

# ASK THE GANG!

**Q: Where can I get a discount for using my own bags when shopping?**

**A:** Many stores have discontinued their bag rebate programs in favor of offering reusable bags for sale in their stores. Fred Meyer still offers 5¢ off for every reusable bag you use at checkout.

**Q: Are there any recyclables that I can get paid for?**

**A:** Yes, Smurfit-Stone Recycling Co. (Anchorage Recycling Center), Schnitzer Steel (Alaska Metal Recycling) and Hilltop

Recycling all accept aluminum cans during their regular business hours for cash back. Call for current rates.

**Q: Do the hazardous waste collection centers at the landfill or transfer station accept pharmaceuticals?**

**A:** No, pharmaceuticals and medications are not accepted at the hazardous waste collection centers. See Page 10 to learn how to safely dispose of these materials.

**Q: Can I recycle construction or demolition debris in Anchorage?**

**A:** Yes, Central Recycling Services (2400 Railroad Ave.) accepts construction and demolition materials including asphalt, concrete, lumber, brick, metal, gypsum (sheetrock), and shingles, as well as land-clearing debris, like stumps, trees and brush. CRS has an on-site, drive-up scale to determine fees by weight for smaller residential quantities of materials and some sorted materials can be dropped off for free. Visit [www.centralrecyclingservices.com](http://www.centralrecyclingservices.com) or call 748-7400 for fees and other specifics.

**Q: Where can I take wood waste?**

**A:** It depends on what kind of wood you have. For construction-type lumber or stumps and trees, see the above question. If you have brush and branches from clearing the back yard, you can bring them to one of the woodlots (Anchorage, Eagle River, Girdwood). Visit [www.muni.org/Departments/Fire/Wildfire/Pages/WoodLots.aspx](http://www.muni.org/Departments/Fire/Wildfire/Pages/WoodLots.aspx) for dates, hours, and fees.



**Q: Are books recyclable?**

**A:** Soft-cover books can be recycled either in your curbside recycling cart or in the mixed paper bins at the recycling center or landfill recycling area. Hard-cover books are not recyclable because of their bindings. Only the pages can be recycled if they are removed from the binding and cover.

**Q: Are there other items that can be recycled besides the ones accepted curbside or at the recycling centers?**

**A:** Yes, numerous other recycling opportunities exist in Anchorage and even nationwide through mail-back programs. See Pages 6 & 7 of this guide for a sampling of specialized recycling opportunities.

**Q: Where can I take leaves and grass?**

**A:** The best option is to compost or mulch yard waste in your own yard. Tips for this can be found in the Spring/Summer A to Z Guides at [www.muni.org/sws](http://www.muni.org/sws). If you can't compost at home, leaves and grass, as well as branches, twigs, wood debris, and manure, can be taken to EverGreen Nursery & Garden Center's green waste recycling area at its 12580 Old Seward Hwy location. Drop-off fees are \$10/pick-up truck load or \$10/cubic yard for bulk deliveries. You also can buy locally made compost at EverGreen by the bag or by the truckload. Call 344-2588 or visit [www.alaskaevergreen.com](http://www.alaskaevergreen.com) for hours.

## A QUICK LOOK: Waste & Recycling Resources

Alaska Waste.....	<a href="http://www.alaskawaste.com">www.alaskawaste.com</a> .....	563-3717
ALPAR.....	<a href="http://www.alparalaska.com">www.alparalaska.com</a> .....	274-3266
Anchorage School District Recycling.....	<a href="http://www.asdk12.org/depts/recycling">www.asdk12.org/depts/recycling</a> .....	348-5151
Central Recycling Services.....	<a href="http://www.centralrecyclingservices.com">www.centralrecyclingservices.com</a> .....	748-7400
EverGreen Nursery & Garden Center.....	<a href="http://www.alaskaevergreen.com">www.alaskaevergreen.com</a> .....	344-2588
Green Star.....	<a href="http://www.greenstarinc.org">www.greenstarinc.org</a> .....	278-7827
Hilltop Recycling.....	<a href="http://www.hilltoprecycling.com">www.hilltoprecycling.com</a> .....	696-2246
MOA Solid Waste Services.....	<a href="http://www.muni.org/sws">www.muni.org/sws</a> .....	343-6262
Mobile Metals.....	.....	277-7777
Schnitzer Steel - Anchorage (Alaska Metal Recycling).....	<a href="http://www.alaskametalrecycling.com">www.alaskametalrecycling.com</a> .....	349-4833
Smurfit-Stone Recycling Co. (Anchorage Recycling Center).....	.....	562-2267
Valley Community for Recycling Solutions (VCRS).....	<a href="http://www.valleyrecycling.org">www.valleyrecycling.org</a> .....	907-745-5544
Total Reclaim.....	<a href="http://www.totalreclaim.com/Alaska.html">www.totalreclaim.com/Alaska.html</a> .....	561-0544