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December 2014 EcoFacts



Know your Plastics



Plastic #3

PVC (Polyvinyl chloride or Vinyl) is very strong and impact resistant, and resistant to grease and chemicals. It is used for medicine blister packs, pipes, siding, window frames, decking and fencing. Chemical additives and heavy metal content have deemed PVC to be a particularly polluting form of plastic, both when incinerated and when buried in landfills.

- PVC is very difficult to recycle, and less than 1% is currently recycled in the US.
- PVC is made of nearly 60% chlorine derived from common salt.
- Many governments are trying to reduce PVC production and usage, and are researching healthier alternatives to PVC's harmful additives and healthy recycling methods for PVC.



Visit www.wastecapne.org for all the information you need for recycling in Nebraska.