

Hawaii Food Industry Association
Plastic Bag Recycling Program
In partnership with:

progressive **bag** alliance

*Best manufacturing practices.
Environmental leadership.
Sound public policy.*

www.hawaiifood.com



PLEASE RECYCLE
CLEAN, DRY PLASTIC BAGS HERE

In partnership with the Progressive Bag Alliance

At-Store Plastic Bag Recycling Collection Toolkit

For Grocers and Other Retailers

Setting Up Plastic Bag Collection Bins

The first step in setting up bag collection bins is to determine the size, location and type of collection bin you need. It is important to obtain and use bins that deter contamination. Good signage is key. Make sure that the bin mouth has limited access, but is not too small, and that consumers are able to read the sign and recognize that the bin is for bags only – not garbage. It is good to place the signage close to the bin opening and use transparent bins to help with quality control.

Bin Location

The bins should be placed in a visible area of your store – preferably near the front entrance. Be sure to keep in mind that the bins need to be durable enough to withstand ongoing floor cleaning in a high-traffic area, and that bins should be placed in protected areas unless they are designed to be placed outdoors.

Link-A-Bag Systems

Open Frame Racks in place of conventional bins have proven to be effective in maintaining quality. This type of collection bin involves a rack-style support that holds a clear polyethylene plastic bag. The company claims that the clear bag reinforces the fact that the receptacle is for recyclables only, thus reducing contamination. Packs of bags and custom graphics space are available. We currently have these bins on Maui available at no cost on a first come first get basis.

Signage

The most critical aspect for program success is to have clear signs on the recycling bins that direct the customer to the bins and instruct on what bags to place in the bins. All plastic bag collection bins should be properly



labeled “Recycle Your Plastic Shopping Bags Here” or “Recycle Plastic Shopping Bags Only” and should be lined with a clear polyethylene plastic bag to ease collection. In general, signage must clearly and simply communicate to consumers what you want them to do. It is helpful to have the signage on the top of the bin or close to the opening to maximize visibility.

Provide specific instructions, such as:

- Please recycle clean, dry plastic bags here
- Empty bags and turn them inside out
- Do NOT include receipts or other debris
- Place all your empty plastic bags into one bag
- Please include: plastic shopping bags, grocery bags, plastic newspaper bags, plastic drycleaning bags, all clean, clear bags labeled with ♻️ or ♻️
- Do NOT include: food wrap (e.g. Saran Wrap), plastic bags or other film that has had direct contact with food or organic material
- Thank you for recycling!

Sample sign are below. We need further consensus on signage that will include everyone involved, and what the theme should be. In the meantime, the necessary information is included in the signage shown.

What to do with the bags collected at your store:

We are currently working on this solution. In the meantime, it will be necessary for you to store the bags in a location that will keep them dry and free of soot.



Be a Kahu mālama 'aina

(Guardian of the land)

Help protect our 'aina from plastic bag litter.

Clean, Dry Plastic Bags Only please.

- Empty bags and turn them inside out.
- Do NOT include receipts or other debris.
- Place all your empty plastic bags into one bag.
- Please include: plastic shopping bags, grocery bags, plastic newspaper bags, plastic drycleaning bags, all clean, clear bags labeled with #2 or #4 logo.
- Do NOT include: food wrap (e.g. Saran Wrap), plastic bags or other film that has had direct contact with food or organic material.
- Thank you for recycling!



A PROJECT OF THE
HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION,
THE PROGRESSIVE BAG ALLIANCE, AND THIS STORE