

OUR GREEN GUIDE

City of Thunder Bay

“ONE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE”

THUNDER BAY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

“ReEnvision Waste”

In 2014, the City of Thunder Bay completed the development of a Solid Waste Management Strategy (SWMS) to optimize current and future solid waste programs to best meet the community's needs over the next 20 years.

Initiatives recommended in the SWMS, such as creating new opportunities to divert reusable items from the landfill, are already underway. Treasure Exchange Days, Thunder Bay Restore Days, and expansion of leaf & yard waste curbside collection are just three examples.

For information on the Strategy, or to download the SWMS document, visit thunderbay.ca/wastestrategy.

Our Green Guide

THIS GUIDE IS A HELPFUL REFERENCE FOR RESIDENTS, HOMEOWNERS AND CONSUMERS, IN OUR COLLECTIVE EFFORTS TO BUILD A CLEAN AND GREEN COMMUNITY, AND TO MANAGE ALL FORMS OF WASTE APPROPRIATELY AND RESPONSIBLY.

BEFORE YOU THROW IT OUT, CHECK IT OUT! IS IT RECYCLABLE? REUSABLE? REPAIRABLE? SEE THE GUIDE'S ALPHABETICAL LISTINGS FOR OPTIONS.

THIS GUIDE PROVIDES THE INFORMATION YOU NEED TO REDUCE WASTE GOING INTO OUR LANDFILL, AND TO SAFELY DISPOSE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.

Diverting waste from our Landfill is important, because it helps conserve resources. Waste reduction and diversion initiatives also support local businesses, and contribute to a litter-free, healthy environment.

If you have suggestions for future editions of Our Green Guide, please contact the City of Thunder Bay at 807-625-2195.

To view or download the current edition of Our Green Guide, visit thunderbay.ca/greenguide.

ONE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- Reduce your product consumption and waste production
- Think before you buy -look for products with less packaging, buy in bulk or use reusable containers
- Buy locally manufactured and grown materials and products when possible
- Take reusable containers and bags for lunches and when shopping

Compost all acceptable organic matter. You'd be surprised how composting can reduce your weekly disposal needs. No room to compost outside? Get some worms and start an indoor vermicomposter.

It is important to practise the 6 “R”s related to waste reduction: Rethink, Reuse, Refuse, repair, Reduce, and Recycle ... in that order.

Waste Reduction at Home

TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF GARBAGE YOU PUT OUT FOR COLLECTION, USE THIS GUIDE REGULARLY, AND REMEMBER THESE TIPS:

Start composting. Approximately 30% of household waste can be composted in a backyard composting unit

Reduce the amount of waste you bring home in the first place - consider buying in bulk to reduce packaging.

If you have a choice between a product in a recyclable container versus one with non-recyclable packaging, make the right choice. [e.g. fibre egg cartons are recyclable, styrofoam is not!]

Use the Waste Wizard on the City website or Thunder Bay Waste Recycling app to divert more materials from your trash can!

Consider purchasing reuseable, rechargeable products instead of single-use items, e.g. a regular floor mop instead of one with disposable cloths.

Make a habit of carrying your reusable shopping bag with you!

To reduce hazardous waste that requires special disposal, look for non-toxic alternatives. When purchasing paints, stains or solvents, try to purchase smaller containers that provide just the amount you need. Or, consider sharing the product with a relative or neighbour.

Choose fresh, locally grown food more often to avoid pre-packaged grocery items. Remember to take your own bag to the farmers' market! Also, the farmers' market will take your egg cartons and fruit baskets.

Whenever possible, repair items instead of replacing them.

Support your local second-hand shops and charity retailers.

Share items such as magazines and books with friends and neighbours.

Take advantage of trade and sell websites such as kijiji.ca, craigslist.ca, Facebook groups and others to find local people who may want items you no longer need.

Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility

5405 Mapleward Road

The City of Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility reflects our community's commitment to sustainable and progressive management of waste and recycling.

The entrance is at 5405 Mapleward Road between John Street Road and Oliver Road.

Public Hours

Monday to Friday 8 am to 6:30 pm

Saturday 8 am to 4:30 pm

Sunday Closed

Using the facility:

Once you enter through the main gate on Mapleward Road, traffic is split into two streams: private vehicles, and authorized registered vehicles.

