

Market Development Committee Data Request: (Non-Durable) Polypropylene in the Waste Stream

2018 Waste Characterization Study

Polypropylene Containers and Packaging means bottles, jars, containers, lids, and other packaging labelled with PP (5), both with and without the CRV symbol. Examples include storage containers, yogurt cups, sour cream tubs, syrup and ketchup bottles.

- Total tons: 242,664
- Percentage of total waste stream: 0.60%
- Percentage of plastic waste stream 5.36%

Link to [2018 Disposal Facility-Based Waste Characterization Study](#)

2014 Waste Characterization Study

No polypropylene category – two main categories that include single-use polypropylene were included in:

- **Miscellaneous Plastic Containers - CRV** - means plastic containers that display the CRV notification that are made of types of plastic other than HDPE or PET. Items may be made of PVC, PP, or PS or mixed resins. When marked for identification, these items may bear the number “3,” “4,” “5,” “6,” or “7” in the triangular recycling symbol. This subtype also includes plastic containers that do not have the triangular recycling symbol.
- **Miscellaneous Plastic Containers - Non-CRV** - means plastic containers that do not display the CRV notification that are made of types of plastic other than HDPE or PET. Items may be made of PVC, PP, or PS. When marked for identification, these items may bear the number “3,” “4,” “5,” “6,” or “7” in the triangular recycling symbol. This subtype also includes plastic containers that do not have the triangular recycling symbol. Examples include hardware and fastener packaging, food containers such as bottles for salad dressings and vegetable oils, flexible and brittle yogurt cups, syrup bottles, margarine tubs, microwave food trays, and clamshell-shaped fast food containers. This type also includes some shampoo containers, vitamin bottles, foam egg cartons, and clamshell-like muffin containers.

Link to [2014 Disposal Facility-Based Waste Characterization Study](#)

2021 Waste Characterization Study (upcoming)

No polypropylene category – two main categories single-use polypropylene will be included in:

- **Plastic Food Service Ware** - means items made partially or entirely of plastic that are used to consume, contain, or transport prepared food items. Includes all plastic types including compostable plastics and expanded polystyrene. Excludes packaging.
- **Other Plastic Packaging** - means jars, containers (including lids), and other packaging that are made of plastic, including film plastics. Only includes bottles and containers not included in any other category. Only includes film plastics not included in other categories. They may bear the triangular recycling symbol or may bear no recycling symbol. *Excludes* foodservice ware, including clamshells, takeout containers, cups, bowls, plates, and trays.

Appendix 1:

Data from US EPA [Advancing Sustainable Materials Management: 2018 Tables and Figures](#) (Dec 2020) showing plastics in products in MSW (Table 8)

Table 1: Categories containing single-use polypropylene from Table 8: Plastics in Products In MSW, 2018

Product Category	Generation (Thousand tons)	Recycled (Thousand tons)	Recycling – Percent of generation
Nondurable Goods* – Plastic Plates and Cups - PP	160		
Nondurable Goods – All other nondurables** - PP	1570		
Plastic Containers & Packaging – Other plastic containers	250	20	8%
Plastic Containers & Packaging – Bags, sacks and wraps	570		
Other Plastics Packaging*** – PP	1010	30	3%

*Nondurable Goods other than containers and packaging

**All other nondurables include plastics in disposable diapers, clothing, footwear, etc.

***Other plastic packaging includes coatings, closures, lids, caps, clamshells, egg cartons, produce baskets, trays, shapes, loose fill, etc. PP and HDPE caps and lids recycled with PET bottles and jars are included in the recycling estimate for PET bottles and jars. Other resins include commingled/undefined plastic packaging recycling.