Alternatives to Trashing Your Plastic Bags

Many stores and nonprofit organizations welcome clean, dry plastic bags for reuse and recycling. Here are a few options in Richland County.

Recycle Them Here!

Publix Supermarkets

2800 Rosewood Drive, Columbia, SC 29205 | 803-806-8839 4840 Forest Drive, Columbia, SC | 803-790-4920 501 Gervais Street, Columbia, SC | 803-255-4351 150 Harbison Boulevard, Columbia, SC | 803-407-0449 2732 N. Lake Drive | 803-407-2216 4611 Hard Scrabble Road, Columbia, SC 29229 | 803-699-8131 10128 Two Notch Road, Columbia, SC | 803-788-9484

Publix offers bins at all their retail locations where shoppers can drop off egg cartons and any brand of paper or plastic shopping bags for recycling, including plastic sleeves from dry cleaning and newspapers. All bags should be clean and dry. Bins are usually located near the front entrance of the store.

Find more dropoff locations here, including Food Lion, Walmart and Lowe's stores: https://www.plasticfilmrecycling.org/recycling-bags-and-wraps/find-drop-off-location/

Donate Them to These Organizations!

Harvest Hope Food Bank | 2220 Shop Road | Columbia, SC 29201 | 803-254-4432

Harvest Hope Food Bank uses approximately 4,000 recycled plastic bags daily in its food distribution operations. Donated plastic bags help save the food bank tens of thousands of dollars in supply costs annually. Drop them off Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 1 PM.

Christian Assistance Bridge | 126 Blythewood Road | Blythewood, SC 29016 | 803-786-1903 Like Harvest Hope, the Christian Assistance Bridge accepts plastic shopping bags for food distribution. Drop them off Mondays and Thursdays, 9 AM to 1 PM.