



Once delivered to Mondo Polymers facility, the material is then processed and converted to highway department-approved guard rail spacer blocks. Approximately 21,000 blocks were constructed thanks to this 2006 recycling effort from plastic that has been land-filled in the past.

### ***Is boat shrink-wrap filling your trash dumpsters?***

Boat shrink-wrap is made of low-density polyethylene (LDPE), which can be recycled and used in the manufacture of new products such as plastic bags, guard rail blocks, wheel chocks, lawn edging, plastic banners, plastic lumber (decking, benches, etc.), and more!

### ***Would your marina like to participate in a program to recycle that material?***

In 2007, the boat shrink-wrap program will be expanded to include the entire Lake Erie coastline. Marinas, yacht clubs, dry marinas and boat storage yards can coordinate pick-up schedules to accommodate large and small quantity clients.

To find out how to participate, visit: [ohiocleanmarina.osu.edu](http://ohiocleanmarina.osu.edu) or contact Gary Comer, Jr. at [comer.29@osu.edu](mailto:comer.29@osu.edu) or 419.609.4120.

# The Boat Shrink-Wrap Recycling Program



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The Ohio Clean Marinas Program is a proactive partnership among the Ohio Sea Grant College Program, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Lake Erie Marine Trades Association, and other public and private sector partners that are connected to Ohio's recreational boating industry. The program is designed to encourage marinas and boaters to use simple, innovative solutions to keep Ohio's coastal and inland waterway resources clean. The Ohio Clean Marinas Program assists these operators in protecting the resources that provide their livelihood - clean water and fresh air.



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## The Boat Shrink-Wrap Recycling Program

In the spring of 2006, the Ohio Clean Marinas Program, in partnership with Mondo Polymer Technologies, Inc. completed the first year of a two-year pilot program, offering marina operators and boaters a welcomed cost effective alternative to recycle boat shrink-wrap.

The program provided a no-cost shrink-wrap collection service once every two weeks for more than 50 marinas located in Erie, Ottawa, and Lorain counties. In addition, scheduled pick-ups occurred at 20 marinas located in Lucas, Cuyahoga, and Lake counties by appointment.

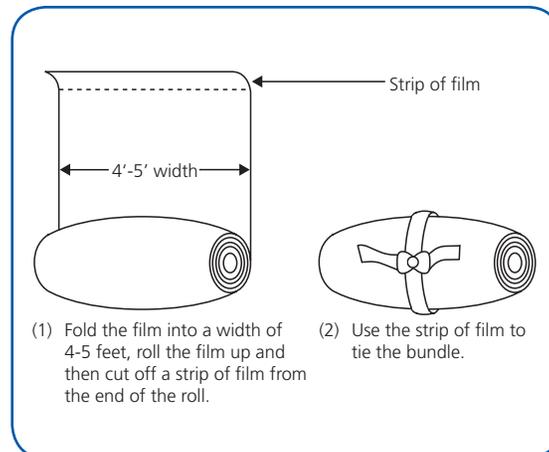
Thanks to this program, more than 50 tons of boat shrink-wrap and more than 23 tons of greenhouse plastics were recycled into approximately 21,000 polymer guardrail blocks.



Packer truck used by Mondo Polymers to collect boat shrink-wrap and seasonal nursery plastic. Workers collected between 10,000 -15,000 pounds in a single truck load.

## What You Can Do:

1. Remove all lumber, metal zippers, reusable vents, rope, and other non shrink-wrap materials (batteries, soda cans, screws, nails) from the shrink-wrap. The doors and vents may be reusable next year.
2. Keep the shrink-wrap as clean as possible – gravel, sand, and excess dirt make the recycling process more difficult.
3. Maximize the amount of shrink-wrap that will fit in your storage area and reduce water weight by rolling the shrink-wrap into a bundle up to five feet long, similar to a rolled up sleeping bag. Tie the bundle with a strip of shrink-wrap or ribbon strapping (see diagram below). While rolling, try to keep the shrink-wrap clean.



4. Place rolled shrink-wrap in the designated containers marked "**SHRINK-WRAP ONLY.**" Make sure to put only shrink-wrap into the container or storage area. Contaminated and dirty shrink-wrap may disrupt the recycling process decreasing the value of the material.



Marinas temporarily stored shrink wrap material in a variety of cost effective and creative ways.



Bales were loaded on tractor trailers for transport to Mondo Polymers, Inc. located in Reno, Ohio. Each trailer holds approximately 30,000 pounds or 15 tons of material.