

NO PLASTIC BAGS IN THE RECYCLING BIN

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## The Problem: Plastic Bags do NOT belong in the Recycling Bin

- Plastic bags are not an acceptable material for curbside recycling programs.
- Acceptable Recyclables should never be placed in plastic bags.
- Plastic Bags increase costs at Recyclable Material Recovery Facilities.
- Plastic Bags contaminate and lower the value of Recyclable Materials.

### The Danger: Our Employees Safety

The safety of our employees is our utmost concern. Our employees sort recyclables by hand and are in direct contact with every piece of material that is delivered to our Recovery Facilities. When plastic bags are improperly mixed in with acceptable recyclable materials, the bags entwine in the equipment. This causes unsafe conditions and downtime to clear the equipment so it works properly.



*Plastic bags and film hang from a conveyor*

### The Solution: A Clear Message on how to Dispose of Plastic Bags

For the safety of our employees, it is important that our municipalities and customers publicize proper messaging on how to dispose of Plastic Bags by residents and businesses.

Disposal of Plastic Bags should be in accordance with local disposal regulations and never placed with recyclable material. The proper disposal of Plastic Bags will greatly decrease a dangerous condition for our employees.

- Many grocery stores, co-ops and retailers accept clean, dry plastic bags for recycling.
- Look for plastic bag recycling bins that are usually located at the entrance of the store.



*Plastic bags clogs separation equipment that employees have to clear*

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