Tri County Solid Waste
Ag Bag Collection Program
WHY DO IT?

To get feedlot operators off their old burn & bury habits – Dioxins anyone?

It’s a lost opportunity & valuable resource that should recaptured

It’s the right thing to do – just like any other Best Management Practice (BMP) used in farming

Ag Bags are made of high quality Polyethylene resins, they are a petroleum product and if they are to be burned, they should be burned in an environmentally & efficient manor – Waste to Energy facility
QUICK FACTS

* Ag Bag collection is done only in Sibley County, MN

* Ag Bag collection program is now in its 8th year, since 2007

* Started out landfilling collected materials

* Ag Bags are collected in the months of April and October each year

* We have 3 collection location at Ag Coops in Arlington, Gaylord, Gibbon

* Ag Bag program is funded by a Solid Waste Special Assessment Fee of $18.00

  * * * Currently NO charge to the Feedlot Producer
Materials brought in by Ag Producers
Different types of materials

Ag Bag Plastic

Seed Bag plastic AND paper
Nylon feed bags
Nylon and Plastic twine
Nylon mesh hay bale netting
Processing – Quick Facts

Process uses a shredder, granulator, conveyor belts and auger

Shredder has 2 – 75 hp motors and has no screen

Can run both motors or just one for shredding

The granulator is the bottle neck, it takes the plastic down to a 3/8 or 5/8 size

Granulator has 1-75 hp motor, more granulators are recommended for faster processing

Can process 3 to 4 tons of plastic in a 10 hour shift with current equipment

Video link -  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PRZqUKkEDwQ&feature=youtu.be
Advertising

Ag Bag Disposal at 3 locations for Sibley County Farmers

- South Central Grain & Energy - Gibbon
- United Farmers Coop (UFC) - Gaylord
- Hutchinson Coop - Arlington

PLEASE NOTE!
THIS IS A COLLECTION FOR AGRICULTURE AND SEED BAG WASTE ONLY.
NO COMMERCIAL or RESIDENTIAL GARBAGE, CHEMICALS or BULBS.
NO HAZARDOUS WASTE WILL BE ACCEPTED.
NO HERBICIDES OR PESTICIDES WILL BE ACCEPTED.
ABUSE OF THIS PILOT PROJECT WILL RESULT IN TERMINATION OF THIS PROGRAM.

Three (3) locations have agreed to keep a roll-off container at their facility for the entire month of Oct 2014 so that Sibley County Farmer’s will have a place to properly dispose of their Ag Bags at no charge. Simply bring in your old Ag Bags to your nearest location and drop them off at no charge to you.

For more information, contact the Sibley Tri-County Solid Waste Office at 507-381-9196
County Environmental Services at 507-237-4091
Challenges

Need more feedlot participation, more materials – economies of scale

Need more participating recycling vendors / entities

Logistics, financial, quality of product

Bio Security

Manufacturer Responsibility???
Participation & Possible Expansion

* Sibley County currently gets approximately 12 to 15 feedlot producers participating out of roughly 25 feedlot operations that use Ag Bags

**Sibley County is considering extended availability of program, possibly make boxes available 4 to 6 months in stead of current 2 months

***Currently evaluating Le Sueur & Nicollet Counties feedlot operators participation interest and level of commitment from County Commissioners and County Boards
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Sibley County Environmental Services Director – Jeff Majeski

Sibley County Commissioners & Tri County Commissioners

GreenTech Recycling – Kash Khan

McLeod County Solid Waste Director – Ed Homan & staff

Recycling Association of Minnesota Staff

MN Pollution Control Agency Staff