

How do plastic bottles get recycled?

Did you Know ...

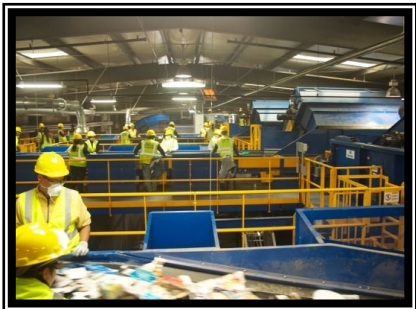
- Americans drink about **48 billion plastic water bottles** every year.
- Enough plastic is thrown away each year to **circle the earth four times!**
- It takes **500-1,000 years** for plastic to degrade.
- Plastic makes up about **90% of all trash floating on the ocean's surface**, with 46,000 pieces of plastic per square mile.



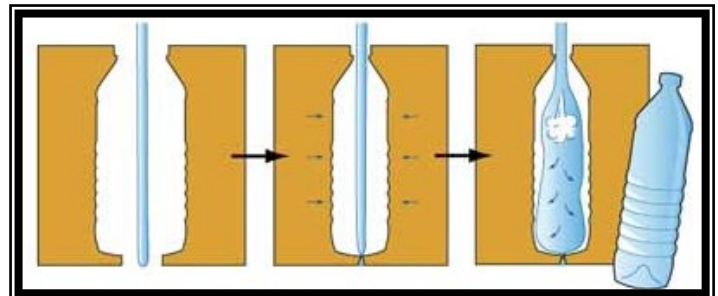
1. Plastic bottles are collected with the rest of your recycling.



3. The bales are taken to the processor, where they are shredded and turned into little plastic flakes.



2. The bottles are taken to the recycling center where they are sorted and baled.



4. The flakes are melted and molded into new plastic items.