

# Small & Mid-sized Businesses



*Thank you for your interest in setting up a plastic film recycling program!*

Nearly every business, including small and mid-sized enterprises, buys or sells products that are wrapped in plastic film packaging. This plastic film is an efficient and lightweight way to protect goods from contamination and breakage during shipping.

## Why Recycle Film Plastic?

Small and mid-sized businesses care about smart waste disposal and sustainable recycling practices because it's

the right thing to do and it can affect their bottom lines. Even for small businesses like dentist offices, cleaning services, and small retailers, recycling plastic film can help reduce waste disposal costs by keeping the material out of garbage bins and dumpsters. And, recycling this valuable material will make you feel good about keeping it out of the landfill.

## What is Plastic Film?

Plastic film is thin polyethylene plastic used for wraps, packaging, and commercial/retail use bags. It is sometimes called stretch film or shrink film.

Most plastic film collected for recycling may carry either a #2 HDPE or #4 LDPE mark. Common commercial or industrial use examples include:

- Consumer product packaging (bathroom tissue, paper towels, bulk item case wrap)
- Case, shrink, and pallet (stretch film) wraps
- Furniture and electronics wraps
- Industrial use film and bags designed to protect or transport merchandise
- Bubble wrap and air packets (shipping)
- Grocery, produce, newspaper, and retail bags
- Dry cleaning bags



Keeping the film **CLEAN and DRY** is essential to recycling this material. Recyclers say that it is important to keep the following out of your recycling bins to protect the quality of your material:

- Any material other than #2 or #4 plastic film (can be stiff and/or crinkly)
- Any plastic that tears like paper
- Degradable bags and film
- Rigid plastics—bottles, clamshells, buckets, etc.
- Tape, paper or other waste
- Food Waste
- Rigid foam or packing “peanuts”

Typically, labels and permanent marker on films are okay to recycle as they will be removed in the recycling process.

*If you are not sure about a specific material, please check with your recycler before including any material in your recycling stream.*

*To learn more about identifying your scrap plastic film, visit the “Learn What’s Recyclable” page on [www.plasticfilmrecycling.org](http://www.plasticfilmrecycling.org)*



If you accept film from the public, please add your location to the Film Drop-Off Directory at [www.plasticfilmrecycling.org](http://www.plasticfilmrecycling.org)

