What’s so bad about burning ag plastics?

**It’s unhealthy.** Burning plastics releases toxic and potentially cancer causing chemicals into the air.

**It pollutes.** Toxins released into the air during burning can fall on our soils and in our water.

**It’s unsafe.** Burning garbage or brush can lead to wildfires, property damage and sometimes loss of life.

**The smoke and ash can irritate eyes and lungs,** which is especially bad for people with asthma or heart disease.

It’s illegal to burn any plastics in Wisconsin:

Under no circumstances should agricultural plastics be burned, even on your property. Wisconsin rules are clear about this. Visit the DNR website: http://dnr.wi.gov/ Search “ag plastics”

Alternatives to burning

**Pesticide Containers:** Recycle your used pesticide containers.

- **Clean Sweeps** accept used containers with leftover chemicals. Check with your local extension office or visit: http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Clean_Sweep/index.aspx.
- The **Container Services Net** (CSN) offers FREE collection/recycling of triple-rinsed containers from ag retailers, applicators and growers that accumulate at least 1,000 pounds. Visit them at http://www.containersservicesnetwork.com/.

**Film and Other Containers:** Recycling options are limited so landfilling is the best alternative at this time. Minimize waste by purchasing just what you need.

- Cut plastic film to make it more manageable for transport. Slice from the bottom at 10 or 15 foot intervals.

Common ag plastics:

- **Film:** Silage and haylage bags; bunker, greenhouse and row covers; bale wraps and woven tarps; horticultural mulch; other flexible products.

- **Rigid plastic containers:** Pesticide and other product containers, nursery pots.