

The ABCs of Plastics Recycling

Morris County, New Jersey



Before putting any plastic item into your recycling bin, ask yourself two questions:

1) Is it a bottle?

2) Does it have a



or a



symbol on it?

You must answer **YES** to **BOTH** of these questions in order to put the item into your recycling bin. (Most recycling symbol codes are located on or near the bottom of plastic containers.)

The only acceptable plastics in most recycling programs are **BOTTLES** coded with #1 PETE or #2 HDPE as shown above and below. A **BOTTLE** has a neck or opening which is narrower than its base. If a plastic item is not a **BOTTLE**, do not recycle it. Some examples of acceptable **BOTTLES** are those used for soda, water, juice, milk, shampoo and laundry detergent.

DO RECYCLE:

BOTTLES



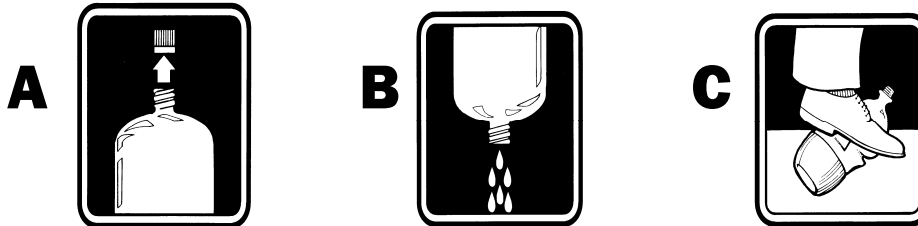
PETE

BOTTLES



HDPE

Before putting the BOTTLE into the recycling bin: **A)** Remove the cap and put it into the trash; **B)** Rinse the **BOTTLE**, and; **C)** If possible, flatten it.



DO NOT RECYCLE any plastic items without codes or with the following codes:



DO NOT RECYCLE any plastic items coded #1 PETE or #2 HDPE that are not **BOTTLES**. Some examples of containers that are not **BOTTLES** are margarine and yogurt tubs, frozen dinner trays, clamshell-style containers used for blueberries or strawberries or for salads at salad bars. Also, do not recycle any empty bottles that contained hazardous materials, such as motor oil, antifreeze, etc.

Of note: Some grocery stores or town recycling centers collect plastic bags for recycling separately from other bottles and cans. Plastic bags are acceptable in these locations as advertised, but they are not acceptable in your curbside recycling program. In addition, do not put plastic bags into the bin for bottles and cans at your town recycling center.

For further information on recycling or other waste disposal questions, visit www.MCMUA.com or call your town recycling coordinator or the MCMUA at (973) 285-8394.