



Polypropylene Recycling Coalition: Frequently Asked Questions

Q: WHAT IS POLYPROPYLENE?

A: Polypropylene (PP) is a type of plastic, sometimes referred to as number 5 plastic. Polypropylene is used in an array of food and non-food packaging. You can find it used in everyday items in your household like food packaging and beverage containers: yogurt cups, butter containers, coffee pods, apple sauce or pudding cups, and much more.

Q: IS POLYPROPYLENE RECYCLABLE?

A: There are many communities across the U.S. today that successfully recycle polypropylene. It is a material that can be successfully sorted at a material recovery facility (MRF) and has existing domestic end markets where it is reprocessed and can then be used in new products ranging from automotive parts to personal care and food packaging.

Q: IS THE COALITION STILL ACTIVELY RECRUITING MEMBERS?

A: Yes. We welcome any companies who would like to be a part of this initiative and encourage you to reach out to The Recycling Partnership to hear more about how you can get involved. Together, we can stimulate a system-wide shift to increase the capture of polypropylene and demand of recycled content. We encourage all companies that utilize polypropylene to be part of the solution.

Q: DO YOU HAVE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE RECYCLING PARTNERSHIP TO JOIN THE POLYPROPYLENE COALITION?

A: No. The Recycling Partnership is dedicated to ensuring the success of the Polypropylene Recycling Coalition and is waiving the requirement to be a member of The Recycling Partnership for the first year. We want to enable companies to join with as few barriers as possible and have the biggest reach we can. While we remain committed to our mission and getting additional funders of our organization, we know the importance of this coalition and extending our reach.

Q: WHY DID THE RECYCLING PARTNERSHIP DECIDE TO WORK ON POLYPROPYLENE?

A: The Recycling Partnership's Pathway to Circularity methodology and emerging strategic assessment process provides the guidance to address unique challenges of specific packages and materials. With the recent announcements about challenges facing polypropylene recycling we knew there was action needed. We stand by polypropylene and its viability in the circular economy. When recycling facilities have access to advanced sortation technology, polypropylene is a valuable commodity to recycle and can be continually remanufactured. Polypropylene has important and unique performance properties. Through the Polypropylene Recycling Coalition, we are taking action to improve the circularity of this material. Now is not the time to step away from polypropylene but to lean in. Together, we can stimulate a system-wide shift to increase the capture of polypropylene and demand of recycled content. We encourage all companies that utilize polypropylene to be part of the solution.