First stops for residential customers are:

- FREE! Hazardous Waste Depot (batteries, paint, solvents, pesticides, propane tanks, fluorescent light bulbs and tubes etc.)
- FREE! Recycling Depot

- FREE! E-Waste Depot (desktop computers, laptops, peripherals such as mice, keyboards, disk drives, televisions and computer monitors)
- Follow the signs to the Public Waste Disposal area after weighing in at the Weigh Scale Kiosk.
- The Public Waste Disposal area consists of huge, customer-level bins for metals, bulky items and garbage.

Fees:

The minimum charge to use the landfill is \$10 for up to 120 kg. Landfill fees are subject to change.

PLEASE SORT YOUR LOADS BEFORE YOU VISIT THE SITE. For more information, call the Infrastructure & Operations Dispatch at 807-625-2195.

Garbage Collection

The Solid Waste & Recycling Services Section coordinates the collection of garbage. Crews collect a maximum of two free items and one tagged item from each household, once a week.

Collection may take place at any time between the hours of 7 am and 5:30 pm.

For information or to request a Garbage Calendar for your area and zone, contact the City's Dispatch at 807-625-2195. Or, you may access this information on the City's website at thunderbay.ca/waste.

The garbage collection limit is TWO items per week. A third item of garbage will be collected only if tagged with a \$2 Garbage Item Tag. Only one tagged garbage item is allowed per collection day. Garbage Item Tags can be purchased at City Hall, Victoriaville Civic Centre Cashiers, EcoSuperior, the Landfill weigh scale, and all branches of the Thunder Bay Public Library.

How to Set Out Your Garbage

Set out garbage and recycling by 7 am on day of pick-up or no earlier than 4 pm the day prior to pick-up.

The garbage collection limit is two free items and one tagged item from each household, a maximum of three items total, once a week. Use proper garbage containers as per the City's Container By-law requirements.

Garbage Cans

- Maximum Size: 32 inches high (without lid)
- Maximum Weight: 18 kg (40 lbs.)
- Cans must have a watertight lid, be made of metal or plastic, and have two handles for lifting. Containers must be kept in a sanitary condition.
- Lids must not be secured to can in any way.

Maximum combined weight of can & contents 18 kg (40 lbs)

Garbage Bags

Standard Size: up to 26" x 36", or 66cm x 91cm.

Maximum Weight: 18 kg (40 lbs.)

Garbage bags must be strong, properly sealed and contain no sharp objects. Small grocery bags must be placed in larger garbage bags.

Black or green bags only. Please do not use see-through bags for garbage.

Note: Do not use cardboard boxes as waste containers.

Reminder Service

Never forget your collection again! Sign up for a FREE weekly reminder of your waste and recycling collections via email, app or phone call. Take advantage of the Waste Wizard in the Thunder Bay Waste Recycling app, to learn more about where you can divert materials from your trash can. Visit thunderbay.ca/recollect to sign up today!

HOW TO USE A GARBAGE ITEM TAG

1. Tie the garbage bag with a knot or twist-tie.
2. Peel the garbage item tag off the sheet and place the tag around the neck of the garbage bag as a twist-tie.
3. If using a garbage can, place the garbage item tag around the neck of the top bag of garbage so it is easily visible to waste collection staff, or apply the tag flat to the top bag of garbage in a clearly visible location.

For more information, visit: thunderbay.ca/garbage

Garbage Collection

Curbside Courtesy

- Place garbage three feet from your recycling cart at the curb.
- Always place garbage at ground level. During the winter, never place items on snowbanks.
- Safely wrap broken glass or sharp objects and mark them "GLASS".
- Animal waste should be sealed, wrapped and double bagged and placed in with your regular garbage. No more than 20 lbs. of animal waste per pick-up.
- Needles and medical sharps - for information on safe disposal contact 807-625-2195. Do not dispose of needles or sharps in garbage.

All garbage must be at the curb by 7 am and not before 4 pm the day before collection.

Unacceptable Materials

- Liquid garbage.
- Construction waste such as plaster.
- Cardboard -please recycle in your recycling cart
- Hazardous waste - drop off paint, oils, pesticides, batteries, spent fluorescent tubes, compact fluorescent bulbs, etc. at the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility Hazardous Waste Depot.

