

Only Trash Goes in the Blue Bags

Plastic generally takes between 500-1000 years to degrade. Even then, it becomes microplastics, without fully degrading. *Marta Fava, Ocean plastic pollution an overview: data and statistics, Oceanliteracy,unesco.org*. Let's analyze first, oh yes! Only trash should end up in your blue bags. Keep in mind that recyclables and organics shouldn't go inside the blue bag because they are separate valuable resources. Organics go to the composting and recyclables go to the blue recycling roll-off containers. Before you even use a blue bag, remember that you can use it effectively. Solid waste management planning must take place before anything else. Let's look at the recent Recycling Survey Data for reference.

Recycling Depot Survey Data:

- 48 out of the 74 participants do not use the blue bag service.
- The recycling bins are mostly used weekly.
- Plastic is the most recycled material.
- Most people use the Recycling Depot, but 15% do not.

After reading the survey's data, a large percentage of participants do not use the Blue Bag service, we would like to remind them that there are many advantages to using the Blue Bag service. For one, you can keep it simple and local which will produce jobs and self-determination. Fewer emissions will be burned because the local trucks only service locally and only burn the necessary fuel for local necessities. The survey also shows most people dispose of recyclables weekly, so most collect their recyclables weekly instead of throwing them in the trash. This is a good way to recycle effectively. Plastic is the most recycled material, is there a way we can reduce plastics in the first place by not buying them? That way there's no need to recycle them later and facilitate zero waste. The 15 % who do not use the Recycling Depot should know that recycling plastics, metal cans, & glass bottles gives us more space at the Landfill so that we can have a place to continue disposing of trash. Perhaps this 15% doesn't buy recyclables at all which is perfectly fine. We encourage you not to buy recyclables. Use refillable bottles instead.

The Tribe's solid waste program appreciates the participation of the Blue Bag customers in helping to design a program that meets their needs. The blue bag service is an essential part of reducing waste. Recyclables go in the roll-off containers and will end up going to the recycling facility. Trash goes in the blue bags which will later become part of the local Landfill. For more questions call the

Transfer Station at

