



Nez Perce Tribe Recycling Program Newsletter—July 2021

'apaqa'áño' 'ee kaa 'epeqíicxnu' wéetesne

- Respect and take care of the earth.



Nez Perce Tribe Water Resources Division - Solid Waste and Recycling Program

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Is Cardboard Recyclable?

Yes—most forms of cardboard are recyclable. There are two primary types of cardboard: 1) **corrugated cardboard** and 2) **chipboard**, also known as paperboard, used for things like cereal boxes. Corrugated cardboard is what is typically used for the boxes sent through the mail. These brown packing boxes contain an inner layer of cardboard between liner sheets to make them more durable.

What is OCC? — OCC is short for Old Corrugated Cardboard which is a recycling industry term referring to used corrugated cardboard. OCC has the highest recycling rate of paper products. **We can recycle OCC here at the Tribe.**



OCC

Paperboard, also known as chipboard, is commonly used to produce containers for food and consumer goods, such as shoe boxes or cereal boxes. Made of just a single layer or grayish paper material, this type of cardboard is more flimsy than corrugated cardboard, making it easier to tear or flatten. Currently, **we CANNOT recycle chipboard here.** We are working on a solution for that, and will let you know when that changes.



chipboard

It's also important to note that not all cardboard can be recycled. While they are recyclable in theory, used pizza boxes with oil stains or food remnants should not be thrown into the recycling bin. The same goes for boxes that have been soaked with chemicals from cleaning supplies or other household products. Why? Because these substances can contaminate the cardboard and compromise the recycling process, making it harder to separate paper fibers from the oils. Unfortunately, these spoiled paper products belong in the trash.

How is cardboard recycled?

The first step in recycling cardboard is to separate it from other paper, such as office paper and newspaper. The cardboard is then baled (by us at our shop) and sent to a mill, shredded into small pieces, and put in a pulping machine to introduce water/chemicals and break down the cardboard into fibers. Then, any ink and tape is removed and the paper fibers start bonding together. Finally, the fibers are rolled and dried, then sent off to make new products. Over half of corrugated cardboard is recycled into new cardboard; the remainder is downcycled into paperboard & other paper products. See how at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bx0ozMweqoU>

"Talkin' Trash"

Subject: Cardboard

We have produced over **30 bales of OCC in just the last six months!** This is a new record for us!

Qe'ciyéw'yew'
We appreciate your
recycling efforts!

Did you know?

It takes approximately three tons of trees to make one ton of virgin cardboard

When one ton of cardboard is recycled, it effectively eliminates nine cubic yards of landfill space

Recycled cardboard saves 24% of the energy needed to produce virgin cardboard.



Lapwai Recycling Schedule

Community Recycling

July 1, 14 & 29

Pineewaus Parking Lot 11 am -1 pm

Office Collections

July 8 & 22

