



Senate Energy and Environment Committee

March 3, 2021

Universal Recycling Symbol- Need to Fix the Confusion

Alerts
customers
to recycle



Misleads
customers
about
recyclability

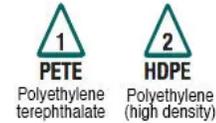
Examples of Misleading “Truth” in Labeling Items in Curbside Programs



Lots of Labels, Lots of Confusion...

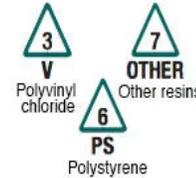
						
PETE	HDPE	PVC	LDPE	PP	PS	OTHER
polyethylene terephthalate	high-density polyethylene	polyvinyl chloride	low-density polyethylene	polypropylene	polystyrene	other plastics, including acrylic, polycarbonate, polyactic fibers, nylon, fiberglass
soft drink bottles, mineral water, fruit juice container, cooking oil	milk jugs, cleaning agents, laundry detergents, bleaching agents, shampoo bottles, washing and shower soaps	trays for sweets, fruit, plastic packing (bubble foil) and food foils to wrap the foodstuff	crushed bottles, shopping bags, highly-resistant sacks and most of the wrappings	furniture, consumers, luggage, toys as well as bumpers, lining and external borders of the cars	toys, hard packing, refrigerator trays, cosmetic bags, costume jewellery, CD cases, vending cups	

YES, RECYCLE:



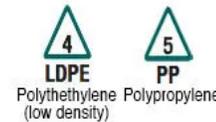
These codes can be found on soda bottles, water bottles, cleaning products, milk and juice jugs, shampoo bottles, some retail bags.

NO, THROW AWAY:



These codes can be found on plastic wraps, cooking oil containers, PVC containers, vinyl and styrofoam products.

MAYBE:



Since few recycling centers process these plastics, call the center and ask if they accept these plastics.

GUIDE TO PLASTIC RECYCLING

WWW.SUSTAINABILITYGUIDE.CO.UK

 **WIDELY RECYCLED**
PET (Polyethylene Terephthalate)
Clear plastic bottles eg fizzy pop bottles, mouthwash and water bottles, clear plastic jars, some yoghurt pots

 **RECYCLABLE - CHECK**
HDPE (High Density Polyethylene)
Stiff plastic - often coloured eg milk jugs, bleach/detergent bottles, shampoo bottles, margarine tubs, bottle caps

 **NOT RECYCLABLE**
PVC (Polyvinyl Chloride)
eg Plastic films, plastic pipes, lawn chairs, children's toys, electrical insulators, table protectors, hoses

 **RECYCLABLE - CHECK**
LDPE (Low-Density Polyethylene)
Hard flexible plastic eg bread bags, frozen food bags, squeezable bottles ie hand cream bottles

 **RECYCLABLE - CHECK**
PP (Polypropylene)
eg packing tape, take away tubs, ketchup bottles, straws, carrier bags these are mainly recycled at supermarkets

 **NOT RECYCLABLE**
PS (Polystyrene)
eg foamy takeaway packaging, disposable cutlery, some meat trays, packing peanuts, some yoghurt pots, styrofoam

 **NOT RECYCLABLE**
Other
This is categorises all other plastics including bioplastics, composite plastics like crisp wrappers and plastic coated wrapping paper, polycarbonate (which contains BPA)

Confusion Leads to Continuous Flow of Contamination That Impacts Markets



Photo of actual contamination at a processing facility

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