

LET'S TALK TRASH

We have the power to collectively reduce our waste footprint by maximizing our waste diversion efforts. Familiarizing ourselves with how each waste stream is processed helps us to better understand the steps required for success. So, here is the nitty gritty on recycling and composting in **multi-family homes, commercial businesses and institutions.**

| | Food Scraps & Organics | Printed Paper & Paper Packaging | Corrugated Cardboard | Glass Bottles & Jars | Refundable Beverage Containers | Mixed Containers | Plastic Bags & Film | Styrofoam Packaging | Other Flexible Packaging | Garbage to LANDFILL |
|-------------------|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|---|--|--|
| WHERE | GREEN BIN | PAPER BIN | CARDBOARD BIN | GLASS BIN | SQUAMISH BOTTLE DEPOT | BLUE BIN | GFL OR LONDON DRUGS | GFL OR LONDON DRUGS | GFL OR LONDON DRUGS | |
| REMEMBER | <p>Keep all plastics out (including biodegradable and compostable plastics)!</p> <p>Keep food scraps and organics out of the landfill to avoid creating methane, a harmful greenhouse gas.</p> | <p>Food soiled paper (napkins, paper towels, pizza boxes, etc.) cannot be recycled – put them in your Food Scraps & Organics bin.</p> | <p>The wavy (corrugated) centre piece found when looking at the edge of a cardboard box differentiates it from paper packaging.</p> <p>Meal preparation subscription boxes are also accepted.</p> | <p>Glass should always be recycled separately.</p> <p>When glass is mixed with other recyclables, it can easily break and leave shards that cause injuries and cannot be removed.</p> <p>Remove metal lids and put them in the Mixed Containers bin. You do not need to remove the label.</p> | <p>You can return these at the Squamish Bottle Depot and get money back.</p> | <p>Try to avoid plastics and styrofoam - these are often down-cycled (meaning the value of the resource is greatly reduced or lost when processed). For example, a plastic bag cannot be recycled into a new bag without the addition of new oil-based material.</p> <p>Plastic-lined coffee cups, milk containers, and tetra packs are accepted.</p> <p>Plastics must be cleaned to be properly recycled.</p> | <p>If you can easily poke your fingers through it - it belongs in this stream.</p> <p>Keep out zipper locked bags, cling wrap & crinkly plastic.</p> | <p>Separate colour and white plastic foam.</p> <p>Needs to be cleaned.</p> | <p>It belongs in this stream if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - it is crinkly and loud when crumpled - it is flexible but not stretchy - it has a zipper lock seal <p>Keep out clingwrap (garbage) and 6-pack rings (BC Liquor Stores).</p> | <p>Animal waste, diapers & sanitary products, hangers, straws, broken toys, biodegradable and compostable plastics</p> |
| HOW | <p>Food is COMPOSTED at the Sea to Sky Soils Composting Facility through an aerobic process.</p> | <p>Cardboard and paper are both broken down with a WATER-BASED PROCESS, mulched and combined with virgin fibres. Oils can interfere with this process so food-soiled paper, like pizza boxes, should go in the Food Scraps & Organics Bin</p> | | <p>Glass is CRUSHED and used as road aggregate at the landfill.</p> | <p>Metal is MELTED, impurities such as labels and left over contaminants burn off.</p> | <p>Plastic is processed into small pellets that cannot chemically re-bond with any impurities present.</p> | | <p>Melted or compacted to condense for shipping. At the end market it's chipped up, melted again and chopped into pellets.</p> | <p>Flexible packaging is used for recycling research in B.C. Items must be cleaned to be properly recycled.</p> | <p>Landfills are designed to bury waste, not break it down.</p> <p>Can it be reused, recycled or composted instead?</p> |
| END RESULT | <p>Nutrient-rich soil amendment used for landscaping and gardening.</p> | <p>Paper and cardboard products with recycled content.</p> | | <p>Used locally as road aggregate in the Squamish Landfill</p> | <p>Metal can be recycled infinitely into new metal containers.</p> <p>Plastic is often down-cycled into a lesser quality type of plastic. Multi-material items, such as tetra packs are difficult and expensive to recycle and best avoided.</p> | | <p>Down-cycled into picture frames and crown moulding, which are garbage once used.</p> | <p>Used in research and development to find efficient ways to recycle this difficult material, or processed into engineered fuel.</p> | <p>Squamish's Landfill is nearing capacity, so diverting waste is more important than ever!</p> | |

The best way to deal with waste is not to create it in the first place. **REDUCE, reuse, then recycle.**



NEED HELP SORTING?

Search for an item in the Waste Wizard at squamish.ca/waste-wizard or using the Squamish ReCollect app

