

## ***Did You Know...***

- Americans use 2,500,000 plastic bottles every hour. Most of them are thrown away.
- Plastic bottles can take up to 1000 years to start decomposing once they are buried in landfills.
- It takes more than 1.5 million barrels of oil to manufacture a year's supply of bottled water—that's enough oil to fuel 100,000 cars.

All facts and statistics were obtained from [earth911.com](http://earth911.com) and [recycling-revolution.com](http://recycling-revolution.com).

### **Numbers on Plastic Containers**

Numbers on recyclable plastic containers identify the type of resin used to make the plastic and also indicate which type of plastic can be recycled in your area.

<b>Resin Identification Codes</b>		
<b>Number</b>	<b>Resin Type</b>	
1	PET	Polyethylene Terephthalate
2	HDPE	High-Density Polyethylene
3	Vinyl	Polyvinyl Chloride
4	LDPE	Low-Density Polyethylene
5	PP	Polypropylene
6	PS	Polystyrene
7	Other	Mixture of types

Table from <http://www.epa.gov/osw/>

### **Why is recycling plastic important?**

- Helps to keep plastic out of landfills
- Uses less energy, natural resources, and fossil fuels
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions
- Produces fibers used for carpet, fleece, and outdoor lumber

Amelia Island Plantation will soon sell only biodegradable plastic water bottles. This change will allow those bottles that miss the recycling bin to break down in the landfill.

Visit these websites for more recycling facts and information:

- <http://earth911.com/>
- <http://www.recycling-revolution.com>
- <http://www.epa.gov/waste>
- <http://www.epa.gov/osw>