EAST JORDAN PLASTICS, INC.
The Sustainable Choice

THE SUSTAINABLE CHOICE FOR OUR INDUSTRY

PLASTIC RECYCLING

THE FUTURE OF THE HORTICULTURE INDUSTRY



RECYCLED PLASTIC CONTAINERS

At East Jordan Plastics, we believe in sustainable practices done right. For almost 80 years, we've been determined to create environmental-friendly solutions that meet growers' quality standards—and continue to evolve our plastic recycling practices in an effort to inspire lasting change in the horticulture industry. Because it's one thing to feel good about sustainability; it's another to act on it.



HELP US

RECYCLE 50 MILLION POUNDS OF USED HORTICULTURAL PLASTIC

With decades of experience, proven processes, and manufacturing expertise—we're working to develop 100% recyclable plant trays, pots, and containers. In addition to achieving Post-Consumer Recycled (PCR) Plastic Certification from AM Testing, our process and dedication to simply doing the right thing has helped us become a leader in sustainable horticultural packaging.

While we do this to help protect our planet, it also makes better business sense. Consumers today are more likely to purchase black containers if they know they're made from 100% recycled plastic compared to colored containers with less recycled material.[1] On average, more than 35% of the raw material we use in manufacturing is PCR, and 75% of the raw material we use is recycled—creating new, sustainably designed containers that are made with up to 100% PCR.

At this time, polypropylene (PP) and polystyrene (PS) are two common plastics that are not curbside recyclable in most municipalities. Luckily, our closed-loop recycling program gives these plastics an opportunity to become part of something more—the chance to be continuously recycled into a usable, effective product.

SUSTAINABLY DESIGNED CONTAINERS MADE WITH UP TO 100% PCR POST CONSUMER RECYCLED PLASTIC

[1]Metrolina Greenhouses' The Home Garden Panel, Planters & Sustainability 2022



SUSTAINABILITY

HOW WE MAKE A *REAL* DIFFERENCE

Sustainability is a trend and a marketing tactic to some, but for us, it's been a priority since our founding nearly 80 years ago. Our closed-loop recycling system delivers an unmatched level of quality and sustainability to our grower and retailer partners.



BY THE NUMBERS

As leaders in the horticulture industry for decades, we've built processes that make a real difference for our customers and the environment.



Our goal is to recycle **50 MILLION POUNDS** of used horticultural plastic per year.

100% PCR

We create certified 100% Post Consumer Recycled (PCR) plastic "flake" material at our recycling facilities, which we use to create new horticultural containers.

200 MILLION POUNDS

We have **recycled over 200 million pounds of used horticultural plastic** since the start of our closed-loop recycling program.

OUR SYSTEM

Our innovative closed-loop system is designed to create and reuse as much PCR plastic as possible.

The five steps of our system

DELIVERING PRODUCT TO GROWERS

From our manufacturing facilities, containers are delivered to growers, who grow in the containers, then ship products to retailers for consumers to purchase.

CONSUMERS RETURN PRODUCTS

They bring back used growing containers to participating garden centers.

SORTING AND PICKUP

When a grower or retailer has enough material, we coordinate for our trucks to pick the material up.

RETURN TO OUR FACILITIES

We bring these materials back to our South Haven, MI and Lyons, GA facilities and turn them into good, clean regrind.

PRODUCING NEW PCR PRODUCTS

At our facilities, we manufacture new, sustainably designed containers for redistribution. Then, the process repeats (and repeats).

WHY IT MATTERS



Single-use plastics put an impact on our environment and economy, and we're committed to doing our part to ease the burden through recycled plastic solutions.

When you make The Sustainable Choice, you're helping support jobs in North America, domestic recycling and a shorter North American supply chain.

PUSHING TOWARD 50 MILLION POUNDS

At our 150,000-square-foot South Haven, Michigan, and 250,000-square-foot Lyons, Georgia recycling facilities, our team recycles PP and PS containers generated from both greenhouses and retail stores.

MEETING YOUR GOALS WITH **AMERICAN-MADE QUALITY**

MADE IN THE USA

As a true partner in the horticulture industry, we work directly with growers and retailers to help meet their sustainability needs:

- Producing pots and trays with high PCR percentages to exceed requirements and goals
- Committing to American-made quality through a truly closed-loop system
- Keeping plastic in the North American horticultural recycling stream rather than sourcing material from overseas

THREE RECYCLING NUMBERS EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW

The number inside the recycling symbol tells you more about the type of plastic and how it will break down. Knowing the meaning of these numbers is key to recycling correctly. Currently, we accept #5, #6 and #2 plastics for recycling.



POLYPROPYLENE

Both versatile and durable enough for the growing industry, this material is used to make both thermoformed and injection molded containers. There is an abundant supply of both post-industrial and post-consumer recycled PP in the marketplace that is suitable for manufacturing horticultural containers.



POLYSTYRENE

Easy to process, PS is used for thermoformed products in the horticultural industry—from flats and inserts to plug/propagation trays and some shuttle trays. This material's mechanical properties lend itself to thin wall applications where rigidity is needed. There is a good supply of post industrial recycled material available, and 95% of the polystyrene product we manufacture is made with recycled material.



HIGH-DENSITY POLYETHYLENE

Primarily used to manufacture large nursery containers, there is an abundant supply of both post-industrial and post-consumer recycled HDPE. This material holds up well in harsh growing conditions, especially extreme cold.



MADE WITH INTEGRITY, RIGHT HERE

Built on a foundation of hard work, superior customer service, and quality products with competitive pricing, we proudly remain a family-owned and North American-based company. We're committed to using sustainable materials and manufacturing processes to support the horticulture industry and the environment.

