

Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County News

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Contact: Willie Puz, Legislative and Public Affairs Manager, 561-640-8914 (o); 561-379-2405 (c)

Is It Recyclable? Let's Talk About Plastic Bottles and Containers

Promo Graphic: Attached

Promo Video: <https://youtu.be/ojd2UpyJKH0>

Today, many things are recyclable, but not everything. Let's focus on plastic bottles and containers.

Plastic bottles and containers include those that are used for food, either liquid or solid. They also include those used for non-food items, under two gallons in size, such as laundry and shampoo bottles and dish soap. These items are recyclable in the [Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County's](#) (SWA) dual-stream recycling program and should be placed into your blue recycling bin.

The caps and lids on plastic bottles and containers should be left on. And for items like peanut butter containers, try to get as much of the foodstuffs out as possible before recycling. But there is no need to thoroughly rinse or wash out these containers.

In 2023, more than 6,300 tons of plastic bottles and containers were recycled at the SWA's [Recovered Materials Processing Facility](#).

To help you recycle right every day, a full list of accepted recyclable items [can be found online](#).

In 2023, Palm Beach County achieved an overall 84 percent recycling rate, as calculated by the [Florida Department of Environmental Protection](#) (FDEP). That's a four-point increase from 2022 when the county achieved an FDEP calculated 80 percent recycling rate, exceeding the state's 75 percent recycling goal.

REMINDER: Hurricane season started June 1. Now is the time to complete your vegetation trimming. Once a storm threatens, it's too late to trim trees. It's best to make a year-round tree trimming plan a part of your hurricane season preparations to minimize property damage and help our community quickly return to normal after a storm passes.

About the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County

The Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County (SWA or Authority) is a Dependent Special District that was created by the Florida Legislature in 1975. Since then, the SWA has developed an award-winning integrated solid waste management system to handle the county's waste and recyclables. We call ourselves AWAY: whether you throw it, recycle it or flush it AWAY, we put your waste to work. Each year, we:

- Process 100,000 tons of [recyclables](#)
- Combust approximately 1.8 million tons of trash to generate electricity at [renewable energy facilities](#)
- Produce enough electricity to power approximately 90,000 homes
- Recycle more than 130,000 tons of [wastewater treatment residuals](#) (sludge from flushes) into an environmentally-friendly fertilizer amendment
- Safely recycle or dispose of more than 4.6 million pounds of [home hazards](#)
- Collect rainwater from the roofs of [Renewable Energy Facility 2](#) and store it in a 2-million gallon cistern, which is used as part of the energy making process

Anyone can [sign up on the SWA's website](#) to receive SWA news, calendar updates, job announcements or other web postings of interest. Should you sign up online to receive

SWA's news releases, we can remove you from the distribution list by sending a reply with the subject "REMOVE" as a reply to this email.

Connect with the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County at swa.org or on social media: