National Waste & Recycling Association

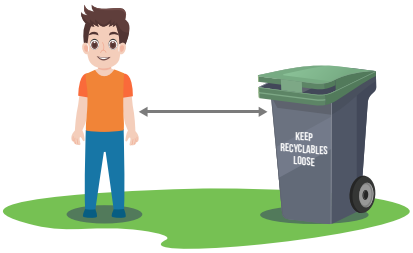
Collect. Recycle. Innovate.

Based on current knowledge, we are not dealing with a true airborne hazard. Droplets fall quickly to the ground or other surfaces where they remain. Touching those surfaces and then touching one's face is the true risk and should be avoided. What are those surfaces? They could be anything. Therefore, our workers should assume that all surfaces could be contaminated by COVID-19. This includes the waste, cart handles, truck body, door handles etc. Our workers are wearing gloves and washing and sanitizing their hands often to minimize the risk. At this time, we are not aware of any significant public health hazard from waste operations.

Message to the public:

PROTECT YOUR TRASH/RECYCLING WORKERS FROM COVID-19

✓ **Maintain social distance**



✓ **Carefully bag all waste**

✓ **Keep recyclables loose**

✓ **Put all bags and recyclables into carts**

✓ **Keep lids on cart to avoid littering**

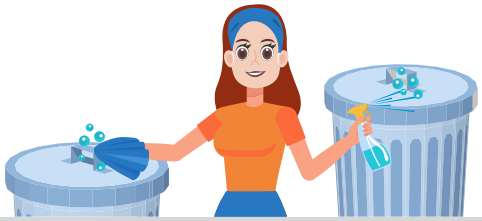
✓ **Place only program recyclables in your recycling carts or bins**

✓ **If needed, rinse containers. Make sure all containers are empty and dry**

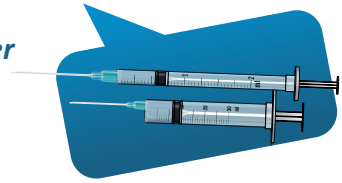
✓ **No plastic bags or tissues in recycling**

✓ **Put carts out on time and retrieve carts quickly**

✓ **Wipe down your carts, especially the handles and lids, once you placed them at the curb**



✓ **No medical sharps or syringes in recycling**

✓ **Place any medical sharps or syringes in a rigid plastic container, clearly label it "Sharps," seal it tightly**

✓ **Put the container in the trash**