

Plastics Recycling!

There are two plastics recycling bins at each depot.

One bin for number 1 plastics



One bin for number 2 plastics



Items not accepted: honey bottles, peanut butter jars, syrup bottles, motor oil bottles, plastic bags, wrappers, plastics 3-7, shrink wrap and Styrofoam.

Please see the reverse for more details.

How the program works



Put all lids/caps & pumps in the trash.



Empty all liquids.



Rinse all containers.



Crush bottles and jugs.



Take to the depot.



Place in designated bin

Frequently Asked Questions

What can I recycle?

Think containers. Milk jugs, beverage bottles, laundry and detergent bottles, catsup bottles, salad dressing bottles, mouthwash bottles, juice bottles, shampoo bottles, etc. *Plastic bags, wrappers, shrink wrap, plastics 3-7, and Styrofoam are not accepted.*

How do I know what type of plastic something is?

Plastics that are recyclable in the program will have a recycle symbol with a 1 or 2 in the middle (pictured on front). If a container does not have a 1 or 2, do not place it in a recycling bin.

Why is the city only accepting number 1 & 2 plastics?

Plastic, like all recyclables is a commodity. Like other products it is bought and sold on a market. Manufacturers purchase plastic to melt and create new products. When manufacturers no longer need a type of plastic or are not buying as much plastic, this affects the prices and the city's ability to sell the plastic it has. To cut down on transportation costs, the city tries to sell its recycling products as close to Casper as possible. In our region plastics 1 and 2 are the easiest to recycle and are in more demand than other plastics. It is easy to see why these plastics have a higher demand; according to the American Chemistry Council, 96% of all plastic bottles produced in the U.S. are 1s and 2s.

Will the program take all plastics?

No. Only plastics numbered 1 and 2 will be accepted. The item must have the recycle symbol with a number in the middle to be accepted. However, peanut butter jars, honey bottles, syrup containers and motor oil bottles are non-accepted plastics.

Why can I not recycle syrup, honey or peanut butter jars?

Containers can sometimes carry residue from their contents even after they are cleaned. Peanut butter, honey and syrup residue can interfere with the melting process even though the container appears clean.

Why can I not recycle motor oil bottles?

Motor oil residue seeps into the porous plastic and cannot be removed through the washing process. Of course, you should never try to rinse or wash a motor oil bottle yourself, since motor oil down the sink or storm drain causes a much larger environmental issue than an empty plastic bottle in the trash.

Can I recycle bottles that have contained bleach, ammonia and other cleaning products?

Empty bottles that contained bleach, ammonia, glass cleaner, bathroom cleaners or other household products may be recycled if they have a 1 or 2 in a recycle symbol. The empty bottles will need to be rinsed. The amount of chemical left in the empty bottle that is rinsed out will not be harmful and can be treated by the waste water treatment facility. However; never pour half to full bottles of cleaners or chemicals down the drain or throw them in your garbage.

Why not just sort out the 3-7 plastics?

The plastics would need to be sorted by hand before they are baled. This would require labor and storage facilities. The cost of sorting and storage would significantly increase the cost of the recycling program. The city would be unable to receive enough money for the plastics to cover these costs.

