

Ranpak Paper vs. “Green” Plastics

Top 3 Myths

#1

MYTH: “GREEN” PLASTICS BIODEGRADE IN LANDFILLS.

TRUTH



Plastics take
500 - 1,000 YEARS
to decompose.

THERE ARE 2 TYPES OF GREEN PLASTICS USED FOR PACKAGING

1 Biodegradable Plastics

- Made out of LDPE which contains an chemical additive for biodegradation.
- Requires sunlight and high temperatures to biodegrade which are absent in most landfills.
- Takes the same amount of time to degrade as regular plastics.

2 Recycled Plastics

- Recycled plastic is made out of recycled film from pre-consumer recycled bag products.
- Contains only 95% recycled content.
- Recycled plastics are made from HDPE original plastic and takes 500 - 1,000 years to decompose.

#2

MYTH: “GREEN” PLASTICS ARE EASY TO RECYCLE.

TRUTH

Only **4.9%**
of plastic used
for packaging
is recycled.



Biodegradable plastics are advised to be **sent to a commercial composting facility** because they are not accepted in curbside programs.

Local retail plastic recycling centers only accept clean, dry, virgin or recycled plastic materials. **Biodegradable materials aren't accepted because of chemical additives.**

#3

MYTH: “GREEN” PLASTICS ARE BETTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT.

TRUTH

Green plastics give off harmful greenhouse gases such as **methane and carbon dioxide.**



Green plastics actually give off more harmful greenhouse gases when contained in a landfill contributing to **air pollution and global warming.**

Green Plastics degrade into a **sludge of toxic chemicals** which can contribute to unstable soil conditions and storm-water pollution.



Green plastics are still made from polyethylene which is petroleum based and requires highly toxic chemicals for production.



FACT: **Ranpak IS THE SOLUTION**



Ranpak's all natural kraft paper packaging solutions are **100% renewable, reusable, recyclable and biodegradable** making it the environmentally friendly alternative to other packaging materials.

Although we prefer recycling, kraft paper will completely biodegrade in a landfill in **2-5 months.**



Kraft paper can be recycled in any curbside recycling program.

75% of paper used for packaging materials was recovered for recycling in 2012.

Ranpak paper comes from sustainable forestry management sources. The sustainable forestry initiative **plants more than 1.7 million trees per day**, growing more than are harvested each year.