Petroleum-based Plastics vs. Bio-based Plastics

The material used to make plastic packaging does not necessarily dictate its end-of-life destination. Some petroleum-based plastics can be biodegradable, some bio-based plastics are not biodegradable, and both types of plastics can be recyclable.

**Petroleum-based Plastics**
- Multilayered Containers
  - Paper with a layer of plastic
- Mixed Containers
  - Not all parts are recyclable
- Films, Wrappers
  - Recyclable but difficult to sort
- Nonbiodegradable Plastic Containers
- Biodegradable Bottles
- Biodegradable Take-out Containers
- Biodegradable Bags
- Fragments or breaks down into microplastics
- Persists for 100’s to 1000’s of years
- 1/3 of household plastic waste is from food packaging.
- 86% of Canada’s plastic waste goes to a landfill.
- 1% of Canada’s plastic waste is leaked.
- 4% of Canada’s plastic waste is used for energy production.
- 9% of Canada’s plastic waste is recycled.

**Bio-based Plastics**
- Biodegradable Bottles
- Biodegradable Take-out Containers
- Biodegradable Bags
- Biodegradable
- Biodegrades
- Compost
- Recycled
- Energy Generation
- Landfill
- Leakage
  - Littering/mismanaged
- Mixed Containers
  - Not all parts are recyclable
- Films, Wrappers
  - Recyclable but difficult to sort
- Multilayered Containers
  - Paper with a layer of plastic