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Tips and sources for making environmentally friendly choices

October 1st, 2009 07:51am

Starting today, plastic bottles no longer allowed in trash

by [Stacie Greene Hidek](#)



Think before you trash a plastic bottle.

Today's the big day — common plastic bottles are no longer allowed in landfills.

I've [posted about this before](#), and StarNews reporter Gareth McGrath wrote [a story about it](#), if you'd like to know more.

Don't worry, you won't be arrested or fined for tossing that soda bottle in the trash. According to Scott Mouw, the state's recycling director, quoted in Gareth's story, enforcement will focus on the trash haulers if they are showing up with a lot of banned items in their trucks. They in turn will need to educate consumers about what they can and cannot throw away.

County recycling centers in [New Hanover](#), [Brunswick](#) and [Pender](#), and city of [Wilmington](#) curbside recycling, all accept plastic bottles affected by the ban, that is "recyclable rigid plastic containers ... that have a neck smaller than the body of the container, and that accept a screw top, snap cap, or other closure."

Have more questions about recycling in your area? In the right-hand column of this page is a box labeled, "Local eco blogs and sites." Links are listed there for the regional government sites that detail recycling policies for those areas. Or check out these links, from [MyReporter.com](#), where StarNews journalists find the answers to your questions:

[Where can I recycle aluminum cans if I live in an apartment complex with no collection bin?](#)

[Is there progress being made in the city of Wilmington's recycling efforts, and is it all actually being recycled?](#)

[Why does recycling service cost extra and is not included with trash service in New Hanover County?](#)

[What facilities dispose of old computers and TVs in an environmentally friendly way?](#)

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