

Recycle - tips to make it easier!

The Edmond Chamber is encouraging businesses to go green. By reusing or recycling, many everyday items will stay out of landfills and either be repurposed or disposed of properly. Here are 16 tips to make your business more environmentally friendly.

Remember - Go Green. Save Green!

1) Safe Disposal of CFLs

Switching from incandescent to compact fluorescent light bulbs saves energy. But CFLs have a scant amount of mercury that requires safe recycling when they finally dim. Drop these old bulbs off at your local Lowes or Home Depot to be disposed of properly.

2) Reuse plastic shipping or packaging containers

Most recycling places only take number 1 and 2 plastics. Try washing out and reusing or selling plastic buckets, shipping crates or containers. List it on the Chamber's Trash to Treasure site too.

3) Got a new TV?

Have you replaced your old analog TV set and need to get rid of it? Take working sets to the Goodwill or EARC. You can take non-working sets to your local Office Depot to recycle. Check earth911.com for more recycling information.

4) Cardboard Over Flow?

Corrugated cardboard is not taken in curb side recycling in Edmond. You can take it to the recycling center on Saturday's from 10-2pm behind the Edmond Sun or you can reuse it in your garden. Use unbleached cardboard with no glue, no staples and no dyes between rows of plants to block weeds and retain moisture. Cover it with mulch and it will last a year or two.

5) Clean Your Office Naturally

Use home made mixtures to clean your work space or use Green Works products. Diluted vinegar fights grime. A hint of lemon improves the aroma.

6) What to do with phones & ink cartridges?

Old cell phones and most brands of ink cartridges are in demand for recycling. Donate your old cell phones to the local Lion's Club or therecyclingfactory.com and greenphone.com. They also take phone chargers.

7) Control Catalogs

At catalogchoice.org, you can prune duplicate and unwanted catalogs or limit delivery to special times of year. Put used catalogs in the paper recycle bin.

8) Filter out Filters

The Brita water filter has now joined the ranks of recyclable products. Details are at preserveproducts.com.

9) Hazardous materials

Not all businesses deal with hazardous waste but if you do, Edmond has two options 1) Take hazardous waste to 15th & S. Portland in OKC at the hazardous waste center. The City of Edmond will then bill the resident for the disposal cost. Or

2) Call 1-800-449-7587 once a year and arrange for pickup of hazardous and ewaste (computers etc.). The company will send a collection kit and instructions to the customer. This second service is included in the current waste charge for a once a year pickup. Hazardous waste includes paint cans, motor oil bottles or any other container that has a harmful chemical stored in it.

10) New Ideas to Recycle

Maybe your business deals with shoes, balls or maybe you just like to give back to the community. Rebound.com pays shipping for tennis balls to be repressurized and resold. Check out Nikereuseashoe.com to recycle your old shoes.

11) Repack Peanuts

Reuse in packages, or if you have too many, recycle them. For drop off spots, visit loosefillpackaging.com or call the Peanut Hotline at 800-828-2214. PostNet stores in the OKC metro area are the closest drop off locations to Edmond.

12) Donate Glasses

Ask your employees to donate old spectacles. You can drop them off with local Lions Club which dispatch them to needy eyes.

13) Recharge Batteries

Switch to long-lived rechargeable batteries. The catch - they must be properly disposed of due to their heavy metals. You can dispose of them at the local Lowes or Home Depot. The local Best Buy will take non-rechargeable dry batteries

14) Paper - (this is the easiest!)

Set up paper recycle boxes to put used paper, newspapers and other clean paper in to be recycled. Put one at each person's desk to make this easier and have employees empty them into a main bin once a week. Paper can be recycled in the large green and yellow bins at your local school or church in Edmond. They earn money per pound for the paper.

15) Edmond's New Recycle Center

This fall Edmond's Recycling Center will move from its current location on 3rd Street to the Edmond Transfer Station. Hours of operations will be Monday thru Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays 8 a.m. to noon. The Edmond Transfer Station is located at 3333 Progressive Drive. For information about the privately-owned facility, call 216-9401.

16) Goodbye Styrofoam. Hello Dishwasher!

For meetings or for staff use, start using washable mugs and glasses instead of styrofoam or plastic cups. Make sure to put your dishwasher on low water and no heat dry to save energy.



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