

The facts about film plastic



How do I recycle film plastic?

Film plastic can be taken to an MMBC depot for recycling. Many retail locations will also take back plastic shopping bags for recycling. Depots are listed on the MMBC website at www.recyclinginbc.ca.



What is film plastic?

Film plastic refers to the thin, flexible plastic like shopping bags, bread bags and overwrap like plastic on the outside of toilet paper packaging.

Why won't film plastics be accepted in the curbside collection program?

Film plastics (shopping bags and plastic overwrap) mix with other recyclables during collection, are difficult to separate and get caught up in the processing equipment. This leads to less film plastics and other materials being recycled. When plastic film is returned to the depot, staff can ensure material is empty, clean and dry and only the correct types of soft plastic are included. This ensures North American recycling remanufacturers' specifications are met so that these materials can be recycled in BC or North America, and not sent overseas.

What about sandwich wrap and zipper lock bags?

Sandwich wrap, like Saran™ wrap, and zipper lock bags and baggies are not accepted in curbside collection or at MMBC recycling depots. These contain multiple layers of plastics and/or different types of plastics and are incompatible with the local recycling process.

Why is the list of materials accepted in the curbside collection program changing?

MMBC is a province-wide program and collection has to be consistent across all municipalities to ensure everything collected can be recycled.

