

Estimated Decomposition Rates of Certain Items

Garbage Item	Estimated Decomposition Time in a Landfill
Aluminum can	200 - 400 years
Banana	3 - 5 weeks
Cigarette butt	2 - 5 years
Glass bottle	500 years
Milk carton	5 years
Paper bag	2 - 4 weeks
Plastic drink rings	450 years
Plastic jug	450 years
Styrofoam cup	never
Tin can	100 years
Plastic bag	10 - 20 years
Rubber sole of shoe	50 - 80 years