

<b>Green Plastic Terminology</b>	<b>Term decoded</b>	<b>Additional Facts</b>
<b>Bio-based</b>	Some or all of the plastic was derived from a renewable resource (corn and cellulose being most common)	Bio-based plastics can have identical chemical and physical properties to petroleum-based plastics
<b>Biodegradable</b>	Some microbe, somewhere, is capable of degrading the plastic into smaller pieces	By definition, virtually everything is biodegradable. Time scale and conditions are the important considerations
<b>Compostable</b>	According to ASTM, biodegradable to carbon dioxide and water in an aerobic industrial composting facility within 180 days	Compostable does not mean that the plastic will breakdown in your backyard composter, in the roadside ditch, floating at sea, or in a landfill
<b>Recyclable</b>	Possible to segregate by resin type (#1-7), transport to a manufacturer to chip, wash, melt, and reform into a new product such as a park bench or plastic siding	Some plastic resins (#1-7) never get recycled. According to the US EPA ~9% of plastic produced each year is recycled. Due to Humboldt's isolated location, recycling rates are expected to be lower than the national average