

# PLASTIC BAGS AND WRAP



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County Executive

**RETURN TO RETAILERS.**  
**NOT ACCEPTED IN MIXED RECYCLING.**

✓ **CLEAN**

✓ **DRY**

✓ **EMPTY**

## BAGS AND WRAP

- #2 HDPE and #4 LDPE film
- Any item with How2Recycle plastic wrap icon
- Grocery bags
- Newspaper bags
- Cereal/cracker box liners
- Dry cleaning bags
- Bread bags
- Produce bags
- Zip-type bags
- Case wrap
- Deflated air pillows
- Bubble wrap
- Bubble wrap mailer and mailer bags (remove labels)



(No hangers)

## KEEP OUT

- Salad mix bags
- Chip bags
- Pet food bags
- Frozen food bags
- Compostable bags
- Pouches



Visit [www.monroecounty.gov/recycling](http://www.monroecounty.gov/recycling)

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Q | Why can't I recycle bags in my curbside bin?

A | **The equipment at the recycling center is built to sort paper and containers.** Plastic bags wreak havoc on the system by wrapping around gears and clogging screens. This causes equipment down time, reducing the efficiency of recycling.

## Q | Can I put my recyclables in a plastic bag?

A | **No. For safety reasons, all bagged material that arrives at the recycling center is treated as trash.** Don't let your good recycling work go to waste. Keep recyclables unbagged and loose in your recycle bin or cart.

## Q | Where can I recycle plastic bags and film?

A | **Most grocery and retail stores accept clean plastic bags and film for recycling, as well as the Monroe County/ WM ecopark.** To find specific locations visit [www.plasticfilmrecycling.org](http://www.plasticfilmrecycling.org).

## Q | How do I know what type of plastic bags and wrap can be recycled at retailers?

A | **Try the rule of thumb: if you can put your thumb through the bag or wrap and it stretches, it can be included.** If it doesn't stretch or it tears like paper, don't include it. Materials must also be clean and dry.

## Q | Are there exceptions to New York State's ban on plastic bags?

A | **Plastic bags are allowed in New York for uncooked meat, bulk items, sliced or prepared foods, newspapers, prescription drugs, and carryout orders at restaurants.** For more details about the ban visit [www.monroecounty.gov/des-plastic-bags](http://www.monroecounty.gov/des-plastic-bags).

## Q | Are paper bags recyclable curbside?

A | **Yes, paper bags can be recycled curbside.** Cut handles to avoid getting tangled in recycling equipment. Residents are encouraged to bring reusable bags when shopping to reduce waste.



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