

It's #WasteWednesday. Did you know only about nine percent of all plastics in Canada are actually recycled?

The rest end up in landfills, incinerators, or as litter contaminating our environment. The M.D. of Bonnyville encourages residents to use less plastic, reuse plastic items such as to-go food containers, and to recycle household plastic items that can be shredded and pelletized, such as shampoo bottles and yogurt containers.

Please be sure to follow the stickers on our recycling bins, as seen below.



Welcome back to #WasteWednesday! Today we have a note about our door-to-door waste collection program. Please remember - if your black cart doesn't get emptied on your scheduled day, please leave it out for the next day. Sometimes our collection schedule gets delayed due to weather or equipment breakdown.

We thank you in advance for your patience when we are dealing with unforeseen delays.

Welcome to #WasteWednesday!

Today, we're talking about why it's important to keep our bin sites, landfills and transfer stations clean.

At our 31 bin sites and seven landfill/transfer stations, we do our best to keep waste contained to the bins to limit our impact on the surrounding environment and wildlife.

To help us with this, we are asking that you, our users, please keep the lids on bins closed to deter wildlife from getting into the waste or having it spread to the surrounding environment.

We do our best to keep bins emptied, but equipment breakdowns do occur, and we can get delayed.

If bins are full please contact us at 780-826-3951 and let us know so we can make arrangements to get to your preferred bin site as soon as possible.

Please don't leave your garbage on the ground. Not only do birds get into the bags and make a big mess spreading garbage into the surrounding properties, but it can also attract bears.



We have a big announcement for #WasteWednesday! In January (2020), Alberta Agriculture and Forestry announced a three-year pilot program to help address the issue of recycling agricultural plastic waste, specifically grain bags and twine. The M.D. submitted an application to be a collection site for the program and, in August, we were selected to be one of the twenty collection sites across the province. The central collection site will be located at the Public Works yard where grain bags and bags of clean twine will be stockpiled for shipping. Local producers can make arrangements to have their grain bags rolled or to drop off their clean twine at the Public Works yard by appointment, or they can continue to drop it off at one of the M.D. Landfill/Transfer Stations at no charge. Bale wrap and net wrap will continue to be accepted and shipped for recycling, but each product must be clean and bagged separately or it will, unfortunately, be classified as waste. To make an appointment to drop off your clean twine, or have your grain bags rolled, please call Waste Supervisor Brad Ollen at 780-826-3951.



Welcome to #WasteWednesday! Did you know the M.D. constructed a shingle recycling area at the La Corey Landfill in 2017?

Since then, almost 900 cubic metres of shingles have been diverted from our landfills.

You may be thinking, what do they do with those shingles? The answer? They will be used for paving.

So, if you are an M.D. resident and get your roof redone, haul the old shingles to La Corey where they will be accepted at no charge*.

Thanks for helping us keep the M.D. clean!

*Please note - commercial roofing companies will be charged a tipping fee.



Today, we're doing #WasteWednesday Part 2.

We'd like to take this time to say we hope you had a Merry Christmas. We also want to make sure now that the holidays are over, you're putting your old Christmas trees where they belong. Real trees shouldn't be put in our compost bins. Instead, please put them in our wood piles at our landfills/transfer stations. If you are throwing away a fake tree, please make sure it goes in the household waste section at one of our landfills/transfer stations.

Together, we can help keep the M.D. clean.



Rolling right along, today's #WasteWednesday is all about our grain bag recycling program. The M.D. acquired a grain bag roller in 2018. Last year, Ag & Waste staff went to farms around the M.D. and rolled 29 bales of grain bags - which works out to about 8,700 feet!

These bags are then sent to a recycler, where they can be made into high-grade plastic pellets, which are then sold to plastics manufacturers, who will make them into anything from plastic storage containers to black garbage bags.

Do you have some grain bags in your field that need to be recycled? Give our Waste Management Supervisor a call at 780-826-3951 to be added to the list for this year's grain bag rolling program.

It's time for #WasteWednesday again!

Did you know approximately 75 percent of all material brought to the M.D. landfills/transfer stations is eventually transferred out of the area?

All household waste is transferred to a Class 2 Landfill in Thorhild County. Plastics, paper, cardboard, baler twine, mattresses, propane tanks, used oil products, paint, electronics, metal, and tires are also shipped out for recycling. Glass, concrete, shingles, and compost are collected and stored for future reuse at M.D. sites. The only material that stays at our sites for the long term is Class 3 dry inert waste, which is landfilled, and clean burnable materials.



For today's #WasteWednesday, we want to shed some light on what plastics can and cannot be recycled. Due to changes in the global recycling system, we have to be a little more proactive in our recycling efforts. As we mentioned a couple of weeks ago, improperly sorted recyclables can lead to entire loads going to the landfill instead of being recycled.

Our Waste Supervisor has compiled a list to let you know what can go in the M.D. recycling bins, and what cannot.

 Can Be Recycled

Hard plastic containers, tubs and bottles
Detergent, condiment, and shampoo bottles
Margarine and yogurt containers
Ice cream pails

 Cannot Be Recycled (place in household waste)

Plastic film, bags, wrap, plant pots
Lids and caps
Flexible packaging
Clamshells for berries, salad, baking
Styrofoam
Single use plastics - i.e. straws, cutlery, coffee pods, coffee cup lids

By following these lists, and finding alternatives for those that go into the garbage (i.e. use reusable beeswax wrap to replace plastic wrap) , we can help divert more waste from the landfill.

Welcome to #WasteWednesday! Today, we're talking about the importance of sorting.

In the ever-changing recycling industry, it is extremely important to be putting the proper materials in the designated locations.

When contamination of recycling streams occur, it drastically affects the recyclability of the material, which means those bins designated for recycling will often end up being landfilled. For example, in the M.D. we have compost bins for leaves, grass, and food scraps. These bins are not for pallets, lumber, and other wood waste. When these bins are contaminated this material will be landfilled.

We all need to do our part to ensure the recycling system works for everyone.

Keep up the good job everyone, and thanks for helping keep our M.D. clean and green.

It's all about metal for this week's #WasteWednesday!

1. Our metal recycler recently hauled away our metal to be recycled. Unfortunately, the driver came across 25 propane tanks buried in the metal pile at one site! Propane tanks are a dangerous good, and need to be treated as such. They should not be in our metal piles or our waste bins around the M.D. We accept them for no charge at any of our seven landfills/transfer stations. The photo below is from our Ardmore Landfill metal pile.

2. Tin can bins located at bin sites and landfills are for tin cans only. With the changes in the recycling and resource recovery landscape, it is imperative that we keep other metals out of our tin can bins to ensure that these materials can be recycled properly and are not landfilled.

3. We have also noticed an increased amount of metal products (BBQ's, bikes, etc) in our waste bins. Please remember this metal can be recycled. When these items are put in our waste bins, it ends up in a landfill.



Is there going to be some new electronics under the Christmas tree next week? On this #WasteWednesday, we encourage you to recycle your old electronics at one of our landfills/transfer stations. Alberta Recycling's Electronic Recycling Program accepts the following: televisions, computer monitors, laptops/notebooks, CPUs, computer accessories, printers and fax machines, and photocopiers.

Any electronics not mentioned, which are mainly metal (i.e. microwaves), can be placed in the metal pile at one of our landfills/transfer stations. To find your landfill/transfer station, click here - <http://bit.ly/LandfillMap>

