

MARBLEHEAD REPORTER

COVID-19 items, trash or recycle?

Adapted from the Department of Environmental Protection's current guidelines located at recyclesmartma.org:

Submitted Content

Published 3:31 p.m. ET Oct. 2, 2020

In our ongoing partnership with Marblehead recycling coordinator Pam Roberts, who is also a member of Sustainable Marblehead's Conservation Group, we bring you this month's installment of recycling facts: "What to do with 'COVID items' — Trash or Recycle?"

Are you using more disinfectant wipes than usual, or making you way through hand sanitizer at record speed? The Recyclopedia found at recyclesmart.com has been updated on how to properly (and safely) dispose of these items. Here's a quick guide:

Face Mask — Put in your trash

Hand Sanitizer bottles — Put empty, rinsed bottles in your recycle bin.

- If there's a cap, replace before recycling.
- If there's a pump, put in your trash.

Sanitary Wipes— Put in your trash. NEVER FLUSH WIPES, even if they're labeled "flushable". Wipes clog up sewers and septic systems

Canister (empty) for disinfectant wipes — Put in your recycle bin.

Flexible, box-shaped containers for disinfectant wipes — Put in your trash

Rubber gloves - Put in your trash

Plastic gloves - Put in your trash

Tissues, paper towels, paper napkins — Put in your trash.

Not all paper products can be recycled. The fibers in these paper items are too short to be used again, plus you want to do everything possible to keep the folks sorting out our

recyclables healthy and safe so **PUT THESE ITEMS IN YOUR TRASH**

Have other recycling questions? Check out the Recyclopedia at recyclesmartma.org.