

Thinking Green?



How often are you asked for a recyclable, compostable or biodegradable packaging tape? Not sure of the difference? Understanding the terminology is the first step in sourcing these products.



Recyclable products are mechanically broken down for reuse. During the process recycling facilities separate materials such as cardboard, tape, plastic and metal. In the packaging world, while the polypropylene in tape can be recycled, the adhesive cannot.



Compostable products are made from natural materials that break down completely over a relatively short period of time, enriching the soil used to grow more resources. Packaging products require industrial composting facilities to ensure optimal oxygen, temperature and moisture levels are met. Home composts and landfills typically do not have enough airflow, therefore taking several years to disintegrate. All compostable items are biodegradable, but not all biodegradable items are compostable.



Biodegradable materials are broken down naturally by microorganisms such as fungi and bacteria, not requiring special conditions or facilities. Unlike compostable products, biodegradable items consist of man-made or chemically produced materials and there is typically no additional use once broken down. While virtually everything is biodegradable, it can take hundreds or even thousands of years to completely disintegrate.

So Now What?

For many years STA has followed environmentally friendly manufacturing practices, such as using water based solventless adhesives, re-purposing scrap and recycling pallets. But we are committed to make more of an impact in helping to reduce waste in landfills. As we use our technical expertise to develop the next generation of packaging tapes, we need your help in understanding your customer's expectations in a "green" product.



We want to hear from you! Scan this QR code to take part in a short survey on eco-friendly packaging tapes.

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