

Responsibility towards non-biodegradable products

Plastic waste causes untold damage to the environment as well as costing governments millions of pounds/euros every year for disposal. Plastic waste such as bags and food cartons often ends up in landfill sites or discarded on the street. Incineration of plastic waste causes toxic gases to pollute the air. One solution to the problem is to use biodegradable packaging that decomposes naturally and has no harmful effects on the environment. Used in conjunction with recycling as a means of disposal, this technology can help reduce the millions of tonnes of plastic waste that accumulate every year.

Advanced products are what make life easier in the times that we live in, these products include polythene plastic bags, synthetics, tin cans, plastic bottles and computer hardware amongst other things. These materials are easy to use yet they are difficult to dispose of naturally.

Ecological balance is closely related to preserving nature. An online dictionary defines ecological balance as “a state of dynamic equilibrium within a community of organisms in which genetic, species and ecosystem diversity remain relatively stable, subject to gradual changes through natural succession.” How then do we preserve the nature?

Biodegradable products are, in other words, recyclable, eco-friendly and support the greening of the environment. They are made up of natural ingredients that can be broken down like organic waste, reducing synthetic refuse residue that may be harmful to the atmosphere. However, the particular production of those things is not bad for the atmosphere. The biodegradable bags, for example, do not have a synthetic material manufactured from laboratories. Green plastic companies use corn starch rather than petroleum based polyester when making their products, as stated by wwf.panda.org.

After the consumption of food stuffs, the disposal of kaylite is unknown by most consumers. Most times it becomes the responsibility of City Council workers to clean the environment whilst it is everybody's responsibility. The site of kaylite litter in Harare is overwhelming at or near resting places and the bins nearby have lost their significance. The situation can be curbed by the introduction of litter specific bins and the manufacturing companies of the material should have a hand in the disposing of their products. On the other hand, consumers should play their part in reducing litter by placing it in the bins nearby.

Corrugated boxes can be used for packaging to keep the environment safe. The material are paper based boxes which are made up of a fluted corrugated sheet and also a flat linerboard. All

kinds of cardboard boxes are prepared from natural renewable resources, making it a safe to use and dispose material as compared to polythene plastic bags which are cheap yet are harmful to the environment. Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What are biodegradable and compostable products?

Biodegradable and compostable products are produced from materials like corn or bagasse (sugar cane), which are annually renewable resources. They are manufactured using sustainable practices and will decompose into the soil.

Q: What is the symbol for "bioplastics"?

Currently symbols #1-#6 are reserved for plastic products – bio-plastics and all other products, which can be considered as plastic, fall under the #7 symbol as "Other."

Q: How long does it take for the products to biodegrade?

It depends based on the product and the decomposition environment. Under industrial/commercial composting conditions, Bagasse items will typically decay within 45-60 days and Polylactic Acid (PLA) products 50-60 days. Biodegradable products are most effectively and efficiently disposed of in a commercial composting system because commercial compost piles contain large high moisture content, are kept at a high heat and are frequently aerated. Many commercial composting facilities break apart or cut the products into smaller pieces to increase surface area thereby decreasing degradation time.

Q: What do biodegradable and compostable products degrade into?

The products break down into carbon and water, like other matter derived from plants. Bioplastics "breaks down to carbon dioxide, water, inorganic compounds, and biomass, at a rate consistent with known compostable materials (e.g. cellulose) and leaves no toxic residue? American Society for Testing & Materials (ASTM).

Q: What's the difference between composting and recycling?

Composting is the decaying or decomposition of organic material typically through bacteria, yeasts and fungi. Composting can be done into home and commercial/industrial composting facilities that create environments that promote the transition of these products. Recycling describes the reprocessing of existing materials to create new items. Recycling requires the collection, sorting, and processing of these used products into materials that can then be remanufactured. Paper and biodegradable products are compostable, and most plastics and aluminums are recyclable. Paper can be either composted or recycled.

Q: How does the use of biodegradable and compostable products help the environment?

