




FAQs About Recycling Plastics in Fairlington

Recyclable Plastics	Not Recyclable
<p>Plastic “jug” containers with narrow necks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Laundry detergent jugs• Mayonnaise jars• Milk jugs• Soda and water bottles  <p>Check the Neck</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clam shell/deli containers• Microwave meal trays• Margarine tubs• Prescription vials• Plastic lids• Yogurt cups <p>Because the market for these plastics is weak, <u>our processor does not accept them.</u></p> <p>Throw these items out with your household trash.</p>

Q: Why do I have to take the cap off of a plastic “jug” container before recycling it?

A: The cap is made from a type of plastic resin that is not recyclable. Many types of plastic are not accepted for recycling because the cost of collecting, sorting, cleaning, and remanufacturing them exceeds the value of the recycled plastic.



Q: Why do I have to rinse out a plastic container before recycling it?

A: Food residues can contaminate a batch of recyclables. Excessive levels of contamination can result in an entire batch being rejected by a recycling processor.

Q: Why can't I place my recyclables in a plastic bag and leave them at the curb or in the recycling bin?

A: Our processing station accepts only loose commingled recyclables. It is not set up to open plastic bags, extract the recyclables, and remove the plastic bags from the recycling stream. Clean, empty #2 and #4 plastic bags can be recycled at your local grocery store.

When in doubt – throw it out. Disposing of non-recyclable items in Fairlington's recycling bins causes contamination and increases costs because the contaminants must be removed from the recycling stream.