# Are you putting the wrong stuff in the bag?





## Why it's so important to get it right.

Materials that don't belong in a recycling or recovery program are called contaminates. They are called that because they 'contaminate' the acceptable materials and have a negative impact on the program. A worst case scenario is that the contaminated materials will need to be landfilled because they are not usable by the end-markets. Even smaller amounts of contaminates cause problems for recycling and recovery operations and generally increase costs.

Equally important to understand is that before this Pilot Project started, the acceptable plastics items were either collected in the garbage or sometimes became litter. In both these cases, the discarded plastics had no value. However, when collected in the Hefty® EnergyBag® these items have the potential to be valuable resource materials. They can be made into new products or energy. This is why it is important to ensure only plastic items on the accepted list (see reverse side) are placed in the Hefty® orange bags.

As a reminder, items that DO NOT belong in the Hefty® orange bag are as follows:

- x food waste like sandwiches, meats, produce, crackers, cereal;
- original food still inside the plastic bag or pouch;
- x soiled meat pads;
- paper towels and other cleaning items;
- X glass and metal containers; and
- other recyclable materials.

If you are unsure if an item belongs in the Hefty® EnergyBag®, contact our team for directions, and leave it out of the bag until you know for sure.

Our website is a great way to reach us or you can reach out to the London Hefty® EnergyBag® team directly at jcorby@london.ca or 519-661-CITY (2489) ext. 5419 with your questions or concerns.







### **ITEMS ACCEPTED**

All items must be clean and dry.



#### **PLASTIC PACKAGING**

- ✓ Food wraps and bags
- ✓ Shredded cheese packages



- ✓ Bag closures
- Cake mix and other dry powder mix liners
- Snack wrappers



#### **PLASTIC POUCHES**

Stand up and squeezable pouches



#### **FOAM PRODUCTS**

- ✓ Foam cups, plates and bowls
- ✓ Foam to-go boxes



#### PLASTIC DINNERWARE

- ✓ Straws, stirrers, utensils
- ✓ Plates, cups and bowls



### **ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED**



X Food or liquids of any kind



Plastics that can be recycled in the Blue Box



X Aluminum & steel cans



Paper, cardboard or other paper products



X Glass



X Medical plastic products or hazardous waste



X Grocery bags

They should be returned to grocery stores.

Place only Accepted items in your Hefty® orange bag. See reverse side for why this is so important to the success of this project.

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