



Tarpon River Civic Association

May 19, 2026

SUBJECT: RECYCLING

Greetings Tarpon River Neighbors,

I hope you are enjoying our new neighborhood website! We will be using this space to post regular news and updates on what our civic association is doing for the community.

As many of you know, I have been involved with Fort Lauderdale's recycling program for many years. I want to reassure you: **yes, the city is actively recycling, and it is paying off!** By volunteering at city-sponsored recycling events, our neighborhood earns points that convert into real dollars for local environmental projects.

But, to keep earning these benefits, we need your help with two serious issues:

1. No Plastic Bags in the Blue Bins

Have you noticed the new stickers on your blue recycling carts? Many residents, in good faith, place their recyclables inside plastic bags before throwing them in the bin. **Please do not do this.** Plastic bags wrap around the sorting machinery, causing dangerous jams and wasting massive amounts of time.

- **The Rule:** Place recyclables loose in the blue bin.
- **Plastic Bags and Styrofoam Egg Cartons:** Do not place in the blue bin. If you want to recycle these items, you can drop them off at Publix and they will recycle them.

2. Keep Food and Household Items Out

Food residue can ruin an entire truckload of recycling—which literally throws our neighborhood's hard-earned money down the drain. While most plastic food containers are accepted (if rinsed), general household items are not.

Upcoming Audits and Inspections

Tarpon River Civic Association
www.tarponriver.org

The city is currently checking neighborhood carts. If a bin is sorted incorrectly, a warning tag will be left. **Tarpon River will be audited soon**, and I want us to pass with flying colors. Staying attentive helps us avoid community fines and keeps our funding secure.

See It in Action

If you ever doubt that your items are truly being recycled, I invite you to visit the WM facility on Rt. 27 (south of Alligator Alley). They are currently doubling the size of the plant due to high demand for recycled materials! The revenue generated goes directly back into our city's general fund and neighborhood upkeep.

For a full breakdown of what is accepted, check out the city's **Green Your Routine** page or use this quick link: [TAKE5 Recycling Program | City of Fort Lauderdale](#).

Thank you for being conscientious residents and helping keep Tarpon River green!

Sincerely,
Brucie Cummings