

Plastic Bag Recycling!



- Did you know that plastic bags *photodegrade*, meaning they slowly break down into smaller and smaller bits that can contaminate soils and waterways?
- According to the EPA, only about 12 percent of bags and film were recycled in 2007!
- Small plastic bags made up about 9 percent of the debris found along various U.S. coasts in a five-year study!
- It takes 91 percent less energy to recycle a pound of plastic than it takes to recycle a pound of paper!
- When one ton of plastic bags are reused or recycled, the energy equivalent of 11 barrels of oil is saved!

- In 2007, more than 830 million pounds of plastic bags and film were recycled nationwide, up 27 percent from 2005.
- “More Americans are recycling plastic bags and film than ever before, driven by a growing recognition that plastic is a valuable resource – too valuable to waste,” said Steve Russell, managing director for ACC’s Plastics Division.
- **Plastic bags can be made into dozens of useful new products, such as building and construction products, low-maintenance fencing and decking, and of course, new bags.**

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