Recycling

In the City of Thunder Bay, there are two ways to recycle: using your curbside recycling cart, or visiting one of three recycling depots.

Recycling depot locations:

- Mountdale Avenue at Walsh Street
- Front Street between McIntyre and Van Horne Streets
- City of Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility on Mapleward Road.

Materials accepted in the recycling program:

Containers:

Pop cans
Milk cartons
Juice boxes
#1 through #7 plastic containers
Glass bottles and jars
Clean aluminum foil containers
Metal cans

Paper Products:

Flyers
Newspapers
Junk mail
Magazines
Paper egg cartons
Soft cover books
Fine paper
Cereal boxes and other dry food boxes

Cardboard:

Flattened corrugated cardboard boxes

No styrofoam, plastic bags, or coffee cups!

Curbside Recycling Collection

Curbside residential recycling collection is carried out by GFL Environmental Inc. under contract with Circular Materials, using an automated cart system.

For your recycling dates, check your waste collection calendar at thunderbay.ca/waste, or download the Thunder Bay Waste Recycling app.

Recycling at the Depots

Thunder Bay has three recycling depots located as follows:

- Mountdale Avenue at Walsh Street, across from Westgate High School.
- Front Street between McIntyre and Van Horne Streets.
- Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility, Mapleward Road. Take the second road to the right, before crossing the scales. Watch for the overhead directional signs.

DEPOTS: HOURS OF OPERATION (Subject to change)

Monday to Friday, 8 am to 6:30 pm

Saturdays, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Closed Sundays and statutory holidays

TIPS FOR USING THE DEPOTS

Don't put non-recyclables in the depots!

- Watch the signs at the depots.
- Take garbage away with you -only recyclables can be left at the depot. Please take your empty plastic bags away with you.
- Don't leave behind large items.
- For information on disposal of larger items call 807-625-2195.

Recycling at Apartment Buildings

Currently, residents of Thunder Bay divert 26% of their waste from the landfill site through a variety of waste diversion opportunities including recycling.

Owners of apartment buildings with more than six units are required under Provincial legislation to have a recycling program in place equivalent to the Municipal program.

Property Owners: Contact GFL to set up a new recycling program in your building. Contact EcoSuperior at 807-624-2140 for assistance with educational resources for tenants on proper recycling practices.

Residents: Contact your Superintendent about setting up recycling in your building.

Household Hazardous Waste Depot

The depot is located at the City of Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility and is open daily during regular landfill hours. Access is FREE! The depot ONLY accepts residential hazardous waste such as:

Paint and hazardous coatings

Household batteries

Solvents

Spent fluorescent tubes and compact fluorescent bulbs

Antifreeze

Pharmaceuticals

Oven cleaner

Drain cleaner

Used motor oil (limit: two 5-gallon containers)

Spot remover

Empty propane tanks

Household cleansers

Herbicides, pesticides

Mercury thermometers

Fertilizers, insecticides

Please take hazardous waste in its original container, or label all products you bring to the depot. Never mix hazardous wastes.

The depot cannot accept waste from business, industry or institutions. Please contact a commercial special waste handling company for assistance.

Identifying Hazardous Products

It's not always easy to identify products that are hazardous. Consumers often rely on product labels but the label may not list all ingredients. The presence of any of the following symbols or signal words indicates that a product is potentially hazardous: **Danger, Warning, Poison, Caution, Caustic, Irritant or Volatile**. Products labeled Danger are the most hazardous.

NOTE: Items labelled with these warnings: CORROSIVE, TOXIC, FLAMMABLE, REACTIVE, pose a threat to the environment and to human and animal health. These warnings relate to acute or immediate health hazards that these products may pose. They do not consider the possible long-term health hazards of exposure to the chemicals.

You Have a Choice

For information on alternatives to commercial household cleaning products that you can make yourself, contact EcoSuperior at 807-624-2140. You can also learn more at lesstoxicguide.ca or on the City's website at thunderbay.ca/hhw. Contact the City's Dispatch at 807-625-2195 for a pamphlet on Playing it Safe with Hazardous Waste. Alternative products are safer for you and for the environment. There's less packaging, too!

