

Attention Nova Scotia Farmers! Are you interested in recycling ag plastics on your farm near inverness county? Cleanfarms wants to hear from you!

Step 1:	Step 2:
Read through the project outline below and/or learn more about a similar project taking place in New Brunswick .	Contact us to express your interest. Lyndsay D'Entremont at 613-704-7856 or dentremontl@cleanfarms.ca .

Information We Will Need

- ✓ Type of operation (e.g. dairy or beef)
- ✓ Number of head
- ✓ Types of ag plastics used
- ✓ Preference for a compactor or bags
- ✓ Willingness to host demo days
- ✓ Location

Types of Ag Plastics Targeted by This Pilot

The goal of this pilot project is to develop a system for officials and farmers in the Municipality of Inverness County to recycle select agricultural plastics like **bale wrap, silage covers and bags and twine**.

These are important tools that help ensure feed is stored properly and in ideal conditions. These ag plastics require specialized handling, both on the farm and throughout storage and transportation process, to ensure they can be recycled properly rather than being disposed of on-farm or at the landfill.



Bale Wrap (LLDPE)



Silage Covers & Bags (LDPE)



Twine (PP)

These ag plastics can be a nuance at the landfill, so developing a solution to keep these materials out of landfill is a benefit to farmers, rate payers and the boarder community.

How the Project will Work

The purpose of this project is to develop best practices around three main activities; on-farm preparation and storage, collection and consolidation at a central collection site (i.e., the Kenloch Municipal Waste Management Facility), and delivery to end markets (recyclers).



Farmers are needed to provide input into the **on-farm preparation and storage** phase. This involves testing different collection models and providing feedback to Cleanfarms about their experience.

Farmers will likely be asked to test one of two collection models:

1) On-farm Compactors Best for large producers	2) Collection Bag Model Ideal for small producers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers will receive an on-farm compactor (free of charge) that they can use to compress bale wrap and silage covers directly on the farm into a bale. • A typical bale holds bale wrap from 200 bales. A farmer with 80 head will typically produce 2 bales per year. • Farmer will then drop off their bales at predetermined collection sites during dedicated time periods (e.g., the first week of Month XXX). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers will receive free collection bags. • Farmers will place each type of ag plastic in a separate bag (i.e. a separate bag is needed for bale wrap vs. silage covers vs. twine). • Farmer will then drop off their bales at predetermined collection sites during dedicated time periods (e.g., the first week of Month XXX).
<p><i>Farmers who accept an on-farm compactor may be asked to host a 'demo day' on their farm. This will involve allowing farmers and other stakeholders onto their property to demonstrate proper usage of the compactor.</i></p>	<p><i>In order to participate in this pilot, participants must separate their ag plastics (e.g. bale wrap separated from silage bags) and take steps (e.g., shaking the plastic) to help ensure the plastics are clean and free from excessive contamination.</i></p>

After the material is dropped off at a location within Inverness County, Cleanfarms and Inverness County will work together to ensure that material is stored in a way to minimize contamination. Cleanfarms is then responsible for sourcing end markets, finding transporters capable of handling these materials and ultimately transporting them to an end market¹.

About Cleanfarms

Cleanfarms is a not-for-profit industry stewardship organization that delivers programs to Canadian farmers, whether they are industry-funded programs like its long-standing pesticide & fertilizer container recycling program or partner-funded pilot projects like this one. More information is available at www.cleanfarms.ca.

¹ Cleanfarms always prioritizes recycling over alternative disposal methods. At the onset of a project, we sometimes recover contaminated plastics that need to be sent for energy recovery. Based on previous work, we estimate that about 10% of ag plastics collected are sent for energy recovery.