



GEORGINA

The Clerks Division

November 29, 2021

COMMUNICATED VIA EMAIL

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**RE: LACK OF RECYCLING OPTIONS
AGRICULTURAL BALE WRAP AND TWINE AND BOAT SHRINK WRAP**

To Whom this May Concern:

Residents of the Town of Georgina are concerned about the lack of options for recycling boat shrink-wrap and agricultural bale wrap and twine. We note that the [Inventory of recycling programs](#) in Canada, listed on the Government of Canada website specifies that the only location in Canada to recycle bale and silage wrap is in Manitoba as part of a pilot program by CleanFARMS. The Region of York has advised that there are additional pilot programs in Bruce County, Clinton, and Ottawa Valley however, none of these locations are accessible to the residents of Georgina, nor to many other rural communities in Ontario. Moreover, CleanFarms has advised that expansion beyond Bruce County is highly unlikely due to financial limitations.

Every year, tons of plastic waste are burned on farms around Ontario and across Canada, and more is buried or dumped in municipal landfills. [CBC reports that a 2012 survey](#) found that only 17 percent of farmers send their plastic for recycling. Accordingly, 83 percent of farmers have been forced to adopt

other means of disposal, largely, or entirely due to a lack of options for agricultural plastics within the province. As you are aware, burning plastics releases potent environmental toxins into the air and buried plastics are not biodegradable.

Just recently, Prince Edward Island announced [regulatory amendments](#) that will transition pilots for items like silage wrap and twine into permanent, industry-funded programs starting December, 2022. More recently still, Quebec took similar [regulatory action](#). Are similar initiatives currently under consideration for Ontario?

We seek to work with you, however possible, and with neighboring municipalities, in order to promote the well-being of our environment and to make recycling programs more accessible to farmers and boaters across the country. We look forward to hearing from you regarding concrete steps that can be implemented between government, agricultural and marine groups, and municipalities for the furtherance of these causes.

Kind Regards,

FOR THE TOWN OF GEORGINA

Council of the Town of Georgina
Georgina Agricultural Advisory Committee
Georgina Environmental Advisory Committee
Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee

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