

Be Bright, Recycle Right!

WHAT NOT TO RECYCLE MOTOR OIL CONTAINERS

TOP 10 CONTAMINANTS

1. Plastic Bags
2. Needles/Biohazardous Waste
3. Wire, hose, cords, rope & chains
4. Propane Tanks
5. Yard Waste/Wood
6. Motor Oil Containers
7. Electronics
8. Food Waste
9. Clothing/Shoes
10. Mercury Containing Objects

PLASTIC CONTAMINATION

The familiar circular arrows and number stamped at the bottom of a plastic container does not necessarily mean that the item is recyclable. It is actually a resin identification code that was created in 1988 by the plastics industry to identify the type of resin used in the plastic. Motor oil containers normally contain hazardous contents and are therefore not recyclable.

While there is no way of recycling motor oil containers, you can reduce the amount of waste that is generated by selecting one larger container rather than several smaller ones. This cuts down on the packaging material that is sent to the landfill.

“Motor oil containers have hazardous contents and are not recyclable.”

Here in Utah, only four shapes of plastic qualify for curbside recycling:

- Plastic Bottles
- Plastic Jugs
- Plastic Tubs
- Plastic Jars

All other shapes of plastics are not recycled, and eventually end up in a landfill. This includes plastic clamshells that are often used for take-out foods.

Your questions, comments, and ideas are always welcome! Please contact education@transjordan.org and they may be mentioned in our article or FAQ page. Visit transjordan.org/recycle for more recycling information.

Q: Can plastic gardening pots go in the curbside recycling bin?

A: No! Please do not put gardening pots in your curbside recycling bin. Even if they contain a recycling symbol, they are not recyclable in Utah. Look for ways to re-use your plastic gardening pots.



Examples of motor oil containers
Photo by Leshla Earl



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