

Category Reference Cards

One card per tier-2 category — print, laminate, keep at the tables

R-01 • Corrugated cardboard (OCC)

RECYCLABLE

Shipping boxes, corrugated sheet.

Tier 3: Clean · waxed · soiled

Rule: Flatten to judge; waxed OCC not fibre-recyclable in most programs.

R-02 • Boxboard

RECYCLABLE

Cereal/tissue/shoe boxes, cores, moulded pulp.

Tier 3: —

Rule: Remove liners to their own material.

R-03 • Mixed paper

RECYCLABLE

Newsprint, office paper, magazines, kraft, books.

Tier 3: Newsprint · office · magazines · shredded

Rule: Personal documents bagged unread.

R-04 • Aluminum containers

RECYCLABLE

Beverage cans, clean foil & trays.

Tier 3: Cans · foil

Rule: Heavily food-soiled foil may be ruled residual — record it.

R-05 • Steel / tin cans

RECYCLABLE

Food & beverage steel cans; empty aerosols where ruled.

Tier 3: —

Rule: Magnet wand distinguishes from aluminum.

R-06 • Glass containers

RECYCLABLE

Bottles and jars, all colours.

Tier 3: Clear · coloured

Rule: Tongs for broken glass; ceramics/window glass → residual.

R-07 • PET bottles (#1)

RECYCLABLE

PET beverage & food bottles/jars.

Tier 3: Deposit · non-deposit

Rule: Empty; caps stay on.

R-08 • HDPE containers (#2)

RECYCLABLE

Jugs, detergent & rigid HDPE bottles.

Tier 3: —

Rule: Caps stay with container.

R-09 • Other rigid plastics

RECYCLABLE

Tubs, lids, #3–#7, polystyrene.

Tier 3: #3–#7 · PS rigid · PS foam

Rule: Open PS tier-3 only where a program exists.

R-10 • Film & flexible plastics

RECYCLABLE

Bags, stretch wrap, film.

Tier 3: Bags · wrap · other film

Rule: Empty of contents before weighing — hidden-weight bias.

R-11 · Cartons & poly-coated fibre RECYCLABLE Gable-top & aseptic cartons, cups, laminated paper. Tier 3: Gable · aseptic · cups Rule: Empty and drain before weighing.	O-01 · Food waste ORGANICS All food, edible or not. Tier 3: Avoidable (by type) · unavoidable Rule: Decant liquids; note saturation on F-04.
O-02 · Yard & garden waste ORGANICS Grass, leaves, brush, branches. Tier 3: Grass/leaves · brush Rule: Strongly seasonal (§02).	O-03 · Compostable paper & certified compostables ORGANICS Food-soiled paper, towels, certified compostable packaging. Tier 3: Soiled fibre · certified plastics Rule: Only where the local program accepts them.
W-01 · Textiles, rubber & leather RESIDUAL Clothing, shoes, rubber, leather. Tier 3: Reusable · scrap Rule: Reusable split supports reuse programs.	W-02 · Composite & multi-material RESIDUAL Chip bags, laminates, blister packs. Tier 3: — Rule: Inseparable by hand in seconds → here.
W-03 · Hygiene products RESIDUAL Diapers, sanitary, pet waste. Tier 3: — Rule: Weighed, never opened or examined.	W-04 · Wood & C&D; RESIDUAL Lumber, pallets, renovation debris. Tier 3: Clean · treated · rubble Rule: Treated wood is not compostable/burnable.
W-05 · Other residual RESIDUAL Fines <25 mm, bulky items, unclassifiable. Tier 3: Fines · bulky · misc Rule: Bulky items weighed individually and noted.	S-01 · Electronics SPECIAL — SEE §04 Computers, A/V, small appliances, cords. Tier 3: — Rule: Weighed intact; note batteries left inside.
S-02 · Batteries SPECIAL — SEE §04 Single-use and rechargeable cells. Tier 3: Single-use · Li-ion Rule: Damaged lithium: §04 set-aside, non-combustible surface.	S-03 · Household hazardous SPECIAL — SEE §04 Paints, solvents, pesticides, unlabelled containers. Tier 3: Paint · pesticide · other Rule: NEVER OPENED. Weighed container-and-all; method noted.

S-04 · Sharps & biomedical

SPECIAL — SEE §04

Needles, syringes, biomedical, pharmaceuticals.

Tier 3: —

Rule: NEVER HAND-SORTED. Tongs → sharps container. §04.