

# Burning Plastics is Illegal and Bad for Your Health

**Open burning creates tiny particles that can lodge deep in the lungs.**

**Health hazards include:**

- Respiratory conditions, such as asthma
- Eye, nose, and throat irritation
- Headache
- Loss of coordination
- Nausea
- Damage to liver, kidney, and central nervous system

Pesticide containers often contain pesticide residue, even after rinsing, and can create additional health problems if burned.

Burning plastic is illegal in Washington State with fines of up to \$14,000. **Recycle instead!**



*Serving Island, Skagit & Whatcom Counties*

For over 35 years, it has been the Northwest Clean Air Agency's responsibility and our privilege to make sure that the air you breathe is clean for you and for future generations. The Agency provides the following programs & services:

- Asbestos
- Business Assistance
- Climate Change
- Complaint Response & Enforcement
- Indoor Air
- Outdoor Burning
- Public Information
- Permitting
- Wood Stoves

For more information about these or other services, please visit us on the web at [www.nwcleanair.org](http://www.nwcleanair.org).

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# Agricultural Recycling

## **Safe Plastic Management**

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*Serving Island, Skagit & Whatcom Counties*

# Agricultural Plastics can be Recycled

**Recycling businesses have developed programs to recycle film, twine and rigid plastics.**

## **Plastic Film & Twine**

- Mulch film (any color)
- Drip irrigation tape
- Row covers
- Tunnel film
- Box liners
- Greenhouse film
- Peat moss bags
- Hay bale wraps
- "Super Sacks"
- Plastic twine (bag separately)
- Silage bags
- Bunker covers

## **Rigid Plastics**

- Buckets
- Barrels / Drums
- Plastic hangers
- Irrigation pipe
- Other molded plastics

Additional programs are available for recycling rinsed plastic pesticide containers. Visit [www.nwagplastics.com](http://www.nwagplastics.com) for details.

## **Cost of recycling**

Many items are recycled for free; some businesses charge for fumigation film or collection service.



## Tips for Recycling Your Agricultural Plastics

### **Keep like items together**

- Film and rigid plastics are recycled separately.
- Roll drip irrigation tape and tie with drip tape only.
- Mulch film, tunnel film, peat moss bags and similar agricultural plastics should be rolled and tied with a piece of the same type of film that's in the roll. Do not use twine or wire.
- Twine should be stored loose in a clean "Super Sack" or large plastic bag.

### **Keep materials as dry as possible**

- Moisture adds weight and increases the cost of recycling.

### **Keep materials as clean as possible**

- Shake plastics to remove a majority of the contaminants (dirt, haylage, water, etc.). Overly contaminated material might be rejected at the collection site or could raise recycling costs.

### **Keep plastics out of the sunlight**

- Sunlight can decay the material.

## Recycled Plastics can be Made Into:

- Plastic posts for signs and highway guard rails
- Plastic pilings for piers / bridges, etc.
- Black plastic garbage bags
- Automotive components
- Wall-covering
- Tool handles
- Flooring
- Pallets

For more information call:

**Recycling Hotline**

360.676.5723

800.760.8434

or visit [www.re-sources.org](http://www.re-sources.org)

