

## DANGERS OF BALING TWINE



Baling twine is used for baling hay and straw that is fed to or used by livestock.

Because of its strength and long-life, twine does not easily decompose and will last indefinitely.

Baling twine is commonly found on ranches, farms, arenas, ranchettes, stockyards and fairgrounds.

Twine is made of polypropylene, a non-biodegradable plastic. It comes in several colors and also comes in mesh form. Twine is usually orange and mesh is green.

Polypropylene (twine) remains in the environment for an extremely long time.

Smoke from burning twine is not safe to breathe. Burning twine is prohibited in some states with penalties of high fines.

### Loose twine is cause for animal welfare concern.



Loose baling twine easily entangles animals, wrapping around legs, heads, necks, antlers, and wings.

This leads to constriction, infection, debilitation, starvation, suffering and sometimes death.

Ospreys often become entangled in the twine they place in their nests. The birds suffer long and painful deaths due to starvation, constriction and infection.



Twine gets stuck in sheep's wool, which lowers its value or renders it useless.

Loose twine in fields gets baled up with freshly cut hay that is fed to livestock. Livestock ingest the twine causing internal blockages.



Loose twine clogs highway maintenance equipment, especially the mowers used to control and minimize weeds, grass and fire danger along roadways. This leads to costly repairs and delays in mowing, all at an added cost to taxpayers.

While most users of twine store and dispose of used and loose twine responsibly, it often falls out of the back of pickup trucks. It is commonly found along roadways and in fields.