Battery Recycling

Why Recycle Batteries? Used batteries must not be placed in the landfill, because they can release potentially toxic metals such as nickel, zinc, lead, mercury, lithium, cobalt and cadmium into the soil, water and air. The good news is that when the same batteries are recycled, useful materials are recovered and contamination is avoided. Battery recycling even lowers greenhouse gas production by reducing the need to mine and smelt new materials.

Safely store and prepare your batteries for recycling! Protect the positive terminal of used batteries with a piece of tape before dropping them off to be recycled. This applies to these battery types: Li-ion, Rechargeable, Lead-Acid, 9 volt, 6 volt, and button cells.

Household Battery Recycling Locations

Household batteries are accepted in special receptacles at all branches of the Thunder Bay Public Library, as well as at Victoriaville Civic Centre (cashiers' area). Receptacles are also located at EcoSuperior (562 Red River Rd) and at Thunder Bay 55 Plus (700 River St). At the Solid Waste & Recycling Facility on Mapleward Road, a greater variety of batteries, including car batteries, is accepted at the Household Hazardous Waste Depot.

Composting

Composting is the natural process of decomposition of organic material into a humus-rich soil known as compost. Composting is Nature's way of recycling.

By composting your kitchen and yard "waste", you can reduce the amount of material going to the landfill by 30%. Compost makes great food and mulch for plants, replacing chemical fertilizers. Compost improves soil structure and texture and increases its moisture-holding capacity, reducing watering needs. Adding compost to soils promotes soil fertility, increases nutrient levels in food crops, reduces erosion, and stimulates healthy root development.

How do I compost?

There are many different ways of composting, including using a variety of bins [or none at all], using specific ratios of different materials for "hot" or "quick" composting, or simply adding materials as you have them for a slower low-maintenance method.

The City of Thunder Bay subsidizes commercially made backyard home composters for City residents. They are available at EcoSuperior, 562 Red River Rd. For more info, visit ecosuperior.org/home-composting.

Choose a spot

Place your bin on level ground in the sunshine, in an area convenient for you to regularly add materials [e.g. not too far away from your back door]. Collect materials-some materials, such as kitchen scraps, are available year-round, while others [grass clippings, leaves] arrive seasonally. It helps to keep these on hand to add to the pile after each addition of kitchen scraps.

Build the pile

Just remember, composting works best with adequate "food", moisture, air and warmth. Place coarse material such as twigs or thick stems on the bottom to allow air to flow under the pile. Add alternate layers of carbon or "brown" materials (e.g. dry leaves, sawdust, twigs, straw), and nitrogen or "green" materials (e.g. fresh grass clippings, fruit or vegetable scraps, coffee grounds and tea bags, egg shells, garden refuse, manure).

Add a layer of kitchen scraps or fresh grass clippings, followed by a layer of dried leaves. This will help create an ideal ratio of carbon to nitrogen for more efficient composting, and help avoid flies and odours. Keep adding to your pile in this way until it is full.

If you have space for two compost piles, let one work while adding to the other. By the time the second one is full, the first pile should be ready to use. Otherwise, collect finished compost from the bottom of the pile while adding to the top.

You can speed up the compost process by periodically turning it with a garden fork or compost aerator to add air to the pile. Keep in mind that composting works best when the contents are moist but not soggy. You may need to add water in the summer if the pile gets too dry. In the winter, continue adding material-just stir it up in the spring to get the composting process started once the pile thaws out.

Using Your Compost

When compost is ready to use, it is like gold for your garden! It looks just like healthy, dark, crumbly soil and can be used as fertilizer or mulch. Place it around certain plants to give them a boost, or mix into your entire garden. If you like, you may screen the compost to remove larger bits, and rake it across your lawn as a fertilizer.

Having trouble with your compost pile? Contact EcoSuperior for assistance at 807-624-2140.

Grasscycling

Grass clippings are a great natural fertilizer. Because grass clippings are 85-90% water, they decay quickly, returning valuable nutrients to the soil. They fertilize and strengthen your lawn, making the turf more resistant to disease and creating a healthier lawn. One bag of clippings is equivalent to 100 g of fertilizer rich in phosphorus, nitrogen and potassium.

TAKE THE BAG OFF YOUR MOWER - Leave the clippings on the lawn as you mow. Clippings will disappear within a couple of days.

INSTALL A MULCHING BLADE - Most hardware stores carry mulching blades to fit most mowers. They help chop up the clippings and distribute them more evenly.

