Plastic Market Update: Now What?
How Plastics Move from Households to New Products

*Recycling is a circle, so consider the ways that you can buy more recycled content in your office or at home.
Recycling is a Global Industry

• Mid-2017: China starts to limit imported scrap materials, reducing import licenses, etc.
• January 1, 2018: Ban on post-consumer scrap plastic and other materials.
• March 2018: Other materials have to meet stringent contamination levels to be imported (effectively banning it).
Unequal Dependence on Export Market*

*28% of all plastics exported in 2015
Low Domestic Capacity for Mixed Rigid Material
Low Domestic Capacity for Non-Bottle Rigid and Film
Scrap Price History vs Oil: 2007 to date

- Crude Oil
- Bulky Rigid Plastic
- PET
- NHPE
- HDPE
- OCC
- All Rigid Plastic
- Mixed Film
- Commercial Film
- Curbside Film
- Clean Ag Film
- Dirty Ag Film

$/lb of plastic scrap: More Recycling - FASCA Ports

$/barrel of crude oil: EIA - Cushing, OK

Great Recession

Green Fence

National Sword
Focus on Marketable Materials

Curbside- PET, HDPE, PP:
Bottles and Containers
Tubs and Lids

Non-Curbside Collection:
PS Foam
Commercial or Consumer Bags and Film
Bottle Recycling Rates are Dropping
Good Outreach Leads to Quality

Because you are the source of information for your residents.

Remember to:

1- Keep Messages Simple
2- Make Information Easy to Find
3- Use Graphics/Images to Amplify Your Message
Plastic Recycling Resources

- PlasticsMarkets.org
- PlasticFilmRecycling.org
- RecycleYourPlastics.org
- PlasticsRecycling.org
- RecycleMorePlastic.org
Recycle Your Plastics.org

Terms & Tools

Recycle More Plastics in Your Community

Increase the amounts and types of plastics recycled in your community. The Plastics Recycling Terms & Tools can help.

What are the Terms & Tools?

This site helps community recycling programs more effectively educate their residents about which plastics to recycle. Our Outreach Builder tool lets you choose common plastics recycling terms that best fit your program, then download free images for your outreach materials or build a custom flyer that shows what can and can’t be recycled in your community. Use these terms and watch your plastics recycling quantity and quality grow.

Start the Outreach Builder

Why Use Common Terms to Talk About Plastics Recycling?

Every region has different plastics recycling rules. Using the common terms provided here in your community will help reduce confusion and contamination.
Our goal is to increase the recovery of all types of postconsumer plastic.
PlasticsRecycling.org

Recycling Rigid Plastics Beyond Bottles: **CONTAINERS**

Marketable Material, Growing Demand

Recycling Rigid Plastics Beyond Bottles: **CAPS ON!**

Marketable Material, Growing Demand

Recycling Rigid Plastics Beyond Bottles: **RESIDENTIAL BULKY**

Marketable Material, Growing Demand
PlasticsMarkets.org

Resource managed by More Recycling to track:

Who is accepting and purchasing commodities, including lower grades, in a rapidly changing market?
How to Drive More Demand for Recycled Content

- Investments in processing
- Verification of PCR claims
- Inspire consumers to create demand for products with PCR
- Development of new end markets/products
- Companies pledge to use PCR
- Tax rebate for measurable contributions to CO2 savings (PCR use one option)
- Grants for innovation
- Policy that requires PCR in high volume, technically feasible applications
- Tax rebate for measurable contributions to CO2 savings (PCR use one option)