

Going Green in Londonderry

More Plastics You Can Recycle in Londonderry

By Paul Margolin

There's been a breakthrough in the plastics market, and Londonderry stands ready to take advantage.

Plastic is no friend to the environment. So the big news is you can now recycle every plastic from no. 1 to 7, and then some: in fact, just about any rigid plastic - just wipe it free of food.

Paper has always been easy: if you can tear it, you can recycle it. But plastic has been a challenge, especially with all the beverages in plastic cups and bottles that we consume. Think of all that stuff going to the landfill. Now it doesn't need to.

Here's the list: how many do you toss out on a typical day?

- Disposable plastic cups – clear, white or colored
- Yogurt containers (foil lids removed)
- Woven plastic containers (e.g. for strawberries)
- Plastic produce or pastry trays
- Empty plastic 1 to 2.5 gallon gasoline containers

By the way – wax paper cups can go in with the paper recycling. Only the following are excluded: plastic wrap and bags, plastic tarps and Styrofoam, as well as CDs, cassettes and records.

And don't forget the big stuff. Anything too large for curbside pickup can be taken to the Drop-Off Center on Saturdays – at no charge:

- Children's plastic play houses and equipment
- Plastic floor mats and lawn furniture
- Buckets or containers 5 gallons or larger
- Empty plastic 5 gallon gasoline containers

It doesn't get any easier than this. Almost all your paper and plastic can now be recycled. Now we can drive down our waste, and drive down our disposal fees. This is Londonderry's next big step. Don't waste it!

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