

Dear Recycle Lady



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**Big Kudos to all recyclers who helped us celebrate Earth Day! Not only did you bring recyclables, but you also joined in the conversations about recycling while enjoying hot dogs with all the trimmings. The special treat of the day was the delicious hot dog chili made by one of our staff members. Earth Day is the largest secular observance in the world. More than a billion people, from 140 countries, participate each year. Earth Day went global in 1990 and has increased exponentially each year. What a wonderful way to show some love to our planet and especially to Greenbrier and Monroe Counties!**

Dear Recycle Lady,

Here is my suggestion for an Earth Day project. I make a lot of chocolate covered strawberries and give them as gifts to friends. After the strawberries are coated with chocolate, I place them in one of the clam-shell berry boxes with ventilation holes and tie a bright ribbon around it. I often use the larger plastic boxes for storing items for later use. Reusing What I Can

**Dear Reusing What I Can,**

**Great idea for using ventilated plastic containers. The recipients of the chocolate covered strawberries must be delighted to receive such a wonderful treat. There are often questions as to why plastic clam shells and salad/fruit containers can't be recycled, even though they have a #1 recycle symbol on them. Clamshell containers of all sizes are made of a low-grade plastic that has undergone a molding process that makes the plastic more brittle than the plastic in #1 bottles. This molded plastic is harder to reuse, and it has less value as a raw material. With no market value, clamshells are not recyclable until a use is found.**

Dear Recycle Lady,

I planted a tree for Earth Day. Looking to The Future

**Dear Looking to The Future,**

**Good for you! Trees improve our air quality by taking in carbon dioxide and producing oxygen by the process of photosynthesis. Thus, they are both ecologically and environmentally valuable. They also preserve the soil, support wildlife and conserve water, as well as help keep the water clean.**

**According to [www.greatergood.com](http://www.greatergood.com), one in five species of trees face extinctions, due to the rise of global temperature and the decline of biodiversity. Planting a tree is an excellent way to celebrate Earth Day.**

Dear Recycle Lady,

How do you determine if a container is a bottle? Is It a Bottle

**Dear Is It a Bottle,**

**Actually, it is easy to determine whether or not a container is a bottle. Look at the size of the top of the container and the bottom of the container. If the top is smaller than the bottom, the container is a bottle and can be recycled in the #1 or #2 plastic bins, depending on the color. If the top of the container is larger than the bottom of the container, it is not recyclable locally.**

Have questions about recycling, or interesting information about recycling? Send questions or requests to [recyclelady@greenbrier-swa.com](mailto:recyclelady@greenbrier-swa.com). Dear Recycle Lady is sponsored jointly by the Greenbrier Recycling Center and Greenworks Recycling.