

We're Here to Help!!!

City Staff are available to answer questions or handle your concerns.

Don't be afraid to call!

Numbers to Remember:

City Hall: (403) 362-3333

Public Works: (403) 362-3146

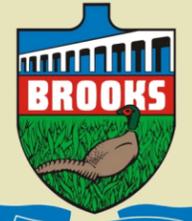
Landfill: (403) 362-5188

Recycling: (403) 362-2132



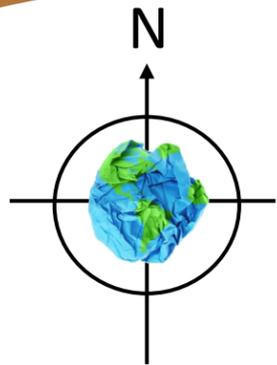
Building a Sustainable Brooks 

Alberta's Centennial City™



BEAUTIFUL • BOUNTIFUL

2012 - 01



-  Recycling Depot
-  Compost Drop-Off Site
-  Regional Landfill

The Regional Landfill is located off the Trans Canada Highway (10 kilometers west of Brooks) on Secondary Highway #36.

Summer Hours:

(April 1 - October 31)

Monday to Saturday: 9am-4pm

Winter Hours:

(November 1 - March 31)

Monday to Friday: 9am-4pm

Saturday: 10am-2pm

The Newell Recycling Association Depot is located in the South Industrial Park at 279 Veiner Road.

Regular Hours:

7:30am-Noon, 1pm-4:30pm

Drop-off bins available 24 hours a day.

## "Why Reduce Your Waste?"

Much of the concern around waste management includes the amount of natural resources that are removed from the Earth to produce goods for our consumption and use. Some of the things we buy are meant for long-term use, while many are single-use items. Choosing products with little or no packaging, buying in bulk, considering items that are durable, and practicing the 3Rs of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, all help to reduce waste. We should avoid burying resources in a landfill when they might be useful for another purpose, be recycled into a different product, or give us a good return on our investment. As some say: "one person's garbage is another person's gold."

In the workplace, consider your purchasing policies, waste minimization activities, energy efficiency actions and water conservation measures. Make use of a team of volunteers to tackle waste reduction in the workplace. When there is a group dedicated to the task of looking at wasteful habits and there is support from management, the approach is almost infectious and there is no end to what can be accomplished.

At home, examine your buying and disposal habits. Do you choose durable goods over disposables? Do you bring your own reusable bags and carry a reusable mug with you? Do you separate materials for reuse, recycle and compost?

At school, students can monitor the school's efficient use of resources: lights off in empty classrooms, no leaky taps, double-sided photocopying and recycling bins available for everyone to use. Reducing waste = money saved.



**Did You Know?!**

You can make **20 CANS** out of recycled material with the same amount of energy it takes to make one new one. The energy saved from recycling one aluminum can will power a television for **three hours**.

MEDICINE HAT COLLEGE



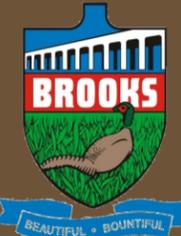
BROOKS CAMPUS

Brought to you by:

This document was brought to you through a partnership between the City of Brooks Environmental Advisory Committee and Medicine Hat College Brooks Campus.

This publication is part of a series of education materials. Watch for others in the series!

Alberta's Centennial City™

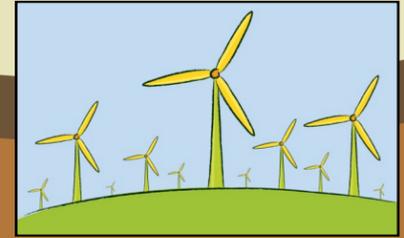
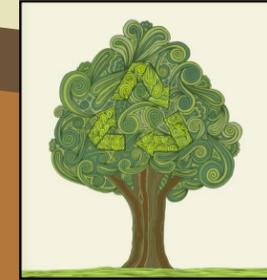


Building a Sustainable Brooks 



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100% recycled



# 4 ways to reduce your footprint!



**1) REDUCE** - Reduce the amount of waste you create by using some of the ideas found on this brochure. Buy only what you really need. Before purchasing something, ask yourself if do you really need it? (How much junk do you have collecting dust that you couldn't live without just a short time ago?) Avoid disposable products. Keep in mind that nothing is really "disposable" - in most cases it doesn't go away, it just takes up space at the landfill! Buy in bulk. When buying food or other products to be consumed in quantity, buy the largest amount you can easily store and use. Avoid over-packaged goods as well. Remember, it's what is inside the package that you want! This eliminates extra packaging going to the landfill.



### Did You Know?!

About 1/3 of an average landfill is made up of packaging material!!



### Did You Know?!

The average return rate for recycling aluminum cans hovers around 74% !!



**2) REUSE & RETROFIT** - Reuse items whenever possible. Many of the items that you recycle, such as glass jars and plastic containers, can be reused for storage. Buy used items. This applies to CD's, sports equipment, cars, building material, clothing, furniture - almost anything! Rent or share instead of buying. Many things that you need only occasionally, such as tools or party supplies, can be rented or borrowed. Retrofit projects replace or add equipment to improve their energy efficiency, increase their output or extend their lifespan, while decreasing emissions and waste. Guess What? Many of these ideas are not only environmentally friendly, but will save you money too!



**3) RECYCLE** - PLASTIC bottles and aluminum cans can take anywhere from 400-500 years to break down in a landfill. Polyethylene terephthalate (PET) plastic bottles collected for recycling are usually made into carpeting and fill for pillows, sleeping bags and ski jackets, but can also be made into t-shirts, sweaters, automotive parts, and floor tiles! ALUMINUM is the most valuable (\$\$\$) recyclable material. Once aluminum cans have been melted down, they can be used in any product made from aluminum. It takes one million years for a GLASS bottle to break down in a landfill!



**4) COMPOST** - Composting is also an easy method to reduce waste. Canadians produce approximately 7 million tonnes of ORGANIC WASTE each year. Two thirds of our household waste can be composted. These materials can then be used to help create beautiful yards and gardens.



### Did You Know?!

Studies show that 25 % of municipal waste can be diverted away from landfills through changes in consumer behaviour !



### Did You Know?!

One tonne of municipal garbage takes up 1.5 - 2.5 cubic metres of space in a landfill.



### Did You Know?!

An average family of four can compost over 500 kilograms of food and yard waste in a year .

### \* Some helpful tips!!! \*

- ⇒ RECYCLE, RECYCLE, RECYCLE!! Get a blue box or two for your home and Office. Make the effort to bring your recyclables to The Newell Recycling Association Depot, located in the South Industrial Park at 279 Veiner Road.
- ⇒ Print and copy on both sides of paper. This reduces costs associated with printing and paper usage while simultaneously saving filing space and minimizing the amount of energy and fibre required for paper production.
- ⇒ Turn organic waste such as fruit and vegetable peelings, tea and coffee rounds, plant and grass clippings into compost (humus), a nutrient-rich addition to soil and gardens.
- ⇒ Buy a mulching blade for your lawnmower. This will eliminate lawn waste and will provide you with free organic lawn fertilizer and excellent compost material, not to mention the benefit of not having to rake after mowing.
- ⇒ Recycle old clothing by donating it to homeless shelters, thrift stores, and other community organizations.
- ⇒ Bring your own reusable bags to local stores when you shop - if you do receive plastic bags when you shop, use them as garbage bags instead of purchasing new plastic bags.
- ⇒ Buy products and goods made with recycled content and packaged in returnable or recyclable materials.

