NYS Plastic Bag & Film Plastic Reduction, Reuse and Recycling Act

Peter Pettit, Director, Bureau of Waster Reduction and Recycling
Details

Originally effective January 1, 2009 - Plastic Bags
Amendments effective March 1, 2015 - Plastic Film
Retailer Responsibilities
Manufacturer Responsibilities
Department Responsibilities
Applicable Stores

>10,000 Square Feet of Retail Space
Chains of 5 or More Stores w/> 5,000 Square Feet
Large Enclosed Mall Stores (50,000 Square Feet)
Retailer Responsibilities

Must Establish Take Back Program (Encourage others to as well)

Label the Bags Provided

(PLEASE RETURN TO A PARTICIPATING STORE FOR RECYCLING)

Provide a Visible, Clean, Accessible, Labeled Container

Recycle the Bags and Film Collected

Maintain Records

Reusable Bags Available and Allowed to be Used
Manufacturer Responsibilities

• Require Records be Maintained for 3 Years

• Require Compostable Bags to be Labeled
  (COMPOSTABLE BAG – DO NOT PLACE IN RECYCLING BIN)
Department Responsibilities

- Develop Educational Materials ([http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/50034.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/50034.html))
- Law w/ Amendments, Retailer, Consumer & FAQs
- Provide Information on Recycling Facilities that Recycle Plastic Bags and Film
Additional Details

• Regulations Authorized

• Preemption of Plastic Bag and Film Plastic Recycling
  ▪ "PLEASE REUSE OR RECYCLE AT A PARTICIPATING STORE." - NYC

• Retailer Violations - Information/$100/$500
More Information:

- Complaints – How Handled
  - Staff Turnover, Store Policy, Contamination/Location
- Normal Steps for Enforcement
- No Penalties Issued Yet
- Numbers?
- Recycling Outlets
More Information:

• Bureau of Waste Reduction and Recycling
  518-402-8706

• E-Mail @ recycling@dec.ny.gov

• Website @ http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/50034.html
Thank You
&
Ideas for Compliance/Education