Metal (aluminum and steel) cans are some of the most valuable commodities and the easiest to recover through recycling. All beverage cans and nonperishable food cans are recyclable, including soda and soup cans and mint tins. Aluminum foil can also be recycled. These items can be placed in the bottles and cans receptacles.

Most recycled metal products are melted back down into scrap metal and recycled into new cans. The automotive industry uses large amounts of recycled aluminum to make die casts for engines.

By recycling metal items we can reduce energy consumption and the environmental impacts of mining and refining new metals. For example, aluminum is made from natural materials such as bauxite, captured through strip-mining. This process is extremely energy-intensive and the toxic byproducts it creates can devastate natural environments and communities. Recycling metals into new products reduces the environmental impact of mining, using 95% less energy.

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