



Glass Container Recycling



We all know that recycling glass is important. Glass is infinitely recyclable with no loss to its strength, purity, or quality, and unless broken, glass takes up a lot of landfill space. New companies have moved into Minnesota to recover the glass cullet for recycling.

Where Glass Goes for Recycling:

- **Anchor Glass** (Located in Shakopee, MN): Anchor Glass recycles various colors of glass that is made into new glass bottles and food containers. www.anchorglass.com
- **Blue Skies Glassworks** (Located in Duluth): Each year, Blue Skies Glassworks uses 1,000 pounds of plate glass (not recyclable curbside) to make sculptures and other works of art. www.blueskiesglassworks.com
- **eCullet** (Located in St. Paul): With over 60 years of glass processing experience, eCullet opened a plant in St. Paul in 2008. Using a four-way color sorting machine they collect glass from drop off centers and MRFs, process the glass, and sell the cullet back to manufacturers to make new jars and bottles. www.ecullet.com
- **Strategic Materials** (Located in St. Paul): Strategic Materials set up a new plant in St. Paul in 2011. With over 40 locations in North America, Strategic Materials sells over 2 million tons of glass cullet each year. www.strategicmaterials.com

How Glass Recycling Helps Minnesota's Economy:

- By substituting recycled glass for only half of the raw materials, the production waste is cut by more than 80%. Mining and transporting raw materials for glass produces about 385 pounds of waste for every ton of glass that's made.
- Glass not suitable to be manufactured back into glass containers feed other industries who use recycled glass to make things like: flooring, countertops, tiles, abrasives, roadwork additives, and other items.

How Glass Recycling Helps Minnesota's Environment:

- In 2009 Minnesotans recycled over 128,000 tons of glass.
- The energy saved from recycling one glass bottle can run a 100-watt light bulb for four hours. It also causes 20% less air pollution and 50% less water pollution than when a new bottle is made from raw materials.

Recycling Association of Minnesota
852 B East Lake Street
Wayzata, Minnesota 55391
Office: 651-641-4589 Website: recycleminnesota.org