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Date: December 1, 2015  
Attention: Ontario ag retailers  
Re: 2016 seed & pesticide bag program

Thanks to many of you, the seed & pesticide bag collection pilot project was a success. Many farmers participated and provided positive feedback. With this in mind, the leading Eastern Canadian Seed companies have agreed to provide 100% funding for a permanent collection program.

**We are asking all ag-retailers to act as a collection site for this program in order to make the program accessible to all Ontario farmers.**

**How does it work?**

- The program targets all seed and pesticide bags:
  - smaller bags (up to 30 kg) and large bulk bags (500 to 1,000 kg)
  - paper, plastic, multi-material, and polywoven bags
- Farmers will be given clear plastic collection bags to hold empty bags:
  - Each bag holds 60 to 80 small empty bags
  - Retailers will be asked to distribute the collection bags to farmers, preferably when seed is being delivered
- Bigger bulk bags (that cannot fit in the plastic collection bag) should be neatly folded and tied in bundles of six.
- Ag retailers are asked to store these bags and notify CleanFARMS when a pickup is needed.
- CleanFARMS will facilitate the pickup and disposal of bags.

**Why you should offer this program**

- As an industry, which includes farmers, retailers and seed companies, we need to ensure that agricultural packaging is safely managed.
- It's part of our ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship.
- Help your customers manage the waste that is generated on their farms.

**Confirm your participation early**

- Contact us at [analyst@cleanfarms.ca](mailto:analyst@cleanfarms.ca) or 877-622-4460 ext. 2227 to confirm your involvement or for more information

**What we've accomplished to date:**

- This pilot program has grown from two collection sites in 2013 to over 80 sites in 2015.
- In 2014 alone, 162,000 empty bags were kept out of landfills and converted into energy.

Thank you in advance for making this program possible.

Sincerely,  
Christine Lajeunesse