electronics stores, PFM (see **Events**)

**CFL Bulbs:** MCIA Household Hazardous Waste Collection

**Clothes and Shoes:** Consignment stores, charities (check websites), collection boxes. Helpful NYT article: [how-to-get-rid-of-old-clothes](http://how-to-get-rid-of-old-clothes)

**Clothes Hangers:** Dry cleaners may take metal hangers back for reuse. Clothing stores can reuse hangers that are left at the store.

**Contact Lenses and Empty Blister Packs:** drop-off program at Eye Care Associates (in Princeton), via [bauschrecycles.com](http://bauschrecycles.com)

**Crayons:** mail-in program [nationalcrayonrecycleprogram.org](http://nationalcrayonrecycleprogram.org)

**Electronics:** MCIA and Hopewell Valley (see **Events**); Best Buy check [bestbuy.com](http://bestbuy.com); TechnicianX (in Montgomery) [technicianx.com](http://technicianx.com)

**Eyeglasses and Sunglasses:** Lions Club [njlerc.org](http://njlerc.org) boxes at Pennington Quality Market, Hopewell Township Library, Hopewell Village Square on East Broad St (outside Michael's Deli & Bakery)

**Fire Extinguisher (Recharging):** [fyrfyter.net](http://fyrfyter.net)

**Fluorescent Bulbs:** MCIA Household Hazardous Waste Collection

**Food Scraps:** Compost in your backyard. Set up an indoor worm composting bin. Or subscribe to a pick up service. Learn more here: [hopewellvalleygreenteam.org/composting](http://hopewellvalleygreenteam.org/composting)

**Furniture:** Habitat ReStore [habitat.org/restores/donate-goods](http://habitat.org/restores/donate-goods); HomeFront [homefrontnj.org/donate-items](http://homefrontnj.org/donate-items); Princeton Elks Thrift Shop

~~**Greeting Cards:** mail to [stjudesranch.org/recycled-card-program](http://stjudesranch.org/recycled-card-program) (check website for exceptions)~~

**Holiday Lights:** Lowe's; mail-in [holidayleds.com/free-light-recycling](http://holidayleds.com/free-light-recycling)

**Ink/Toner Cartridges:** Staples, Best Buy

**Mattresses and Box-Springs:** [northeastrecyclemattress.com](http://northeastrecyclemattress.com)

**Medical Equipment:** [goodwillhomemedical.org/equipment-donation](http://goodwillhomemedical.org/equipment-donation)

**Medication:** 24/7 Drop-off box at the Hopewell Township Police Department [hopewelltpw.org/735/Prescription-Drug-Disposal](http://hopewelltpw.org/735/Prescription-Drug-Disposal)

**Metal:** sell ferrous & non-ferrous scrap metals to Sims (in Ewing); Scarpati Recycling or Alpha (in Trenton); Klein (in Hillsborough).

**Pet Food, Treat, and Litter Products and Packaging:** in-store collection box at PetSmart (in Princeton).

**#5 Plastic: Rigid Containers and Caps with a ♻️ Symbol:** Beginning 2025 this type (polypropylene) can go in curbside bins.

**Plastic Film (clean, dry, and free of food residue)**  
NexTrex programs accept newspaper sleeves, produce bags, grocery bags, bread bags, Ziploc bags, cereal box liners, dry cleaning bags, bubble wrap, plastic shipping envelopes, air pillows, ice bags, salt bags, wood pellet bags, plastic film labeled with ♻️ or ♻️, case overwrap.  
Drop-off boxes at: Hopewell Boro Town Hall, McCaffrey's, Wegmans.  
FAQ at: [nextrex.com/view/educate](http://nextrex.com/view/educate) (scroll down)

**Refrigerators and Freezers:** Contact your gas or electric utility for more information on available recycling programs and rebates:

- PSE&G [homeenergy.pseg.com/recycling](http://homeenergy.pseg.com/recycling)
- JCP&L [Appliance Recycling Program](http://Appliance Recycling Program)

For Hopewell Township, see freon appliances under **Events**.

**Reusable Shopping Bags:** donate to Community Foodbank of NJ

[cfbnj.org/partner-portal/donate-reusable-shopping-bags](http://cfbnj.org/partner-portal/donate-reusable-shopping-bags)

**Sewing Machines:** Pedals for Progress, [p4p.org](http://p4p.org)

**Shoes:** See Clothes and Shoes

**Sporting Goods:** RE SPORTS (in Belle Mead) [resportsnj.com](http://resportsnj.com);

TerraCycle [Zero Waste Box for Sporting Goods](#)

**Styrofoam Packing Peanuts:** Take back to shipping stores for reuse, e.g., UPS stores, Pak Mail stores, Popcorn Packers (in Lambertville)

**Styrofoam Coolers and Shipping Blocks (remove tape, labels):**

- Raybob Packaging Inc. (in Tullytown, PA)
- Northeast Foam Recycling (in Chalfont, PA)

Email [hvgreenteam@gmail.com](mailto:hvgreenteam@gmail.com) for alerts about local collections.

