

# The Gainesville Zero Waste News

## Plastics – Ignore the Codes

Many people are surprised to learn that **the resin code on the plastic containers does not determine if that item is recyclable in your recycling program.** Plastics vary significantly by their physical properties (rigidity & melting temperatures) and resin types (chemicals & dyes). Generally, only plastic items that have reliable market demand are accepted in most residential collection programs. There are often no options for communities to process or market lower grade or mixed plastic materials.



**If a plastic container is a bottle, jug, jar, or tub - it is accepted for recycling in the blue bin in Gainesville's program.** Plastic items not accepted curbside locally include plastic clamshell containers, plastic bags, Styrofoam®, plastic cups, and microwavable trays.

For a full list of what items are recyclable, visit [gainesvillefl.gov/recycle](http://gainesvillefl.gov/recycle).

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