

# Biodegradable Plastics



## Types of Plastics

PET (PETE), polyethylene terephthalate: Commonly found on 2-liter soft drink bottles, water bottles, cooking oil bottles, peanut butter jars. 0D

HDPE, high-density polyethylene: Commonly found on detergent bottles, milk jugs.

PVC, polyvinyl chloride: Commonly found on plastic pipes, outdoor furniture, siding, floor tiles, shower curtains, clamshell packaging.

LDPE, low-density polyethylene: Commonly found on dry-cleaning bags, produce bags, trash can liners, and food storage containers.

PP, polypropylene: Commonly found on bottle caps, drinking straws, yogurt containers, legos.

PS, polystyrene: Commonly found on "packing peanuts", cups, plastic tableware, meat trays, take-away food clamshell containers

OTHER, other: This plastic category, as its name of "other" implies, is any plastic other than the named #1–#6, Commonly found on certain kinds of food containers, Tupperware, and Nalgene bottles

## Environmental Effect of Petroleum Based Plastics

- About 100,000 animals such as dolphins, turtles, whales, penguins are killed every year due to plastic bags.
- Plastics have a large effect on animals. Many marine animals and even birds get entangled in plastics. It is also a problem when animals mistake the plastics as food because when they ingest the plastics it can cause suffocation or blocking of the digestive tract.
- It's estimated that about eight million items of litter go into the sea every day, and much of that is plastic.
- Each year more and more plastic bags litter our environment. Once they become litter, plastic bags find their way into our waterways, parks, beaches, and streets.
- Plastics also have an effect on the environment if they burned, they infuse the air with toxic fumes.
- The decomposition of plastic bags takes about 1000 years, so without the decomposition of plastics, plastic bags and other plastic keep littering our environment.

## Leading Companies Using Bioplastics



## Decomposition Facts

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## Process of Decomposition

