



environment  
SOUTHLAND

Te Taiaro Tonga



## Managing and Minimising Farm Waste

### What is farm waste?

Waste is any material that is unwanted, unvalued and discarded by its owner.

Common waste materials found on farm include: plastic wrap, baling twine, plastic chemical containers, feed and fertiliser bags, paper and cardboard, machinery, motors, electrical parts, fencing, railing, corrugated iron, vehicle batteries, household rubbish (furniture, appliances, food waste), paint, glass, rubber, piping and fittings, timber, concrete, engine and hydraulic oil, dead stock and animal medicines.

### Good management practices for farm waste

Reducing, sorting and disposing of your rubbish responsibly means you can avoid the need for a farm rubbish hole or burning.

#### Avoid burning

The environment is affected by what you burn, how you burn and when you burn. Burning waste can release hazardous and toxic substances into the air. The smoke can affect people's health, roof water supplies and crops.

#### Avoid burying

On-farm rubbish dumps can cause environmental problems through seepage and poor siting. Burying waste produces leachate from water and other liquids which pick up heavy metals and decomposing organic waste. Uncollected leachate can contaminate our water and soil.

### What are the benefits of waste minimisation?

- Reduced costs through efficient processes and purchasing.
- Environmental benefits – reduced pollution, energy consumption, conservation of natural resources, extension of landfill capacity and protecting the environment for current and future generations.
- Demonstrate social responsibility and environmental awareness.

### Waste minimisation

Waste minimisation is about efficiently using your resources to prevent waste from being created in the first place.

**REDUCE:** The most efficient way to reduce waste is not to produce it, by buying fewer products and purchasing products that last longer or are easily repaired.

**REUSE:** Use an item more than once. Farmers are good at repairing and reusing materials where possible. (plastic containers, timber, tyres, oil iron, clothing)

**RECYCLE:** Reprocessing materials to be used as a raw material for another industry. Sort farm and household waste types responsibly into recycle bins.

**RECOVERY:** Extraction of materials or energy from waste for further use or processing – ie composting, using waste oil as a fuel.

**RESPONSIBLY:** Manage and dispose of waste at approved facilities, with approved collectors

### Waste disposal options

#### Hazardous Waste

Substances such as agrichemicals, fuel and oils are a hazardous waste and should be appropriately disposed of. Small 20l containers can be taken to a hazardous storage shed at your local waste transfer station, including gas canisters, batteries and other hazardous waste.

Contact Environment Southland for advice on disposing of hazardous material and agrichemicals like insecticides, herbicides and legacy chemicals such as DDT, 245T, dieldrin or other Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs).

#### Baleage Wrap

Plasback ([www.plasback.co.nz](http://www.plasback.co.nz)) collects a variety of waste plastics including baleage wrap, silage pit covers, small low density polyethylene feed bags, shrink wrap and pallet covers, polypropylene feed, seed and fertiliser bags.

Southland disAbility Enterprises accepts baleage wrap for recycling.

#### Batteries

Store old batteries under cover and in a spill tray so no acid or lead corrosion can run into stormwater drains or soil. Dispose of them at the hazardous storage shed at your local transfer station.

#### Dead Stock

Bury in an offal hole. Offal holes must be kept separate to farm waste and any carcasses should be buried not burnt.

#### Household and solid waste

Use a skip bin or wheelie bin for regular collection and disposal of solid waste to a transfer station. Only include dry and non-hazardous waste materials. Keep skips covered and in an area where liquid spills or leaks can't get into stormwater. Prevent leaks by removing liquid before disposing.





Sort farm and household wastes into recycle bins and drop off at any of the Recycling Centres located throughout Southland.

### Metal waste

Reuse or recycle. Contact a scrap merchant to collect engines, vehicle parts, nails, wire, iron, copper etc for recycling.

Your local transfer station accepts scrap metals for recycling including vehicles, machinery parts, fencing wire, corrugated iron, gates etc.

### Paper and Cardboard

Free recycling drop off centres are strategically located throughout the Southland region for recycling paper and cardboard.

### Paint

Your local transfer station accepts leftover paints for reuse or disposal.

Use suppliers who offer a take back scheme for paint and containers like *Resene* and *Dulux*.

Recycle unwanted paint through recycling schemes such as Resene's Paintwise programme – [www.paintwise.co.nz](http://www.paintwise.co.nz)

### Plastic containers

Reuse and recycle. Reduce your costs by buying products from suppliers that provide a collection, re-use or refill service for containers. Choose manufacturers which are brand owners in the Agrecovery container recycling programme.

### Tyres

Contact TyreTrack for information about registered collectors in your area.

### Used oil, fuel and solvents

Reuse or recycle. Approved collectors can take and recycle used oil, filters and solvents.

Your local transfer station accepts used oil. It can be used as a fuel source for the heating.

Store and label new and used oil drums and containers in a bunded and covered area.

## Agrecovery

Are currently running two nationwide programmes:

- Containers programme for the recovery of agrichemical, animal health and dairy hygiene plastic containers. Agrichemical containers can also be recycled through the Agrecovery rural recycling programme.
- Agrecovery chemicals programme is a safe and simple nationwide collection and disposal system for unwanted and expired agricultural chemicals.

For more detailed information and to book your chemicals visit [www.agrecovery.co.nz](http://www.agrecovery.co.nz), email [info@agrecovery.co.nz](mailto:info@agrecovery.co.nz), or call 0800 AGRECOVERY (0800 247 326).

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## Further Information

**For more information regarding farm waste, rules or good practice, contact Environment Southland, phone 0800 76 88 45 or visit [www.es.govt.nz](http://www.es.govt.nz).**