

Consumers have power!

Although most plastics can be recycled, we should **REDUCE** the plastic we buy in the first place.

Choose re-usables over single-use plastics:



Encourage retailers and shops to reduce packaging or switch to easily recyclable packaging.

The more people who express their concerns, the more seriously retailers will consider alternatives.



Support plastic free shops and markets.
Support companies that are reducing their packaging.

Locate recycling
Drop Off Centres:

www.mywaste.co.za



Marine animals may become entangled in floating plastic such as ropes and plastic bags. Fishing line also causes painful entanglement.

Many sea creatures swallow plastics by accident or because they mistake it for food.

Plastics in the ocean take several hundred years to break down into small pieces known as micro-plastics, which can be eaten by marine animals.

More Information on Plastic Recycling

MPACT

www.mpactrecycling.co.za

PET Plastic Recycling South Africa (PETCO)

www.petco.co.za

Plastics SA

www.plasticsinfo.co.za

Polyolefin Recycling Company

www.polyco.co.za

Polystyrene Association of South Africa

www.polystyrenesa.com

www.saambr.org.za

Revised Nov 2019

KNOW YOUR



Your Guide to Plastic Recycling



Helping people to care for our ocean



Plastic products have **POLYMER** codes, **NUMBERED 1-7**.

Codes 1, 2 and 4 are **COMMONLY** recycled across South Africa.

Polyethylene Terephthalate



Bottles and jars for cooldrink, detergent, juice, water and food.

Can be recycled into:



High Density Polyethylene



Bottles for milk, juice, shampoo, shopping bags, bottle tops, household containers and crates.

Can be recycled into:



Low Density Polyethylene

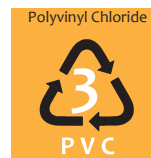


Bags for frozen vegetables and bread, toilet paper packs and milk sachets.

Can be recycled into:



Codes 3, 5, 6, 7 can be recycled, but are currently **NOT EASILY RECYCLED** in South Africa because of **FEW SUITABLE** recycling facilities.



Cling film. Clear jars and bottles for toiletries, food and medication.

Can be recycled into:



Yoghurt, margarine and ice cream tubs. Clear and metalised films for sweets.

Can be recycled into:



Take-away containers, food trays for meat, fruit and vegetables, seedling trays.

Can be recycled into:



Multi-layered Plastics



Multi-layered materials for long-life products.

Can be recycled into:



How do I recycle plastic?

- 1 Involve your family, school or workplace.
- 2 Share information on plastic polymer codes.
- 3 Rinse used plastic items.
- 4 Separate plastics:

Plastics with codes 1, 2 and 4.

Plastics with codes 3, 5, 6 and 7.



Drop Off or BuyBack Centre	Kerbside Collection	Informal Recyclers
Take your recyclables to a DROP OFF POINT or a BUYBACK CENTRE .	Some MUNICIPALITIES pick up dry recyclable materials as part of their WASTE DISPOSAL SERVICE . Some PRIVATE COMPANIES collect recyclables for a small fee.	"One man's trash is another man's treasure" COLLECTORS sift through kerbside garbage bags. They earn an INCOME while performing a valuable service in keeping recyclable material FROM LANDFILLS .

Did You Know?



Paper cartons, with an inner foil and **PLASTIC LINING** are now **RECYCLABLE**. Remove the cap, rinse out the carton, turn out the corners and flatten. Place the carton in the **PLASTIC** recycling bin.