

CHANGES IN TUCSON PLASTIC RECYCLING PROGRAM

By Judy Wingert

The City of Tucson started a plastic recycling pilot program with By Fusion a year ago. Much was learned in that year. Here are the changes: Tucson is partnering with Hefty Renew because Tucson recycled more plastic material than ByFusion could use. Hefty Renew also recycles Styrofoam so they will accept all Styrofoam plus the excess plastic. **Hard plastics #1, #2 and #5 will NO LONGER** be accepted. Other plastic bottles, jugs, and tubs go in the **BLUE BIN ALONG WITH PAPER, METAL CANS AND CARDBOARD.**

If the plastic is flexible, it can go in the **ORANGE BIN ALONG WITH STYROFOAM AND FOAM BLOCK PACKAGING, AND FOAM PEANUTS. ALSO ALLOWED IN THE ORANGE BIN ARE PLASTIC COLORED CUPS, PLATES, BOWLS, STRAWS, STIRRERS AND UTENSILS.**

You may purchase the orange Hefty recycle bags at Walmart and Fry's. Orange bags are the only bags to recycle Styrofoam. You can still use the clear recycle bags for the orange bin recycle plastics *without* Styrofoam. Basically, two recycle bags, orange or clear for plastics, orange only for Styrofoam.

***There will be a Town Hall/Public Info Session on Tuesday, June 11th at 5:30 pm, Ward 6 office. Reps from Hefty Renew and ByFusion will be on hand.**

What Goes Where?

Blue Bin	Orange Bin
Plastics #1, #2, & #5 (bottles, jugs, food containers)	Film plastic (bags, plastic wrap, plastic packaging)
Metal cans	Single-use plastic utensils, straws, cutlery
Paper	Bubble wrap, air pouches
Cardboard	Styrofoam™ (clamshells, peanuts, blocks)

If you have questions, e-mail us at zerowaste@tucsonaz.gov