

USDA ARS CNRC-Based SOPs

Safely Recycling Plastic Bags

REFERENCES:

Executive Order 13423 requires federal agencies to explore recycling options.
REE Manual 230, "Safety, Health & Environmental Management Program"
ISO Standard 14001, "Environmental Management Systems".

BUSINESS UNIT: Children's Nutrition Research Unit (CNRC)

This SOP has been written for the CNRC Personnel to maintain an active part in recycling plastic bags on a regular basis.

ASPECT: Use of Plastic bags

IMPACT(S):

1. Filling landfill with plastic bags.

FOR THE IMPACTS, ARE THERE:

1. Emergency preparedness issues? None
2. Compliance issues? Executive Order 13423 requires federal agencies to explore recycling options.

HOW WOULD YOU CHARACTERIZE THE PRIORITY OF EACH IMPACT?

1. Filling landfill with plastic: High priority

PURPOSE OF THE SOP FOR RECYCLING PLASTIC CONTAINERS:

1. To identify the procedure for all Personnel to distribute their plastic bags for recycling.

SCOPE STATEMENT ON THE RECYCLING OF ALUMINUM CONTAINERS:

1. This procedure applies to all personnel involved in the use of plastic bags/shipping air bags, etc and the removal of those bags to a recycling Bin for removal process.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. The CNRC has a Plastic bag collection site with the signage "Plastic Bag only" on the container located at the following CNRC locations:
 - a. 1st floor by CNRF entry door/freight elevator
 - b. 2nd floor in the vending machine lobby
2. Only put plastic bag materials (grocery store bags, air shipping bags [please deflate if possible], bubble wrap) in the plastic bin.
3. Once the Plastic Bin Container has been filled, Chris Mayfield will remove the plastic container in the bin and bring to the CNRC loading dock.
4. The filled plastic bag container will be weighed and the weight documented on the CNRC Green Calendar by Chris Mayfield.
5. The plastic bags would be provided to the BCM personnel for pick up on Tuesday/Thursday during the regularly occurring pick up at the CNRC.

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MONITORING: None

CORRECTIVE ACTION: None

VERIFICATION AND RECORD KEEPING:

1. The EMS Coordinator will evaluate the Green Calendar for the CNRC and will update an excel spreadsheet for all lbs recorded and reported to ARS as required.

DATE EMPLEMENTED: April 21, 2017

BY: Perry Rainosek

DATE REVIEWED: April 21, 2017

BY: Dr Dennis M. Bier

DATE REVISED: _____ BY: _____