ACRC
AG CONTAINER RECYCLING COUNCIL

New York

2,400,000+ lbs. New York Collected Since 1994	***95,000+ lbs.*** New York 5-Year Average	***268,000,000+ lbs.*** National Collected Since 1992	***10,000,000+ lbs.*** National Average / Year

ACRC Program

ACRC is a not-for-profit trade association representing the agricultural chemicals industry. Founded in February 1992, ACRC funds, operates, and promotes a nationwide producer-responsibility program for the collection and recycling of triple- or pressure-rinsed, empty, one-way rigid HDPE plastic agricultural chemical containers (all types, up to 55 gallons) — including crop protection, animal health, specialty pest control, micronutrient, biologicals, fertilizer, and adjuvant/surfactant containers. With over 70 Regular (manufacturers and formulators of agricultural products) and Affiliate (manufacturers of HDPE containers or container components) Members, the program is entirely funded through member dues — a true producer-responsibility model that has operated successfully for over three decades.

New York Program

In New York, ***RPM eco*** serves as ACRC's designated contractor, collecting containers from retailers, applicators, and farmers throughout the state. ACRC's New York program has operated continuously since 1994, making it one of ACRC's longest-standing state programs. Since inception, the program has collected and recycled more than 2,400,505 pounds of agricultural chemical container plastic. The program is active in 31 counties across 135+ unique collection sites, including 81 farms and 41 ag retail locations. Collection occurs at municipal facilities, landfills, agricultural retailers, professional applicators (ground and aerial), environmental management facilities, farms, landscape and weed management operations, and aquatic management operations. No collection fee to growers or commercial applicators in most cases.

Stewardship Plan

Core Principles	*ACRC's Existing Practice*
Producer-funded statewide program	ACRC has operated a fully member-funded, statewide New York collection program continuously since 1994 — at no cost to the state or taxpayers.
Reduce environmental and human health impacts through waste reduction, reuse, recycling	Mandatory triple-/pressure-rinse protocol (ANSI/ASABE S596, developed with ACRC's involvement) achieves 99.99%[1] active-ingredient removal before containers are chipped and recycled. Reuse-first practices are an option for larger containers designed as returnable/refillable under EPA regulations.
Convenient, statewide collection coverage	31 New York counties and 135+ unique collection sites served by contractor RPM eco, including applicators, golf courses, nurseries, and greenhouses. ACRC has over 2,500 collection sites nationwide. Containers never enter curbside or household waste streams.
Responsible end markets	Collected containers are triple rinsed, chipped, and then recycled into approved productive end uses, such as agricultural drainpipe, landscape edging, nursery pots, industrial pallets, and other durable products, all rigorously vetted by the ACRC Technical Committee.
Public education, outreach, and communication	Bilingual (English/Spanish) triple-rinsing videos, free brochures, posters, and checklists; multilingual "Clean Means Clean" visual aids; presentations to universities, extension agencies, ag chemical trade associations, and aerial applicators; and promotion at major agricultural events.
Measurable performance and annual reporting	Annual member sales surveys are compared against pounds collected; New York program tonnage has been tracked continuously since 1994.

Continuous Growth

- Encouraging and educating growers and applicators to recycle containers with ACRC contractors
- Identifying additional New York locations that could serve as ACRC collection sites.
- Strengthening outreach partnerships with agricultural agencies, extension services, retailers, and applicator associations
- Connecting manufacturers of approved HDPE end-use products with ACRC program contractors

[1] EPA 40 CFR 156.146; 165.25; 2006 Container and Containment Rule