

Scrap Silver Recycling – Materials

Students should bring their silver scraps from jewelry making, either fine or sterling silver. It is best to keep fine silver separated from sterling since the fine silver is more valuable. However, if you only have a small amount of fine silver, it can be mixed with sterling. Please do not bring grandma's silver teaspoons or anything that is silver plated or silver filled! Removing silver bonded to another material requires a process with some nasty chemicals. All tools will be provided. After cleaning the silver, we will be melting it by using the smelter or with a torch and crucible. The melting method depends on the amount of silver you are using. Then the molten silver will be poured into ingot molds. The ingot mold shape will vary depending on if you would like to make wire or sheet, or both. After removing from the ingot mold, we will use the rolling mill and/or draw plates to get the desired size of wire or sheet. There will be wire draw plates for round, half round, square or marquise shape wire in different sizes available.