

There Have Been Changes to Your Recycle Centre

The Watrous community recycle centre is no longer accepting mixed recycling in the bins. **You will notice there will be a separate bin for cardboard, newsprint and flyers (magazines), office paper and envelopes and a bin for tin cans. There will NOT be a bin for plastic or glass due to unsustainable markets. You will no longer be able to dump all recycling into one bin. If it's not listed on the recycle bin, please don't dump it in!**

The change over to separation at the recycle bins has happened because of China and other poorer countries banning imports of heavily contaminated recycling. Canada and other industrialized countries were shipping product that had no value, essentially mixed plastic waste, resulting in massive garbage dumps and toxic burning of waste in countries that could not afford to handle the problem. There is currently no viable market for most plastic or glass being recycled. Your recycle centre will accept plastic and glass when sustainable markets are found, and the problem is addressed on a Federal and Provincial level. The Federal and Provincial governments, as well as the Canadian Plastic Industry, are aware of the problem and are working towards a solution.

Throughout the years, REACT has tried to hand sort out the garbage being dumped into the recycling bins. It has reached the point where it is no longer financially viable to keep accepting mixed recycling. The recycling collected as co-mingled within the municipalities that own REACT has become worthless due to unsustainable markets and heavy contamination in the bins. Recycling costs are rising due to household kitchen garbage, appliances, yard waste, clothes, toys, shingles, wood/branches, biomedical waste, sawdust, renovation materials, to just name a few, that individuals are placing in the bins. This has become a problem across the province for all recycling programs.

Clean mixed or co-mingled recycling costs \$85.00/tonne plus freight to be sent for recycling to an automated sorting plant in Saskatoon. An additional \$125.00 per tonne is charged if the product is contaminated. Unfortunately, these fees are increasing on a yearly basis. REACT tries to pull out the garbage in the recycling before it is shipped, but the process of hand sorting large volumes of contamination out is very labour intensive. There have been needles, bio-medical waste, wildlife carcasses, and rotting household waste placed in bins which has posed serious health risks for employees sorting the material.

Please assist the Town of Watrous and REACT in keeping costs down by sorting your recycling into the appropriate bins. **Please do not recycle any material other than what is listed on the bins.** We ask that you **flatten your cardboard boxes and remove all styrofoam and plastic** before placing it into the bins. Please place the plastic and styrofoam into your garbage.

Your recycle centre is provided to your community for your convenience and to help you reduce and divert waste from the landfill. It has become very costly to build and operate landfills in Saskatchewan according to the Ministry of Environment's Regulations, so it is important to divert as much recycling as possible from the waste stream. Unfortunately, recycling globally is in a downward turn and many recycling programs are being reduced. The positive side of this is that it will correct itself, but it will take time before all items can be accepted again.

The Town of Watrous and REACT respectfully ask that you help to keep your recycle centre clean and free from garbage. Proper recycling will ensure that a recycle program continues to be offered in your community.

Please refer to the back of this flyer to see what can and can't be recycled. Call the REACT office at (306) 682-1955 or email react@sasktel.net for questions or information or follow us on Facebook at REACT-Regional Authority of Carlton Trail. Website: www.reactsask.ca. Thank you.



What Can go in the Recycling Bins.....

Please place in the bins only what they are labeled for! Thank you!

Cardboard bin - All cardboard boxes and box board. This includes cereal boxes, etc. (Please remove styrofoam and plastic wrapping from boxes and put it into the garbage. It is important to flatten boxes so bin space is not taken up.)

Newsprint and Magazine Bin - All newspapers, flyers, phone books, magazines, construction paper.

Tin Can Bin - All clean tin cans, clean aluminum pie plates or trays, clean foil.

Office Paper and Envelopes - All office paper - white or coloured, all envelopes. (Please remove plastic from window envelopes. No bubble wrap in envelopes. No confetti paper. Shredded paper must be in clear plastic bags.)



REMEMBER IF IT'S NOT LISTED ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE RECYCLE BIN, PLEASE DON'T DUMP IT IN!

What Cannot go in the Bins.....

No plastic of any kind. (Please use cloth shopping bags when possible. To dispose of plastic shopping bags, stuff all bags into one bag and tie tightly to prevent blowing litter)

No glass or porcelain

No scrap metals

No yard waste, grass clippings, wood, ashes, dirt

No light bulbs

No styrofoam, wrapping paper, gift bags, bows and ribbons

No appliances or electronics

No hazardous waste or oils of any kind



Your local SARCAN accepts T.V.'s, microwaves, non-cellular phones, paint cans empty or full, refundable bottles, milk jugs, electronics, computers, and much more. Please call your local SARCAN for more information on accepted items.

Thank you for your co-operation!