

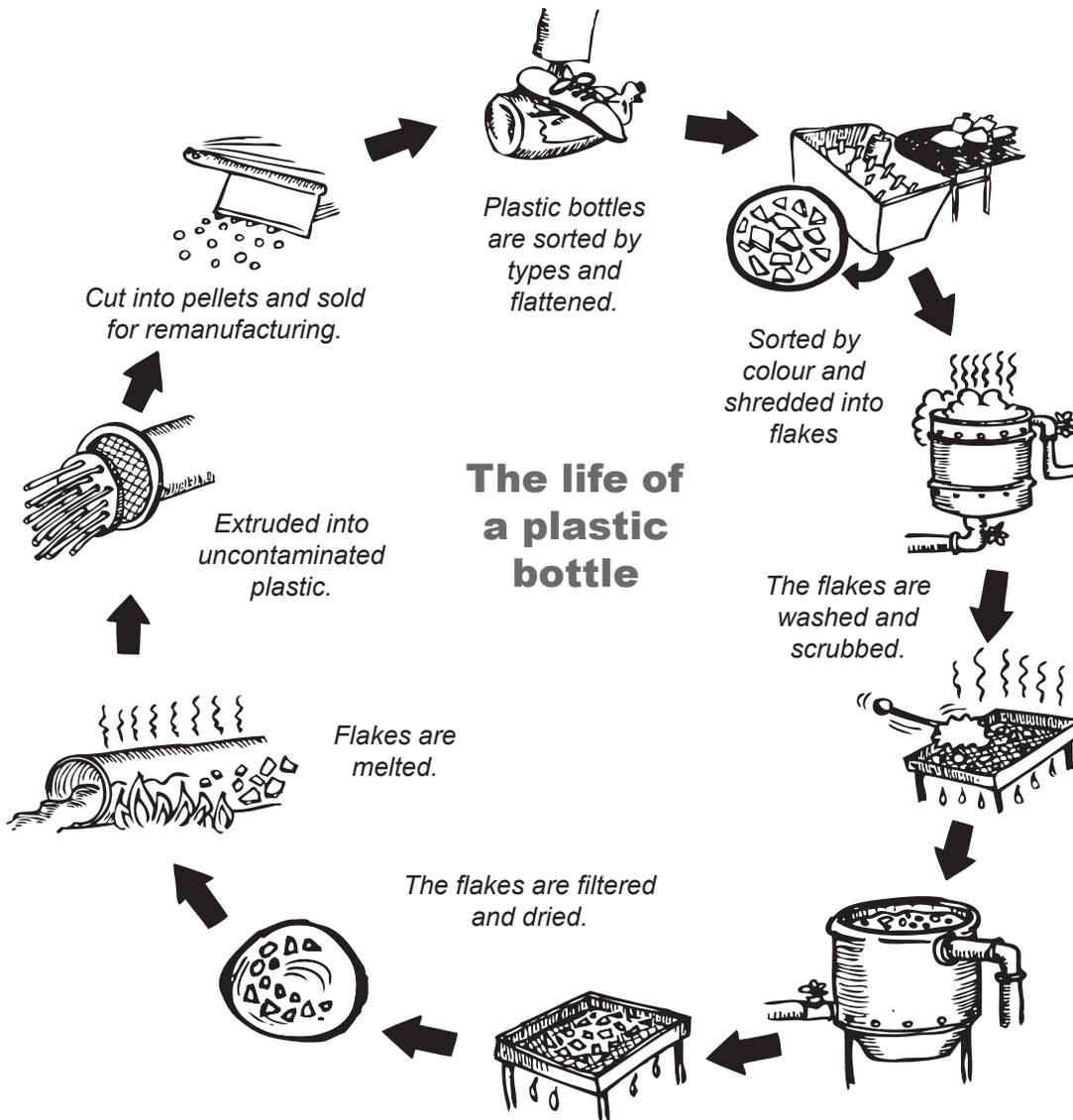
Recycling in Yukon

Plastics

Plastics are synthetic materials made from building blocks called hydrocarbons found in oil and natural gas. These small molecules, called monomers, are bonded into chains called polymers. Depending on the polymer combination, 7 different plastic types are produced. Packaging is the largest single use of plastics. Containers with the numbers 1 through 7 printed on the bottom account for almost all plastics used in packaging.

WHAT PLASTICS CAN YOU RECYCLE?

All plastics are recyclable in the Yukon regardless of what number they have or even if they have no number at all.



ZERO WASTE

STARTS NOW

QUICK FACTS

Up to 10% of the price of a product is used to create its plastic packaging.

Virgin plastics are not manufactured in Yukon or British Columbia. However, recycled plastic pellets are produced in southern BC.

25 two-litre pop bottles can be recycled into an adult size fleece jacket.

Half of all polyester carpet manufactured in the United States is made from recycled plastic beverage containers.

In Canada, manufacturers use 3,508,000 tonnes of plastics. Of this, 82% is consumed domestically.

A truck that can hold 500,000 paper grocery bags can hold 2.8 million plastic grocery bags.

Recycling one plastic bottle saves 93% more energy than making it from new oil.

#1 & #2 plastics are the most valuable of all plastics in the markets.

There are 18,000 two-litre PET bottles in one tonne.

WHAT ARE PLASTICS RECYCLED INTO?

	TYPICAL PRODUCTS	RECYCLED PRODUCTS
	Soft drink bottles Peanut butter jars	Pullover sweatshirts Pillow stuffing
	Milk, juice jugs Shampoo, bleach bottles	Playground equipment Blue Boxes Drainage pipes
	Packaging for meat Water bottles	Floor tiles Bubble wrap Traffic cones
	Bread bags Grocery bags	Plastic lumber Compost bins Milk pouches
	Syrup, ketchup bottles Screw caps Hairbrushes	Ice scrapers Automotive battery cases
	Foam cups Compact disk cases Filler in concrete forms	Egg cartons In/Out/ trays
	Safety glasses Automotive tail lights	Plastic lumber for picnic tables Outdoor signs

WHAT ARE CONTAMINANTS?

Contaminants include paper, glass, metal residues of previous contents, and unacceptable plastics. These contaminants can result in high maintenance costs, poor quality pellets, and increased waste.

WHERE ARE PLASTICS PROCESSED?

Plastics are sent to markets that are in high demand for the product. This can vary from within Canada to as far away as India.

WHAT IS THE VALUE OF RECYCLED PLASTICS?

Markets for recycled plastics are very volatile and are affected by the price of virgin resin. If the price of virgin plastic is lower than the recycled plastic, there will be an overabundance of recycled plastic in the market. By purchasing products with recycled content, we can help to ensure end markets for recycled plastic.

Recycling plastics takes much less energy and natural resources (such as water, petroleum and natural) than it does to create virgin plastic. Recycling plastic products also keeps them out of landfills.

ZEROWASTE

STARTS NOW

REDUCE

- When going shopping, bring a bag from home.
- Buy detergent pouches to refill your plastic containers.
- Purchase products without excess packaging.
- Purchase items in bulk or concentrated forms.

REUSE

Plastics bottles can be reused for making:

- Kids toys such as a money bank,
- A bird feeder, gardening scoops
- Holiday Decorations

Plastic containers can be used for storing a variety of things.

RECYCLE



Be sure to remove the lids, rinse, and flatten the bottles before you take them to the nearest recycling depot.

RECYCLING QUESTIONS?

- Call us! • Raven Recycling (667-7269)
• P&M Recycling (667-4338)
• Blue Bin Society (633-2583)