



Shrink Wrap Recycling for Ohio Marinas

The Ohio Clean Marinas Program (OCMP) works to provide education and outreach on environmental practices to the marina and boating community. The program certifies marinas for taking steps to improve air and water quality, and recognizes boaters for doing the same.

Since 2006, the program has helped facilitate the recycling of low-density polyethylene (LDPE) shrink wrap from marinas and nurseries in Ohio. Since then, nearly 125 marinas and greenhouses have participated in the shrink wrap recycling program, resulting in 2.3 million pounds of shrink wrap being diverted from landfills to-date. Changing market prices and challenges in logistics make recycling a challenge, but the OCMP continues to work with recycling partners and marinas to find solutions. Below are some options for reducing, reusing and recycling shrink wrap:

Reduce

- Encourage boaters to invest in a traditional boat cover, which can last 10-15 years and will pay for itself within three to five years through savings in winterization.
- Consider offering indoor storage to boaters if space is available to eliminate the need for shrink wrap.

Reuse

- Train staff to remove shrink wrap carefully so it can be reused the following season. Most shrink wrap can be used two or three years depending on removal techniques.

Recycle

- Each year, the Ohio Clean Marinas Program assembles a list of recyclers who may be able to receive or pick up your shrink wrap. Complete the form at <http://go.osu.edu/ShrinkWrapRecycling> to be added to the listserv to receive this year's recyclers.

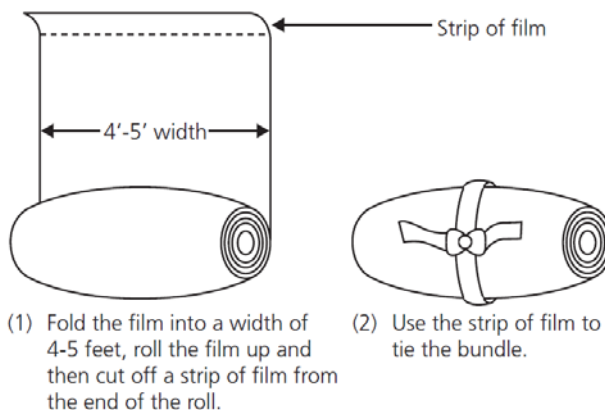


Example of shrink wrap recycling decal and signage provided to certified Ohio Clean Marinas.



Best practices for a successful shrink wrap recycling program at your marina:

1. Connect with other marinas in your region to find out if they are interested in working together on shrink wrap recycling
2. Designate a drop-off area for shrink wrap recycling and train your staff how to properly prepare shrink wrap for recycling
3. Follow instructions provided to you by the recycler
4. If needed, contact the Ohio Clean Marinas Program for shrink wrap decals and signage
5. Provide education and inform boaters the marina is participating in a shrink wrap recycling program (i.e. in newsletters, at front desk, on social media, etc.)



In an effort to make shrink wrap recycling more readily accessible to all boaters, the following marinas have agreed to serve as drop-off locations:

*Emerald Necklace Marina
1500 Cleveland Metro Park Drive
Lakewood, OH 44107*

*Riverfront Yacht Sales & Service
1890 Carter Road
Cleveland, OH 44113*

For additional guidance on how to remove shrink wrap from a vessel, see our step-by-step video at <http://go.osu.edu/ShrinkWrapHowTo>

Please contact us to learn more:
Ohio Clean Marinas Program
ohioseagrant.osu.edu/clean
419-609-4120
ohiocleanmarinas@osu.edu