REMEMBER THE 3" RULE - Let the grass grow to 3" and cut no more than 1" off the top. Shorter grass burns easily in hot weather. Longer grass holds the moisture and is tall enough to shade out the weeds.

Don't like to mow? Consider landscape alternatives to lawn-more shrubs, trees, groundcovers, pathways and ponds.

Leaf & Yard Waste

If you choose not to compost at home, or if you have a large quantity of compostable material, you have two options:

#1 Use the City's Leaf & Yard Waste curbside collection

View your waste collection calendar on line [thunderbay.ca/waste] or in print, and look for the leaf symbol for your leaf & yard waste collection day. Once in the spring and again in the fall, place your leaves, bundled branches, and garden waste out for curbside pickup. **No grass clippings please. Use only kraft (paper) bags, which are available at hardware stores -they are biodegradable and can be placed directly into the City's compost pile.**

Please don't fill bags too full. Bags weighing more than 40lbs/18 kgs are a health and safety hazard for workers and will not be collected.

Leaf & Yard Waste is taken to the City of Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility's composting area, and made into soil-enriching compost. It is made available free of charge to residents in the spring.

To check on collection dates or the availability of free compost, contact the City's Dispatch at 807-625-2195.

#2 Take Leaf & Yard Waste to the Solid Waste & Recycling Facility

You can take materials such as leaves, shrubs and branches directly to the City of Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility's compost area year-round. Landfill tipping fees will apply. No grass clippings please. Remember to remove any plastic bags.

Community Organizations

EarthCare

EarthCare's mission is to focus the energy, involvement, and collective wisdom of the community to secure the environmental health of our region, and thereby improve the social and economic well-being of future generations. Check out EarthCare at:

earthcarethunderbay.ca

EcoSuperior

EcoSuperior Environmental Programs is your local green community organization, delivering programs that encourage and support environmental stewardship in the Lake Superior basin and beyond. Visit them at ecosuperior.org or at 562 Red River Rd (at Hill Street) to purchase a rain barrel or composter, or find out about residential drainage rebates and other incentives,

book a home energy evaluation, a guest speaker or school presentation. Find out more at 807-624-2140.

Litter Prevention

Take action to eliminate litter. Start at home. Keep yards, schools and businesses litter free. If you visit an organization that lacks proper disposal facilities for refuse and cigarette butts, make it a point to mention it to management. Spread the word-help change behaviours by encouraging a "litter consciousness" among family, friends, fellow students, employees and business contacts.

For more information, visit ecosuperior.org

Using This Guide

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS GUIDE IS CURRENT AND UP-TO-DATE AT THE TIME OF PUBLISHING, BUT BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS DO CHANGE, SO PLEASE CALL AHEAD BEFORE DROPPING ITEMS OFF.

Call Ahead

Respect the property and policies of the business/organization that is accepting your items-do not leave items outside of designated areas and do not drop items off after hours.

Is It Free?

Note that some places charge a fee to accept your items-please call ahead if you are unsure. Some places offer pick-up of used goods, others do not. Recognize that waste disposal costs money and needs to be considered a part of the cost of using the product.

This is good motivation to remember the 6Rs of waste reduction, especially Reduce! Before you make a purchase, ask yourself if there is an alternative, and how are you going to deal with the product when you have finished with it.

Tips:

If you are donating items for reuse or resale, please make sure your donations are clean and in reasonable condition. Ask yourself: would I accept this item?

To check on the most up-to-date version of the information in this guide, visit on-line at thunderbay.ca/waste.

If you have suggestions or additions to be included in the next edition, please contact City Dispatch at 807-625-2195, or use our Waste Wizard to make your suggestion at thunderbay.ca/wastewizard.

ALPHABETICAL LISTINGS

Aerosol Cans

Take aerosol cans to the Hazardous Waste Depot at the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility (do not place in regular garbage for curbside collection). Aerosols are explosive and the propellants used in their manufacture can be toxic. Look for non-aerosol alternatives.

Aluminum Siding (see also Metals)

Reuse siding on another project or donate to a friend's project. Call Habitat for Humanity's ReStore to see if you can donate it for resale. Deliver to a scrap metal dealer or to the scrap metal laydown area at the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility.

