

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. Toxins 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: <http://dnr.wi.gov/> Search "ag plastics"

Alternatives to burning

Pesticide Containers: Recycle your used pesticide containers.

- **Clean Sweeps** accept used containers with leftover chemicals. Check with your local extension office or visit: http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Clean_Sweep/index.aspx.
- The **Container Services Net** (CSN) offers FREE collection/recycling of triple-rinsed containers from ag retailers, applicators and growers that accumulate at least 1,000 pounds. Visit them at <http://www.containerservicesnetwork.com/>.

Film and Other Containers: Recycling options are limited so landfilling is the best alternative at this time. Minimize waste by purchasing just what you need.

- Cut plastic film to make it more manageable for transport. Slice from the bottom at 10 or 15 foot intervals.

Common ag plastics:

- **Film:** Silage and haylage 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.



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