Biodegradable and compostable products reduce landfill mass, use of petroleum consumption, and use of toxic substances into the soil and groundwater. Annually Americans throw away 100 billion plastic bags and only .6% of these bags are recycled according to a study conducted by Hampton County South Carolina. These bags will remain in landfills from 10-20 years and will leave a negative environmental footprint.

Q: Why is Styrofoam bad?

Americans annually throw away 25 billion Styrofoam products. These products take up to 500 years to decompose according to U.S. National Park Service; Mote Marine Lab, Sarasota, FL. Styrofoam is derived from petroleum and will leave an environmental footprint for hundreds of thousands of years and may negatively affect groundwater.

Q: How should the products be stored?

PLA products should not be exposed to heat levels over 110 degrees and should be kept in a cool, dry environment. There is around a two year shelf life to the PLA and bagasse products.

Q: What are your products made from?

Green Tooth offers products ranging from polylactic acid (PLA), Bagasse, and products from other renewable resources. Bagasse is made from sugar cane fiber remaining from extracting sugar cane juice and is a byproduct that would otherwise be disposed. PLA is biodegradable, thermoplastic,

aliphatic polyester derived from renewable resources, such as corn starch. Although PLA has been known for more than a century, it has only been of commercial interest in recent years, in light of its biodegradability.

Q: How is PLA different from recyclable plastic?

The first and most important difference between traditional plastics and PLA (polylactic acid) is the material they are made from. Plastics are made from petroleum based chemicals & additives that are known pollutants and toxins while PLA is derived from corn-based resins (a non toxic and annually renewable resource). Secondly is the way in which pla and traditional plastics break down. Traditional plastics can be recycled or thrown in a landfill to slowly breakdown over hundreds of years. PLA products can't be recycled but will biodegrade 60% of their mass within 180 days in a composting system. It is unknown how long biocompostable products such as PLA take to break down if put in a traditional landfill system.

Q: Are there other green resources?

- www.greenbiz.ca.gov
- [Ethical Directory](#): Guide of ethical businesses, companies, organizations, nonprofits and websites that promote fair trade, ethics, corporate social responsibility.
- [Green Flags](#): Premium line of American Flags made from recycled plastic.

Q: Links to other businesses?

- www.ecobusinesslinks.com
- [3-2 To Go](#):
No time to cook? Gourmet, organic food at affordable prices.
- [Organic Foods](#) - We strive to be the #1 largest organic retailer in the United States. We are adding products daily. Enjoy your organic shopping experience.
- [Cmny Cakes - Specialty Cakes By Mona](#)
Specialty cakes for all occasions, such as wedding cakes, groom's cakes, birthday cakes & baby shower cakes, serving the new york metro area, including new york city (nyc), long island, manhattan, queens and brooklyn, new jersey & connecticut
- [The Home Decorating Company](#)
Retailers of bedding & home decor. Link partner for home improvement, construction, online, jobs, legal, lawyer, blogs, jewelry, web design & hosting, real estate, finance, financial, travel, business, shopping, insurance & mortgage sites
- [Psp Skins](#)
Provider of skins for psp, xbox, ps3, gameboy, wii, apple ipod, computer laptop, zune, mac mini, nintendo, ds, nano and more. Custom skins look great on your game console, video or mp3 music player. Cool sports, cars, wrap graphics upload photos ect.
- [Website Traffic](#) - Webmasters helping webmasters develop high value relevant links. Promoting ethical web-marketing using the time trusted pillars of relevance and popularity.
- [Furniture Austin](#) - Gage Furniture stores in Austin, Texas and surrounding areas have a wide variety of quality, brand name furniture at very competitive prices. Please visit us.
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The term “oxo-biodegradability” is a hybridisation of two words, oxidation and biodegradability. It defines a process to degrade the polymer chain (break up) and make it useful for biodegradability within the environment when a treated item has finished its useful life and is carried out by Reverte additive company to produce safe plastics in and for the environment. The plastics self-destruct after a few months, breaking up into tiny pieces made up of simple molecules that can be acted upon by microorganisms such as fungi. Oxo-biodegradable plastics can be degraded in the presence of oxygen and sunlight, with the addition of tiny amounts of metals like cobalt, iron or manganese. **Frequently Asked Questions**

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- [Psp Skins](#)
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