

MARBLEHEAD REPORTER

Shrinkwrap recycling returns to Marblehead

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Every year, U.S. boat owners generate about 92 million pounds of shrink wrap. The vast majority of this plastic material ends up in landfills and often contributes to plastic pollution in our oceans. A difference can be made in reducing the waste by considering other options for covering boats, or by recycling or reusing existing shrink wrap.

RECYCLE: If your boat is currently shrink-wrapped, bring used shrink wrap to the Marblehead Transfer Station beginning this spring to a specified container. No town trash permit is required. Remove all ties, zippers, rope and tape before depositing the plastic in the container.

If your boatyard is handling your shrink wrap removal, be sure to ask them to recycle it.

REUSE: Consider reusing your shrink wrap next year. It will be good for your wallet and the planet. For tips on reusing shrink wrap, check out this video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=99_qE4s3GQg.

Next year, consider buying a canvas cover for your boat. Did you know that switching to a reusable cover for a 24-foot boat could save you nearly \$2,000 over the cover's ten-year lifespan?

Together we can reduce waste and make boating kinder to our planet!

For more information on shrink wrap recycling in the Northeast go to <http://www.cleanoceanaccess.org/shrink-wrap-recycling/>.