

What are the requirements on open burning in New York State?

It is against the law to burn waste plastic in open fires on farms or anywhere else in New York State.

As of October 2009, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) regulations prohibit burning of any plastics (including horticultural mulch film, dairy bunk silo covers, pesticide containers) or any other non-organic trash in burn barrels or open fires.

All open burning is prohibited in New York with several exceptions including the following:

- Campfires less than 3 feet in height and 4 feet in length, width or diameter are allowed.
- Small cooking fires are allowed.
- Fires cannot be left unattended and must be fully extinguished.
- Only charcoal or clean, untreated or unpainted wood can be burned.
- Ceremonial or celebratory bonfires are allowed.

Why the rules have been changed:

Open burning of household trash releases dangerous compounds including arsenic, carbon monoxide, benzene, styrene, formaldehyde, lead, hydrogen cyanide and dioxin, among others. Open burning is also the single greatest cause of wildfires in New York.

Agricultural wastes:

Organic agricultural wastes may be burned on site where they are grown or generated including brush and wood produced by clearing fields and other activities. The fire must be located on contiguous agricultural land larger than 5 acres; and the materials capable of being fully burned within 24 hours.

The burning of pesticides, plastics or other non-organic material is prohibited.

The AG Plastic Recycling Pilot Project

is sponsored by:



RECYCLING AGRICULTURAL PLASTICS PROJECT
Life Cycle Stewardship – a Cornell University Collaboration



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Madison County



MADISON COUNTY 2012 AGRICULTURAL PLASTICS PILOT RECYCLING PROGRAM

Best Management Practices for
Recycling Agricultural Plastic

It is against the law to burn
waste plastic in open fires on
farms or anywhere else in
New York State.

For More Information Contact

Madison County Dept of Solid Waste

Phone: 315-361-8409
Fax: 315-361-1524
Hotline: 1-800-721-2208

HOW IT WORKS

- Collect & store your agricultural plastics at your farm
- Prepare plastics as listed on the right
- FREE drop off at the following locations:

Madison Co. Landfill,

Buyea Rd., Town of Lincoln
Monday thru Friday–7:10 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
(at the ARC Recycling Center site)

Cazenovia Transfer Station,

Constine Bridge Rd.
Friday & Saturday, 7:10 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Hamilton Transfer Station,

Cranston Rd.
Wednesday & Sat., 7:10 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Sullivan Transfer Station,

Bolivar Rd.
Friday & Saturday, 7:10 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

WHY RECYCLE AG PLASTICS

- Save money on waste costs– it's FREE
- Help the environment by keeping plastic out of landfills
- Keep harmful toxins out of the air from burning plastics and avoid fines

HIGH TUNNELS & HOOPHOUSE COVERS

- Dimensions will depend on thickness and flexibility of film
- Cut & fold into easily handled bundles

MULCH & THIN FILMS

- Cut into pieces that can be rolled or folded into bundles of a size and weight that one person can lift.
- Brush or shake to remove clumps of soil, stones or plant matter.



Sample Bundles

TYPES OF FILMS

- Dairy film
- Mulch film
- Wraps and covers from animal feed
- Greenhouse and hoop-house covers

RIGID PLASTIC POTS, CONTAINERS, DRIP TAPE & TRAYS

- Stack Pots & Trays: Knock out stones, loose soil and ceramic chips.
- Keep dry.
- Palletize if feasible or place in large cardboard boxes.

Items Not Accepted

- Pesticide or chemical containers



Stacked Pots

STORING PLASTIC

- **Keep as clean and dry as possible;** away from gravel and mud.
- Store under cover in a barn, trailer, hay wagon or outside under a tarp.
- Do not mix different types of products.
- Separate clean films from dirtier.
- **No PVC accepted.**