

NexTrex Plastic Film Recycling

HMSC Green Team Tip

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[Trex](#) is a company that produces composite decking material out of a blend of 95% reclaimed wood and plastic film. Through their NexTrex program, they collect household plastic polyethylene film that can be recycled and made into Trex products. Fred Meyer has a NexTrex collection bin at the entrance where you can bring your plastic film for recycling.

Our local trash hauler does not accept plastic bags or film in the blue recycling bin.

Therefore, the NexTrex bin is a good option for keeping these kinds of plastics out of landfills.



Here's what members of the HMSC Green Team have learned about this opportunity:

- **Try to NOT accumulate plastic film in the first place.** This is the first and most important step. Consciously purchase items that are packaged in little to no plastic, request eco-friendly shipping materials, and bring your own produce/grocery bags to the store.
- **What kinds of plastic film can be recycled in the NexTrex bin?**
 - Plastic films labeled with #2 or #4 recycling symbol (polyethylene films)
 - Pallet wrap and stretch film
 - Grocery bags
 - Bread bags
 - Case overwrap
 - Dry cleaning bags
 - Newspaper sleeves
 - Ice bags
 - Wood pellet bags
 - Ziplock and other reclosable food storage bags
 - Produce bags
 - Bubble wrap and air pillow
 - Salt bags
 - Cereal box liners
 - Plastic shipping envelopes

All plastic must be clean, dry and free of food residue.

Print a [flyer](#) to post near your office and home recycling stations.

- **What kinds of plastic film can NOT be recycled in the Nextrex bin?**

- Degradable/compostable bags or film packaging
- Pre-washed salad mix bags
- Frozen food bags
- Candy bar wrappers
- Bags that hold Halloween candy
- Chip bags

- **I have plastic that's not in either list. Can it be included?**

Here are a couple of ways for you to tell its polyethylene or not:

1. Check to see if the packaging is labeled with at 2 or 4. If so, it can be included.
2. See if the packaging will stretch when you pull it. If so, it can be included.
3. Is the packaging shiny or make a crinkly/crunchy sound. If so, it's NOT acceptable.

- **Where do I bring the plastics?**

The Nextrex bin is located at the main entrance at Fred Meyer (150 NE 20th St in Newport). Pack your films into one bag and drop off the whole bag in the bin when the store is open between 7AM and 10PM.

- **What happens next to the plastic in the bin?**

We asked a Trex representative this question, and she replied:

“Trex has an agreement with Fred Meyer to take the plastic bags they collect and recycle them into Trex Composite Decking. The bags you take to the store are shipped to Fred Meyer distribution center. The distribution center bales all of the plastic bags they receive into 1000 pound bales. When the distribution center accumulates 40 – 1000 pound bales, they are loaded on to a tractor trailer and shipped to Trex in Fernley, NV. This is where they are used as a raw material to make Trex Composite Decking boards.”

- **Does the bin at Fred Meyer experience issues with contamination?**

“Contamination is relatively low and it does not impact our recycling efforts.”



RESOURCES

- Print a [flyer](#) to post near your office and home recycling stations.
- Watch a [video](#) of how Nextrex works.