



A recyclable package is one that is collected in the recycling bin, sorted at a sorting facility, and actually recycled—meaning it is processed and reintroduced into a production cycle to create new products—within an established market¹.

Although, since January 2025, the vast majority of containers and packaging can be placed in the recycling bin, this does not necessarily mean they are all effectively recycled. Carrousel considers packaging "recyclable" when well-established recycling streams exist in Quebec and Ontario.



Articles displaying this label may be biologically recycled. There are two processes for the biological recycling of organic materials: composting and biomethanization.

Composting is a biological treatment process that allows for the biodegradation (biooxidation) of organic waste, under the action of aerobic microorganisms (living in the presence of oxygen). The organic waste is first mixed with structuring agents (e.g. wood chips) to increase aeration, then placed in windrows or piles. Compost is obtained after reaching a thermophilic phase (temperature between 45°C and 70°C) and a subsequent maturation phase.²

Biomethanization is a biological process that breaks down organic matter in the absence of oxygen within a sealed reactor. This process captures gases and produces a solid residue called digestate.³

The organic waste collection programs vary from one municipality to another, depending on the treatment process in place (composting or biomethanation). To determine whether a product is considered «compostable», Carrousel relied on the Ça va où? application as of March 2025. If a product is accepted in the collection programs of at least two of the following cities—Montreal, Quebec City, and Sherbrooke—Carrousel considers it compostable. However, to ensure that a product is accepted in your local collection, we recommend checking directly on the application or with your municipality.



A biodegradable product is likely to be completely decomposed by living organisms.¹ The OECD 301D test protocol (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) certifies that a product is biodegradable. If a product has the test procedure logo, it means that at least 60% of the residue left by the product will naturally decompose in less than 28 days. These tests are conducted under optimal laboratory conditions.



Unfortunately, there is no Canadian standard for declaring packaging as «reusable.» Carrousel has therefore considered items reusable if they can be used and washed multiple times without deteriorating.



An item can be made with varying amounts of material derived from recycled products or waste that has been processed for reuse.

Pre-consumer recycled contents are materials that are redirected from the disposal stream during the manufacturing process and introduced for use in a different industrial manufacturing process.

Post-consumer recycled contents are materials that are generated by homes or commercial, industrial or institutional installations (in their role as end-users of a product), which can no longer be used for their original purpose.



ECOLOGO certified products are certified for reduced environmental impact. ECOLOGO certifications are voluntary, multi-attribute, lifecycle based environmental certifications that indicate a product has undergone rigorous scientific testing, exhaustive auditing, or both, to prove its compliance with stringent, third-party, environmental performance standards.⁴

Sources :

- 1 https://www.eeq.ca/assets/pdf/EEQ_LDR_GuideFR_VF.pdf (open translation)
- 2 <https://www.recyc-quebec.gouv.qc.ca/lexique/> (open translation)

- 3 <https://www.recyc-quebec.gouv.qc.ca/municipalites/matieres-organiques/recyclage-residus-verts-alimentaires/options-gestion/implantation-nouvelle-installation/compostage-systeme-ferme> (open translation)
- 4 <https://www.ul.com/resources/ecologo-certification-program> (traduction libre)

