



# Candidate Material List Update

## RRA Advisory Council Meeting

April 29, 2026





## Substantive changes to materials or their definitions

- **Updated size thresholds** based on review of other states
  - Small format: less than 2 inches in two directions
  - Large: greater than 2 gallons but less than 5 gallons or greater than 2 feet but less than 3 feet in a single dimension
  - Bulky: 5 gallons or larger or greater than 3 feet in a single dimension
  - *Note: if a material does not have a size descriptor, then it is between small and large*
- **Broke out HHW packaging** (four groups: paper, plastic, glass, metal)
- **Broke out lids by resin type** (four groups: #1; #2; #5; #3,4,6,7)
- **Separated compress gas cylinders** from other ferrous packaging
- **Clarified coverage 100% fluid milk containers:** covered by RRA but not DRS

## Added select materials that are likely not covered

- When covered counterpart existed:
  - Added a column to identify the non-covered counterparts (such as packaging for infant formula)
- Otherwise, added non-covered materials on Ecology's designated recycling list template listed as recommended or potentially recyclable for commingled recycling collection or composting collection:
  - Newspapers, including supplements
  - #2, #4, and #5 plastic products (single-resin)
  - Ferrous and non-ferrous scrap metal and products
  - Food and yard waste
  - Clean wood and dimensional lumber (not bulky)



## Minor material name or description changes for clarity

- Examples of name changes:
  - Uncoated Other Cardboard vs Uncoated Food Service Cardboard
  - Coated Cardboard includes both waxed and laminated
  - Uncoated Paper and Molded Pulp Food Service Packaging includes molded pulp bowl  
Packaging includes molded pulp food service bowl.
  - Renamed “beverage” materials to “Potential DRS”
  - Renamed “#7 PLA” materials to “Certified Compostable” (note: non-certified belong in other #7 resin categories)
  - Changed “Organic” to “Bio-Based” or “Natural-Fiber”
  - Changed “Paper” to “Fiber” in limited situations

## Feedback that did not result in changes

- Did not combine:
  - Gable top and aseptic containers because they may score differently
  - Potential DRS containers and their non-DRS counterparts because this distinction will support DRS-related analysis
  - Food service packaging materials and their non-food service counterparts because contact with food affects contamination potential
- Did not separate:
  - Natural vs. pigmented #5 PP because currently baled and traded as the same commodity
  - Black plastics by resin type because sortability depends on pigment type (not resin type)
- Did not exclude:
  - Shredded paper because it can include covered paper (e.g., bank statements)



## Additional changes not related to feedback

- Combined #2 Other Containers (examples: clamshells, trays, and tubs) into a single natural and pigmented materials
  - #2 Bottle, Jug, and Jar materials are still separated by natural versus pigmented
- Expanded #2 Plastic Squeeze Tubes materials to add #4 and #5 tubes
  - APR Design Guidelines cover all 3 resins (#2, #4, and #5)



Thank you!

Questions and Discussion