

DON'T BURN AGRICULTURAL PLASTICS

KEEP THE AIR AS CLEAN AS YOUR FIELDS



What's so bad about burning ag plastics?

It's unhealthy. Burning plastics releases toxic and potentially cancer causing chemicals into the air.

It pollutes. Toxics released into the air during burning can fall on our soils and in our water.

It's unsafe. Burning garbage or brush can lead to wildfires, property damage and sometimes loss of life.

The smoke and ash can irritate eyes and lungs, which is especially bad for people with asthma or heart disease.

It's illegal to burn any plastics in Wisconsin:

Under no circumstances should agricultural plastics be burned, even on your property. Wisconsin rules are clear about this. Visit the DNR website at <http://dnr.wi.gov/> and search "ag plastics"

Alternatives to burning

Pesticide Containers: Recycle your used pesticide containers.

- **Clean Sweeps** accept used containers with leftover chemicals. Contact your local extension office or https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/CleanSweep.aspx
- The **Ag Container Recycling Council**, an industry-funded non-profit, safely collects and recycles crop protection, animal health, and pest control product containers. ACRC offers FREE collection of triple-rinsed containers from growers and commercial applicators. Visit http://acrecycle.org/Where_and_How_to_Recycle for details.

Film and Other Containers: Recycling options are increasing. The **Wisconsin Recycling Markets Directory** at <http://uwgb.edu/shwec/> has information on outlets and markets. If recycling is not available in your area, landfilling is the best alternative.

- Minimize waste by buying just what you need.
- Cut ag plastic film and silage plastic as you go to make it more manageable so that it fits in your dumpster. Slice from the bottom at 8-10 foot intervals.

Common ag plastics:

- **Film:** Silage and hayage bags; bunker, greenhouse and row covers; bale wraps and woven tarps; horticultural mulch; other flexible products.
- **Rigid plastic containers:** Pesticide and other product containers, nursery pots.



WA-1592 2017
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