Antifreeze

Used or leftover antifreeze should be handled carefully to avoid spills, as it is very toxic. Its sweet taste makes it especially dangerous to children, pets and wildlife. No amount of antifreeze should ever be dumped on the ground, left spilled or left open. Take used or unwanted antifreeze to the Hazardous Waste Depot at the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility.

- GFL Environmental, 3489 Hwy. 11/17, Rosslyn, 807-939-2994 (call ahead)

Antiques & Collectibles

- Black Cat Antiques, 133 W. Frederica Street, 807-623-5502

Donations received at:

- The Salvation Army, 870 Red River Road, 807-767-7768
- The Salvation Army, 915 Memorial Avenue, 807-343-0411
- Adult & Teen Challenge SuperThrift Store, 107 Johnson Avenue, 807-286-7888

Appliances

Check Yellow Pages for local listings of stores/companies that buy and/or dispose of large used appliances in working order. White goods that no longer work can be recycled for their metal content.

Many appliance centres/retail outlets offer pick-up and disposal of fridges/freezers for a fee. Rates vary, depending upon services provided [e.g. drop off, pick-up and removal; freon removal & tagging only). Call for rates and provisions:

- Harbour Metals, 1100 Montreal Street, 807-577-0873 [drop-off only)
- Dutchak Recycle Inc., 705 Hammond Ave. 807-346-4785 [drop-off only)
- Pack Pros Plus, 1615 Rosslyn Rd, 807-344-8799 [accepts appliances containing freon)

Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility accepts old appliances for recycling of scrap metals. Stoves, washers and tagged (CFC-free) fridges, air conditioners and freezers. Landfill Site tipping fees apply. Additional charges may apply depending upon weight. To have CFCs removed from your fridge/freezer/air conditioner first, contact a local appliance centre that will tag your appliance for a fee before you drop it off at the scrap metal laydown area [white goods) of the landfill.

Asbestos

Asbestos is a fibrous mineral found in rocks. It was once used for its fire-retardant properties but has been banned because of its health effects. Older sheet flooring and vermiculite insulation may contain asbestos. Removing asbestos or products that contain asbestos is not a do-it-yourself job -contact an expert. Check the Yellow Pages under Asbestos Removal & Abatement or Insulation Contractors.

Asbestos removal

- Keating Inc., 801 Vickers St N, 807-625-5417
- Power Vac, 911 Victoria Ave E, 807-343-2606

Asbestos testing

- Stantec, 1263 Innovation Dr., 807-626-5640

Asphalt

- Pioneer Construction, 1344 Oliver Road, 807-345-2338

Audiovisual Equipment (see also Computers)

Televisions, stereos and DVD players may be donated to local charities or schools if in good working order. Like other electronics, these devices contain small amounts of metals and various hazardous wastes, so when they are no longer working and can't be repaired, recycle them responsibly.

- Pack Pros, 1615 Rosslyn Road, 807-344-8799 -Offering recycling services to businesses and institutions at no charge for designated materials such as: Desktop computers, portable computers/laptops, computer peripherals (keyboard, mouse, disk drives), printing devices (e.g.: desktop printers, fax machines), televisions, monitors
- Staples, 767 Memorial Avenue, 807-343-2506
- Best Buy, 767 Memorial Avenue, 807-346-1900
- Catholic Action Centre -St. Vincent de Paul, 129 Miles St. E. 807-622-6139 [items must be working]

These items are also accepted at the e-Waste bin at the City of Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Hazardous Waste Depot. Call 807-625-2195 for more information and drop off locations or check recyclemyelectronics.ca

Automobiles

Check local Yellow Pages under "Auto Wrecking" or "Scrap Metal" for companies that accept/dispose of cars and light trucks and offer payment depending upon weight. Call for information and provisions:

Recycling

- Central Auto Parts, 150 Fortune Street, 807-345-3032
- T & T Auto Supply Ltd, 427 Kingston Street, 807-696-3209

Donations

- Car Heaven will pick up your used vehicle, and you may choose from a select list of charities to receive its value. Donations are receipted. Visit carheaven.ca or call 1-877-798-7701.

