## Plastic \#1 - PETE or PET (Polyethylene Terephthalate)



- ONLY around $\mathbf{2 7 \%}$ of plastic bottles are recycled!
- Plastic \#1 is usually clear such as water bottles, soda bottles, mouth wash bottles ect. Picked up by most curbside recycling programs.
- Plastic \#1 is recycled into tote bags, furniture, carpet, paneling, fiber, and polar fleece.


## Plastic \#2 - HDPE (High Density Polyethylene)



HDPE

- ONLY 28\% of HDPE milk jugs and water bottles are recycled and $\mathbf{1 2 \%}$ of all plastic bags make it to recycling facilities!
- Plastic \#2 is typically opaque such as milk jugs, cereal box liners, and household cleaners ect. Picked up by most curbside recycling programs.
- Plastic \#2 is recycled into pens, recycling containers, picnic tables, lumber, benches, fencing, and detergent bottles, to name a few.

Plastic \#3 - V or PVC (Polyvinyl Chloride)


- Less than 10 percent of the plastic \#3 waste generated in 2012 was recovered for recycling.
- Plastic \#3 is used to make food wrap, plumbing pipes, and detergent bottles
- This plastic is recycled into paneling, flooring, speed bumps, decks, and roadway gutters.


## Plastic \#4 - LDPE

## (Low Density Polyethylene)



## LDPE

- The amount of plastics in municipal solid waste (MSW) increased from less than 1 percent in 1960 to 12.0 percent in 2008. >95\% of plastic \#4 waste is not recycled.
- Low density polyethylene is most found in squeezable bottles, shopping bags, clothing, carpet, frozen food, bread bags, and some food wraps.
- This plastic is recycled into compost bins, paneling, trash can liners and cans, floor tiles, and shipping envelopes.


## Plastic \#5 - PP <br> (Polypropylene)



- Recycled plastic \#5 uses 46 percent less electricity than new polypropylene.
- It is typically found in yogurt containers, ketchup bottles, syrup bottles, and medicine bottles.
- Polypropylene is recycled into brooms, auto battery cases, bins, pallets, signal lights, ice scrapers, and bicycle racks.


## Plastic \#6 - PS (Polystyrene)



- Polystyrene is Styrofoam.
- Reduction, reuse, and recycling of polystyrene increased from 0.8 percent in 1974 to 15.7 in 1997.
- Plastic \#6 is found in compact disc cases, egg cartons, meat trays, and disposable plates and cups.
- It is recycled into egg cartons, vents, foam packing, and insulation.

- The amount of plastic produced from 2000-2010 exceeds the amount produced during the entire last century!
- Plastic \#7 is found in sunglasses, iPod cases, computer cases, nylon, 3- and 5-gallon water bottles, and bullet-proof materials.
- It is recycled into plastic lumber and other custom-made products.



## GLASS

- Glass can be recycled and re-manufactured an infinite amount of times and never wears out. Making glass from recycled material cuts related water pollution by $50 \%$.
- Recycling just one glass jar saves enough electricity to light an 11 watt CFL bulb for 20 hours.
- More than 28 billion glass bottles and jars end up in landfills every year -- that is the equivalent of filling up two Empire State Buildings every three weeks!



# ALUMINUM 

- By recycling just one aluminum can, we save enough energy to keep a 100-watt bulb burning about three and a half hours.
- Making beverage cans from recycled aluminum cuts air pollution by about 95\%!
- More than one million tons of aluminum containers and packaging (soda cans, TV dinner trays, aluminum foil) are thrown away each year.
- Americans throw away enough aluminum every three months to rebuild our entire commercial air fleet.


## PAPER



- Americans throw away enough office paper each year to build a 12 foot high wall from Seattle to NY (a new wall every year).
- Making paper from recycled paper reduces the related contribution to air pollution 95\%.
- Recycling a stack of newspaper just 3 feet high saves one tree!
- More than $37 \%$ of the fiber used to make new paper products in the U.S. comes from recycled sources.