That's why we're committed to limiting additional plastic from entering North America from overseas locations. We're focused on reshaping how plastic is used and recycled here, knowing it benefits our industry to avoid adding more materials from outside the North American stream. Simply put, we have more than enough raw plastic material to work with and recycle here.

WE DON'T JUST USE PCR, WE CREATE PCR.

CREATING 100% POST-CONSUMER RECYCLED (PCR) PLASTIC

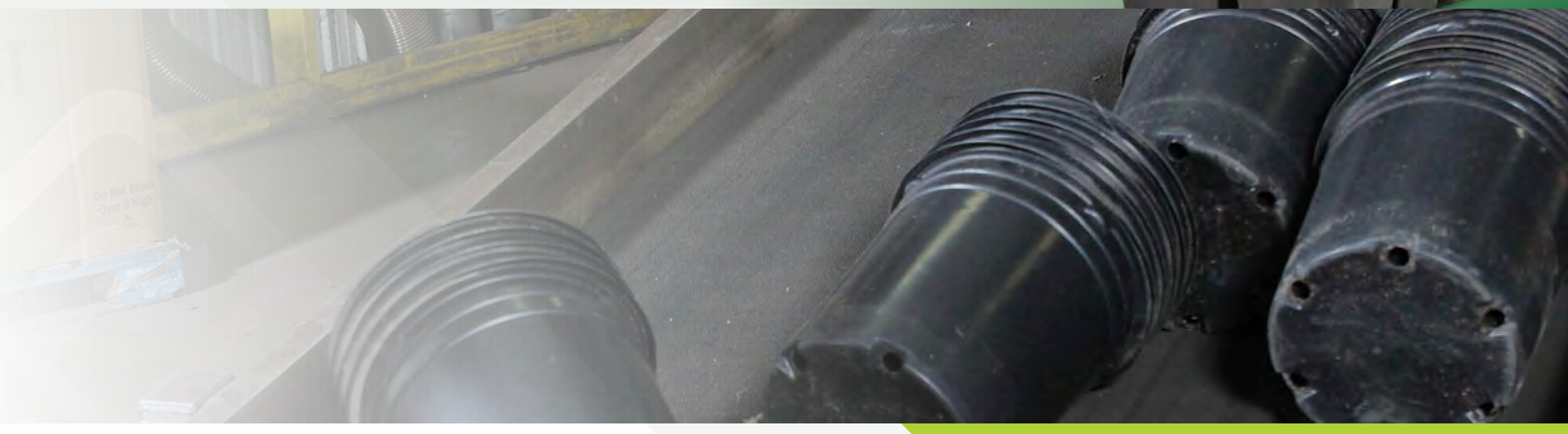
As a part of our sustainability efforts, we have achieved Post-Consumer Recycled (PCR) Plastic Certification from AM Testing and continue to participate in the Association of Plastic Recyclers (APR) PCR Certification Program. Achieving certification is an important milestone for our company and shows our commitment to creating sustainable solutions for our partners.

On average, across our entire product line, more than 35% of the raw material we use in manufacturing is PCR—and more than 75% of the raw material we use in manufacturing is recycled. Transforming these materials into sustainable solutions is part of our dedication to creating an energy-efficient, closed-loop plastic recycling process.

At East Jordan Plastics, we don't just use PCR, **WE CREATE PCR.** How? We use post-consumer plastic from the horticultural industry and other industries across North America in our closed-loop recycling process to create new, up to 100% PCR plastic horticultural containers.

Other companies might buy and use PCR in their processes, but we make PCR plastic at our recycling facilities. Because it's one thing to talk about sustainability, it's another to act on it.





BECOME PART OF THE SOLUTION

Getting involved with our recycling program is as easy as making a call or sending an email. We want to talk with any grower or retailer who wants to recycle—because the more horticultural containers we can collect for recycling and keep within our industry, the fewer that will end up in a landfill. Among other benefits, closed-loop recycling of plastic plant containers and trays:

- Saves up to 60% of the energy required to make the same product from virgin material.
- Avoids landfills since products are returned directly to the growing container manufacturing stream.
- Reduces waste removal fees by keeping growing containers out of dumpsters and landfills.
- Enhances the growing container industry's public image as a wise steward of the environment by reusing sustainable plastic growing containers.
- Creates opportunities for most plastic containers and trays to be reused.
- Increases retail foot traffic as consumers return their plastic plant containers and trays to garden centers.
- Achieves a better sustainable footprint due to trash reduction.



WE'RE PROUD TO OFFER 100% RECYCLABLE PLANT TRAYS, GROWING POTS, AND PLANT CONTAINERS

As the largest recycler of horticultural containers in North America, we're striving for a sustainable future as a company dedicated to doing the right thing—and we have decades of experience to back that up. It's been a passion of ours since 1947 when we started as a small, family business producing wooden flats.

Today, we're a multi-facility manufacturing company that's rooted in sustainability. We've evolved our plastic recycling initiatives with our fully energy-efficient, closed-loop plastic recycling process to create innovative, sustainable, high-quality horticultural containers that meet growers' quality standards and needs. We bring back used plastic containers and trays from growers nationwide and recycle nearly 20 million pounds of used horticultural containers annually.

Built on a foundation of hard work, superior customer service, and quality products with competitive pricing, we proudly remain a family-owned, North American-based company. We're committed to using sustainable materials and manufacturing processes to support our industry and the environment. It's better for growers, the industry, and the planet as a whole.

MADE IN THE USA

Together, let's make The Sustainable Choice.



Learn more at eastjordanplastics.com

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