

First Star Recycling's mission is about people and the planet first and foremost.

Making recycling more accessible for residents and businesses to recycle larger quantities of their discarded resources is our goal of servicing the City of Omaha.

First Star Recycling is open to give tours of our Omaha facility or present to your school or community group so everyone can better understand the world of recycling.

THIS INTO THAT

Plastics collected from
Hefty® ReNew™ program



Recycled Plastic Lumber
& other products



Building a sustainable tomorrow with recycled materials!



City of Omaha Annual Recycling Report 2024

Presented by Firststar Fiber, Inc.
(First Star Recycling)



Overview

The City of Omaha, with the assistance of SCS Engineering, conducted its annual audit of recycled materials at the First Star Recycling facility in November 2024.

The breakdown shows the tons of materials received from Omaha's residential program in 2024, based on those audited samples. The final column, "End Markets," indicates the primary markets where First Star Recycling sells these materials.

In 2024, all recyclable material received by First Star Recycling from the City of Omaha curbside and drop site programs was sold to end markets, transforming these resources back into useful products.

Material Received	%	Tons	End Markets
Old Corrugated Cardboard (OCC)	38.0	8,400	OCC mills in Midwest & Southwest U.S.
Residential Mixed Paper	27.7	6,123	Folding box board manufacturers in the Midwest.
PET	5.8	1,282	Bottle processors in the Midwest.
HDPE	3.3	730	Pipe & bucket processors and plastic lumber manufacturers in the Midwest and Southeast U.S.
Other Plastics (#3-7)	4.0	884	Polypropylene (#5) reclaimers in the Southeast U.S.
Aluminum Cans	2.5	553	Smelters in Southeast U.S.
Hefty ReNew® Bags	0.4	88	Internal manufacture of lumber at Firststar Fiber, Inc.
Steel Cans	1.7	376	Steel mills in Midwest.
Trash	16.6	3,670	Douglas County Pheasant Point Landfill.
Total received from City of Omaha 2024	100%	22,106	

** full audit results can be provided by SCS Engineering.

Education and Waste Reduction

Knowing what items can be recycled is not always clear and often requires research. When in doubt, many people place items in the recycling cart assuming they will be sorted out during the recovery process. This practice is commonly referred to as “wish-cycling.”

OmahaRecyclingGuide.org provides Omaha residents with a searchable resource to learn where common household items belong once they are no longer needed. From everyday plastics and paper to materials that require special handling, residents can find clear guidance on how to properly dispose of a wide range of household items, including items such as household chemicals and batteries.

This online resource helps keep non-recyclable materials out of recycling bins, reduces landfill waste, maximizes resource recovery, and helps control costs for both the City of Omaha and First Star Recycling.

Placing the right materials in the right cart ensures that discarded resources are used to their fullest potential.

