



Plastic Film Recycling for Materials Recovery Facilities (MRFs) and Landfills



Plastic film recycling in Wisconsin

The plastic film recycling industry is growing and manufacturers are seeking clean, dry plastic bags and wrap to make new products, including lightweight packaging, composite lumber and playground equipment. Film recycling recovers valuable material, spurs economic activity, prevents litter and promotes new jobs.

The role of MRFs and landfills

MRFs and landfills can encourage consumers, businesses and other clients to use **drop-off collection points** for recycling their plastic film, bags and wrap, separate from other household or business recyclables. Promoting drop-off collection at local stores and other sites benefits MRF and landfill operations in a number of ways.

Benefits for MRFs

It prevents machinery clogs.

Drop-off collection helps to keep plastic bags and film out of sorting machinery and avoid costly delays.

It preserves material value.

Plastic film contaminated with other materials loses value; drop-off collection keeps value high.

It promotes buyer interest.

Drop-off collection ensures that buyers can find regular, large loads of clean, dry material in each community.

Benefits for landfills

It reduces windblown debris.

Plastic film recycling reduces the labor costs of keeping windblown debris out of fence lines and the surrounding environment.

It prevents equipment failures.

Plastic film can tangle in engines and axles; keeping it out of landfills prevents this problem.

It extends landfill lifespan.

Plastic film recycling keeps bags, film and wrap out of landfills, preserving space for other, denser materials.



Drop-off collection keeps plastic film material clean and valuable to manufacturers.



Plastic bags and film can tangle, clog and damage MRF sorting machinery.

Resources and how your facility can contribute

MRFs and landfills can post links to information on their websites, spread word to their customers or, if able to keep film separate, register as a drop-off themselves.

www.plasticfilmrecycling.org - Learn about plastic film recycling, set up a collection program and register as a drop-off site.

dnr.wi.gov - Search "plastic film" to access free information and promotional materials to give to consumers and businesses.



Retail drop-off collection makes plastic film recycling beneficial to all.



MRFs and landfills can add this "badge" link to the Drop-Off Directory on their own websites by visiting www.plasticfilmrecycling.org.