



Special Edition

This mark is not TRASH it's a RESOURCE

As the amount of plastic waste continues to increase, it has become a global environmental problem through polluting the ocean, etc.

For this reason, it is necessary to reduce plastic waste and make effective use of limited resources.

Minamisoma City will collect and recycle plastic waste, which had been labeled as trash, as a new sorting category.



From January 1st, 2021, **the way trash will be sorted will be changed.**

New Sorting Category: Plastic Waste

Collection Location: Your designated burnable/non-burnable garbage and household garbage collection point.

Collection Dates: The dates listed below

(We are planning to deliver the new trash calendars along with the KOUHOU MINAMISOMA (広報みなみそうま) December 15th Edition)

How to Recycle: Put it in any transparent or semi-transparent plastic bags that are commercially available.

※Please look at the back for more information.

Plastic Waste Collection Dates (From January 2022~)

District	Collection Course	Date (Weekly)
Odaka	East Area	Thursday
	West Area	Friday
Kashima	Kashima・Mano	Friday
	Yasawa・Kamimano	Thursday
Haramachi	North Area	Monday
	South Area	Tuesday

Going forward, in preparation for the start of new sorting methods, we will inform you about waste and their recycling in several parts. The first is about the overview and collection method of plastic waste.

About Plastic Waste (Part One)

1 What is plastic waste?

Containers or packaging made of plastic that are **usually discarded** after using the product are considered plastic waste.

They are used for many purposes, and while cheap and convenient, plastic does not decompose naturally, which causes environmental pollution.

However, it also has the advantage of being easy to recycle.

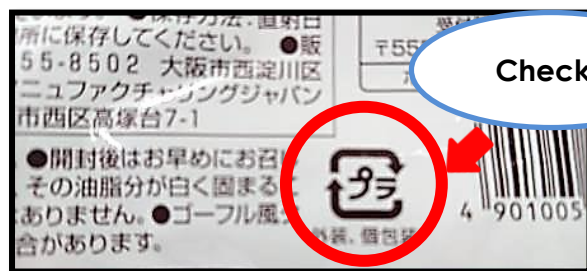
Look for this mark. ➡ 

The items in questions that can be recycled will have the "plastic" mark (プラ). Products without the mark cannot be recycled as plastic, even if parts of them are made of plastic.

Since the target is containers and packaging, plastic products such as ballpoint pens and toothbrushes that do not have the plastic mark do not qualify to be collected as plastic recyclables.

2 How to Sort

1. Please separate any garbage that has the plastic mark on them from your everyday garbage. **PET bottles and white trays (Styrofoam trays) will continue to be collected as they currently are.**
2. Although it will take time, in order to prevent getting other plastics dirty and rotting during storage, **if there is any food or foreign substances remaining, please wash the plastic products.**
3. For plastic products such as mayonnaise bottles or ready-made pouches that are hard to wash, **or if you are unsure, please sort them as burnable trash.**
4. As for the plastic bags, instead of the city designated bags, please use commercially available translucent or semi-translucent bags that are **within 45liters (650mmx800mm)**. There are no designated makers that you need to use. **(Please write your trash number on the bag).** ※The city recommends using trash bags that have the plastic mark on them.
5. As said in 3, if you throw away plastics that are dirty, the rest of the plastics will be contaminated. Please wash your plastic thoroughly or if it is difficult to wash or if you are unsure, please sort them as burnable trash.



Do not use city designated trash bags. Please use commercially available trash bags.



As shown in the photo, if the plastics become dirty, please sort them as burnable trash.

※Next time, we will talk about reducing burnable trash by separating plastic waste and composite plastic.

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