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What You Can Do

If knowledge is power, then waste reduction information is “green” power! It’s easy to take recycling to the next level with the variety of resources that are available. From hi-tech websites and smartphone apps, to traditional brochures and community outreach events, it’s never been easier to get to zero waste!

KNOW YOUR OPTIONS

Know what’s accepted in your municipal recycling program or in your community. Keep a simple reminder list accessible, whether on your fridge, near your recycling, in your cell phone or wallet. Many programs have easy to understand charts you can download, including images of accepted products (especially helpful for kids!). This knowledge not only helps you recycle more of what you have now, it can also help you recycle more later by steering towards recyclable goods when shopping.

EMBRACE INNOVATION

Many organizations are trying to make recycling easier and more accessible for you by tapping into social media and mobile technology. Some make use of networks like Twitter to provide service updates and offer real-time support. Others offer mobile applications that can identify acceptable materials or ensure you don’t miss a collection day again. Make yourself aware of these options to make recycling easier for you. Have a particular item you’re trying to recycle? Our [Recyclepedia Mobile App](#) for iPhone and Android can help you find your nearest recycling option.

TAKE ADVANTAGE AND TAKE IT BACK

B.C. has been identified as leader of Extended Producer Responsibility programs in Canada. What does this mean for you? You can recycle a broader range of products, at no end-of-life cost. The province has over 20 product stewardship programs, collecting everything from small appliances, thermostats, paint, electronics, used motor oil and more!

- 162** — the number of [electronics recycling depots](#) in the province
- 2.3 million litres** — of [used antifreeze](#) was collected in 2012
- 95%** — of all B.C. pharmacies participate in the [medications take-back](#) program
- 21, 326** — [smoke and carbon monoxide alarms](#) were recycled last year
- 60 million** — [tires](#) were collected in 2012 and can be recycled into athletic tracks, synthetic turf fields, landscaping mulch and more
- 35 empty school buses** — that’s the weight of batteries recycled in B.C. last year (350,000 kg)
- 3.7 million** — [CFL bulbs](#) were sold in B.C. last year, CFLs and other types of bulbs

Not sure what to do with a product, or want more recycling tips? We’re here to help! Call our Hotline (604-732-9253 in the Lower Mainland, 1-800-667-4321 for the Rest of B.C.) or check our [Recyclepedia](#) to find your nearest recycling location.

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