**Tires:** drop off at Mavis Tire on Route 31 [mavis.com/tire-recycling](http://mavis.com/tire-recycling);

check with your Public Works department for curbside pickup.

**Toys and Games:**

- Hasbro: [hasbrotoyrecycling.hasbro.com/en-us/toy-recycling](http://hasbrotoyrecycling.hasbro.com/en-us/toy-recycling)
- LEGO: [lego.com/en-us/sustainability/replay/donate-now](http://lego.com/en-us/sustainability/replay/donate-now)
- Plastic Toys: [secondchancetoys.org](http://secondchancetoys.org)
- TerraCycle [Zero Waste Box for Toys](#)

**Water Filters:** TerraCycle [Zero Waste Box](#) or [Pouch](#)

**Wine Corks:** HVGT collection at Pennington Farmers Market

**Yard Waste:** Compost in your backyard (see Food Scraps) and/or use municipal pick-up programs (for Hopewell and Pennington Boroughs).

## Other Tips

- **Learn more about how and where to recycle**, e.g., [Earth911.com](http://Earth911.com)
- **Find a good home for what you no longer need**, e.g., via Facebook groups ([Hopewell Valley Cheapskates](#) and [Buy Nothing Hopewell Valley North East & South West](#)), yard sales, and/or donate to the Pennington Goodwill drop-off center on Route 31, Princeton Elks NJ Thrift (in Blawenburg), or Capital Thrift (in Lawrence).
- **Repair Instead of Replace:** Repair guides and spare parts for many items can be found on the internet (e.g., [ifixit.com/Guide](http://ifixit.com/Guide)), and/or have your local carpenters, appliance technicians, cobblers, and tailors, fix something for you. The Hopewell Valley Green Team lists **repair services for Hopewell Valley and surrounding areas** at: [hopewellvalleygreenteam.org/repair-services](http://hopewellvalleygreenteam.org/repair-services)
- **Buy products made from recycled materials.**
- **Reduce overall consumption and opt for durable, reusable items.**

# Events

## **Hopewell Township (for ALL Hopewell Valley Residents)** **Electronics Collection & Paper Shredding**

April 26 and October 4: 9 am - 1 pm

[hopewelltpw.org/198/4931/Electronics-RecyclingShredding](http://hopewelltpw.org/198/4931/Electronics-RecyclingShredding)

## **Hopewell Township (Township Residents Only)** **Freon-containing appliances collections (monthly)**

**Tires collection** (May 2 and November 7)

[hopewelltpw.org/695/Collections-bulk-waste-leaves-brush-freo](http://hopewelltpw.org/695/Collections-bulk-waste-leaves-brush-freo)

## **Mercer County Improvement Authority (MCIA)**

[mccianj.org/SPECIALEVENTS](http://mccianj.org/SPECIALEVENTS)

**Document Shredding** April 12 and October 18: 9 am - 12 pm

651 South Broad St, Lot 4, Trenton

## **Household Hazardous Waste & Electronics Collection**

March 22, June 14, and September 27: 8 am - 2 pm

Dempster Fire School, 350 Lawrence Station Rd., Lawrence Twp.

## **Pennington Farmers Market (PFM) - Collections by the Hopewell Valley Green Team**

• cell phones, MP3 players, chargers, digital cameras, tablets, and Bluetooth devices • Brita water filters • dental care products (including EMPTY toothpaste tubes with cap on, toothbrushes, floss containers, etc.) • ~~stick deodorant containers~~ • single-use razors • wine bottle corks (real, not synthetic) • button cell batteries (from hearing aids, calculators etc, Note: Please put tape over the positive ends) • used tennis balls & baseballs • plastic film • usable art supplies. Saturdays June 28, July 26, Aug. 30, Sept. 27, Oct. 25: 9 am - 1 pm, Rosedale Town & Country, 101 Route 31 N, Pennington.



Learn more about living sustainably at [hopewellvalleygreenteam.org](http://hopewellvalleygreenteam.org)

Email questions or suggestions to [hvgreenteam@gmail.com](mailto:hvgreenteam@gmail.com)

Visit our booth at Pennington Day (May 17), Hopewell Harvest Fair (Sept 20), or the Pennington Farmers Market (dates listed above).