



Recycling Outside Our Home

We are all used to our recycling routine at home. We have it set up for our convenience and have made it a habit. However, it is time that we really make that effort to increase our reducing and recycling in all the activities we do. Whether its work, school or play think of how we can be practicing the three R's.

Reduction and Recycling Tips for All Areas of Our Life

Travel

If you can find another option for getting to work rather than driving, like carpooling for example, that's great. If you have no other travel option, keep your vehicle maintained. It increases fuel economy by 10% and reduces air pollution. Keep a special bag or container in the car for recyclable waste, so it doesn't end up with the rest of the garbage from the car.

Work

Contact the Ottawa Valley Waste Recovery Centre for a free Waste Assessment for your business. Trained OVWRC staff will make recommendations on how your workplace can reduce waste and save on landfill tipping fees. Cut down on paper by networking computers and sharing files electronically. Also, see if there are incoming mailings like catalogues that more than one person is receiving. Keep only one copy in a central location and take the other recipients off the mailing list. Place a recycling container where major recycling will be generated like by copier or printer, at each person's work station or in a staff room area.

School

Turn off lights when not in use. Try leaving the lights off on bright, sunny days. It's free energy and studies have shown that natural light can improve student test scores by 5% to 21%. Remember to pack a litterless lunch.

Play

Recycle sporting equipment through swap shops or as donations to community yard sales. Encourage your community group or arena to have recycling containers wherever there are garbage containers. "Pack it out" – whenever you go hiking, camping or four-wheeling always pack your garbage back into your bag and bring it home where it won't cause litter and where you can sort it for recycling.

Shopping

Being a smart shopper is an important way to reduce waste, you have the choice to prevent waste before it begins. What are some choices you can make?

Use Reusable cloth shopping bags. Always keep some in the trunk of your car so that they are handy.

Buy Local: Transportation consumes huge amounts of fossil fuels and adds to greenhouse gas emissions.

Buy Recycled: Watch for materials that have "post-consumer" recycled content. These are 'more recycled' because individuals have already used them.

Do You Know Where it Goes?

Some materials make us think twice before we throw them away. Is it recyclable? Can it be composted? Or is it garbage?

Fire Extinguishers

Fire extinguishers are an item which is important to be checked regularly. Fire extinguishers that do not work or have been emptied should be brought to the hazardous waste depot.

Re-Use It!

Looking for just the right container to store all those little craft, scrapbooking or sewing items? Why not re-use a clear plastic container like those used to hold muffins? The little cups provide the perfect sorting areas to keep all the little bits and pieces together and it has a lid that snaps shut.