

Translations for the New Zealand Recycling Symbols

Para Kore and WasteMINZ conducted a nationwide consultation in September 2017 to determine the most suitable translations into te reo Māori for public place recycling and rubbish signage. Speakers of te reo Māori from local iwi, community groups, council staff, universities and government departments were invited to take part in the consultation. Please find below the agreed upon translations. In some cases appropriate alternatives are listed. The majority of these alternatives have a slight variation in meaning rather than being a regional or tribal dialect. E.g. in English the words compost, organic and food scraps have all been used in the past to indicate a bin which food waste goes into however, the agreed upon word in English is now food scraps. This is the case for example with the translations for blocks and rubble, poro raima, kongakonga and poraka raima, turakanga.

Where regional variations in usage are possible this has been noted and organisations intending to create signage using those words are encouraged to consult more widely with their local iwi to determine which word would be most suitable. E.g. in English both rubbish and garbage have the same meaning but one is British English and the other American. For example regional variations for the word *clothes* include but aren't limited to *kākahu, pūeru, pūweru, weru, weweru, kaka*. If you have any questions about these translations please email jenny@wasteminz.org.nz.

English Term	Agreed Translations	Appropriate Alternatives
Appliances	Pūrere Kāinga	Utauta Kāinga
Bags & Wrap	Pēke, Tākai	
Blocks & Rubble	Poru Raima, Kongakonga	Poraka Raima, Turakanga
Bottles & Jars	Pātara, Ipu Karaehe	
Brown	Parauri	
Cans	Kēne	
Cardboard	Kāri Mārō	
Cartridges	Kariri Waituhi	
Clear	Kōataata	
Clothes & Rags	Pūeru, Ruha	Kākahu, Karukaru (note regional variations are possible consult locally)
Coffee Grounds	Whaipara Kawhe	Kawhe Ngakungaku Orooronga Kawhe Nakunga Kawhe

Concrete	Raima	
Containers	Ipu	
Drink	Inu	
Electronics	Para Tāhiko	Para Hiko
Fabric	Papanga	
Fonterra Milk Bottles	Pātara Miraka nā Fonterra	
Food	Kai	
Food & Drink	Kai, Inu	
Food & Garden	Kai, Māra	Mahinga Kai (note regional variations are possible consult locally)
Food Scraps	Para Kai	
Food Scraps & Compostable Packaging	Para Kai, Tākai Pōpopo	
Furniture	Taputapu whare	
Garden Cuttings	Tapahanga Māra	Tapahitanga Māra
Glass	Karaehe	Karāhe Kōata
Green	Kākāriki	
Hazardous	Para Mōrearea	
Household Batteries	Pūhiko Kāinga	
Landfill	Ruapara	
Light Bulbs	Pūrama	
Liners	Ārai	
Meat Scraps	Para Mīti	Para Kikokiko
Metal	Konganuku	Mētara

Metal Beams	Paepae Konganuku	
Metal Scrap	Kuha Konganuku	Toenga Mētara Kongakonga Mētara
Nappies	Kope	
Oil	Hinu	
Paper	Pepa	
Plastic	Kirihou	
Plasterboard	Papa Ukutea	
Polystyrene	Kirihou Kōmāmā	
Recycling	Hangarua	Hakarua is Ngāi Tahu dialect for Hangarua.
Reuse	Whakamahia Anō	
Rubbish	Para	Rāpihi
Shopping Bags	Pēke Hokohoko	
Soft Plastic	Kirihou Ngohengohe	
Soil	Oneone	
Strapping	Tarapu (loan word)	Here
Towels & Napkins	Tāora, Parehūhare	Tāora, Napikena
Treated Timber	Rākau Tāoke	Rākau Tāroki
Tyres	Taea	Wīra
Untreated Timber	Rākau Noa	
Window	Matapihi	
Wood	Rākau	