



A STATEMENT FROM THE MAYOR ON SOLID WASTE SORTING

08 April 2024

In 2017, in response to public interest for a recycling program and an effort to reduce the volume of recyclable materials going into the landfill, the Regional Service Commission introduced 3-Stream Solid Waste Sorting for communities in the region (including the former LSD areas). Prior to that, a 2-bag wet/dry system had already been in place since 2006 to separate compostable organics.

As the recycling program has matured, additional services – including recycling of batteries and lightbulbs and the Eco-Depot program for bulky items have been added.

Our Valley Waters Residential Solid Waste By-Law follows the regional sorting program, and we thank our haulers for doing their part to follow the By-Law and help us reduce unnecessary sorting costs at the transfer station and unnecessary material going into the landfill. **The 3-stream sorting guidelines for communities in our region remain the same as when they were introduced in 2017.**

New regulations came into effect in New Brunswick last year which will shift the responsibility for recycling to the Circular Materials organization. The transition to this program is happening in stages throughout the province. **Residents of Valley Waters will see no difference in collection schedules nor the materials being recycled.** However, compliance will be more closely followed – so that recyclables can be sold to manufacturers of recycled products, and commercial producers of recyclable materials are properly charged for their volumes.

The sorting efforts that New Brunswickers have been making in recent years will put us in a very good position for this next step of recycling in the Province.

We have also learned that the operators of the landfill are aiming toward producing Grade A compost which could be available to residents. There is still too much contamination in the green bags to make this possible at the present time. We encourage all residents to help us make this a reality in the future.

Council and I would like to thank the residents of Valley Waters for continuing to learn about sorting guidelines and for sorting responsibly. In addition to the environmental benefits, this helps to reduce costs at the transfer station and landfill, and keeps the costs to Valley Waters residents at the lowest rate possible. Our haulers have reported that sorting has greatly improved over the past few weeks, with less than 2% being rejected overall.

We have asked our haulers to leave a sorting guide at addresses where sorting is incorrect. Guides are also available at the municipal office and at Valley View Sales in Springfield. Detailed information on sorting can also be found on the Kings RSC website <https://kingsrsc.ca/garbage-collection/> and on our Valley Waters website: <https://valleywaters.ca/residents/#bylaws>

From the RSC site, we also encourage all residents to sign up for the RSC's Solid Waste tool, which provides collection calendars and automatic reminders, hauler contact information, sorting tips, etc. Questions about the 3-bag system may also be directed to the RSC at (506) 433-3836. If, after referring to the sorting guide, you still have questions about why your waste was not collected, please contact your hauler directly:

Wards 1, 2, and 3: L'il Truckin Aarons: 506-363-2682

Ward 4: River Valley Sanitation: 506-343-0847

Thank-you for helping us to minimize sorting costs and reduce the volume of recyclables going into the landfill. We appreciate that some residents may not be accustomed to having our haulers reject loads for improper sorting. We ask for your understanding and your participation in helping us improve our waste management practices.

On a related note, we have received a number of questions in recent weeks regarding collection of farm silage. Farmers were advised early in the year that the residential tax rate does not provide for industrial, commercial, nor institutional waste collection. Therefore, the residential solid waste hauling contract does not include it. A limited amount of silage, properly bundled, may be included (on clear-bag weeks) within the 45 kg./week residential pick-up limit at their residence.

Randy McKnight
Mayor, Valley Waters

As a friendly reminder...

BLUE bag waste consists of recyclable materials. This includes items such as metals, paper, cardboard, hard plastics (numbered 1, 2,3,4,5, and 7), grocery bags, Styrofoam, electronics and milk cartons. Items should be cleaned of debris by rinsing, wiping or shaking before placing them in your bag.

GREEN bag waste consists of compostable materials. This includes food scraps, yard waste, napkins, paper towels, tissues and tobacco. It does **NOT** include milk cartons, glass, plastic, pet waste, nor diaper genie bags.

CLEAR bag waste consists of garbage. This includes non-recyclable and non-compostable household, pet waste, bathroom and kitchen waste (i.e. glass, meat tray liners, chip bags, sanitary pads, fabric, soft plastics etc.)

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) is not accepted in the blue, green or clear bags and has its own collection and disposal procedures.

For more details, please go to: <https://kingsrsc.ca/garbage-collection/>