

Greenhouse Plastic Recycling Program

Statewide Collection Starting Spring of 2020

Eligibility: All Maine greenhouses, high tunnels and plastic covered ag structures.



Registration: Participants must pre-register online. Online registration will open in February 2020. Walk-in registration will be available at some drop-off sites.



No Fee: Funding is provided by a State of Maine DEP Waste Diversion grant. Affiliated partners generously donating additional time and resources include MOFGA, USDA NRCS - Maine, and the Maine Resource Recovery Association.



Material collected: Low-density polyethylene #4 (LDPE #4) clear plastic used to cover greenhouses, high tunnels, hoop houses and other agricultural structures. Film is normally 5-6 mil thick. Must be relatively clean and dry.



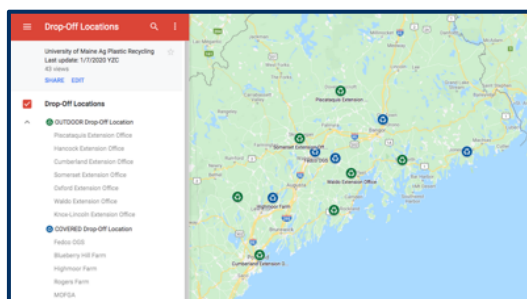
Material not collected: Plastic saturated with water, ice or snow at the time of drop-off. Dirty plastic that has been repurposed, i.e., used for ground tarping or solarization. Certain specialty covers, i.e., reinforced woven film, colored films, solar bubble wrap, polycarbonate panels, etc. Non-structural mulch films, silage wrap, and boat wrap.



Program dates: Collection will start at most locations in early April/May. Outdoor drop-off sites will close in the fall before the snow/ice season. Indoor sites will remain open through early December.



Drop-off sites: A network of convenient sites is being developed throughout Maine. Many outdoor drop-off sites will be accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week. A complete listing of our current drop-off sites, with their dates and hours of operation is available on our website. Larger operations may qualify for on-site collection.



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How to recycle: See website for additional instructions and guidelines for estimating bundle weight.



Remove old plastic and cut into pieces weighing approximately 50 lbs.



Fold plastic into a square bundle to fit the dimensions of a standard wooden pallet.



Label plastic bundles with your name and bundle numbers.



Register bundles for drop-off online or in person.

For more information, contact program manager David McDaniel at agplasticrecycling@maine.edu or 207.342.5971 (UMaine Extension Waldo County office).

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