Teen Challenge, teenchallenge.ca, 1-877-684-4777

Batteries

Rechargeable Batteries/Cell Phone Batteries/Laptop Batteries

- Best Buy Express, Intercity Mall, 807-622-8530
- Touch Unwired, 1080 Lithium Drive, 807-623-1211 (cell phone batteries only, bin located on site)
- Best Buy, 767 Memorial Avenue, 1-866-237-8289
- Walmart, all Thunder Bay locations

Rechargeable Tool Batteries

- Home Depot, 359 Main Street, 807-624-1100

Car Batteries

- Hazardous Waste Depot at Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility
- Auto Parts Central, 1239 Amber Drive, 807-344-6800
- Lakehead Alternator and Starter Co. Inc., 1239B Amber Drive, 807-345-9601 [side door]
- Magnacharge Battery, 625 Arthur St W, 807-622-8225
- I&M Electric, 580 Squier Street, 807-345-31 51

AA, AAA, C, D, 9, 6 & 12 Volt Batteries

- Canada Post, 1005 Alloy Dr, 807-356-1786
- Hazardous Waste Depot at Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility
- EcoSuperior, 562 Red River Road, 807-624-2140

- Magnacharge Battery, 625 Arthur St W., 807-622-8225 [no fee]
- MGM Electric, 724 Macdonell Street, 807-345-7767 [for a fee]
- Victoriaville Civic Centre [next to Cashiers· wicket]
- All branches of the Thunder Bay Public Library, 807-345-8275
- Staples, 767 Memorial Ave, 807-343-2506
- Thunder Bay 55 Plus Centre, 700 River St., 807-684-3066 See also: recycleyourbatteries.ca

Bicycles

- Bicycles 4 Humanity Thunder Bay: Adult bikes can be dropped off at 1131 Central Ave. (above Ecco Supply) on Mondays from 9:00 a.m. until noon.

Books/Magazines/Comics

Donations

- Thunder Bay Public Library, [in good condition) accepted at all branches, visit tbpl.ca

Book/Magazines/Comic Sales

- The BookShelf, 620 Victoria Avenue East, 807-622-6153
- Diabetes Canada, 623-0887, or toll-free 1-800-505-5525
- Super Thrift, 107 Johnson Avenue, 807-286-7888 [pick-up can be arranged)

Comic Sales

- Hill City Comics & Cards, 26 Court Street S, 807-344-8774 25
- Comix Plus/Music Exchange, 186 Algoma Street S, 807-345-5700

Brick/Masonry/Tiles

Reuse leftovers in other, smaller projects or give to a friend for re-use.

Deliver to a local clean-fill wanted site, if available. Donate to Habitat for Humanity ReStore, 660 Squier Street, 807-345-5520

Building Materials

Disposal

- Laydown area at the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility

Donations

ReStore [the building materials outlet of Habitat for Humanity] at 660 Squier Street takes donations of new and used building materials that are reusable. These materials are then sold for 30-50% less than retail price. Proceeds go to fundraising to build affordable homes under their initiative within our community. ReStore accepts doors, windows, lighting fixtures, plumbing fixtures/parts, [toilets accepted in late spring & summer only] lumber, flooring, moulding, kitchen cabinets, hinges, nails and screws and more. Call 807-345-5520 for more information.

Cans (Aluminum or Steel)

Place in your recycling cart for curbside recycling, or use City of Thunder Bay Recycling Depots [Front Street, Walsh Street or at the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility). No need to crush or remove labels. Charity donation bins located around the city also collect aluminum pop cans.

Cardboard

Place flattened cardboard in the grey-lid side of your recycling cart. Extra cardboard can be flattened, bundled and placed beside your recycling cart on collection day. Maximum bundle size is no larger than 3' x 2' by 1'. Alternatively deliver to the Recycling Depots [Front Street, Walsh Street or at the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility).

CDs/Tapes/Records

- Comix Plus/Music Exchange, 186 Algoma Street S, 807-345-5700 [not accepting VHS tapes]

Cell Phones

Recycled/Donations

- Touch Unwired, 1080 Lithium Drive, 807-623-1211 [bin located on site)
- Diabetes Canada, 807-623-0887, or toll-free 1-800-505-5525
- PRO Kids Cell phones are accepted for recycling year round at the following locations:
- Tbaytel Store, 959 Fort William Rd, 807-684-2069
- Touch Unwired 1080 Lithium Dr.
- The Power Centre, 707 Memorial Avenue

Children's Toys

Donations

- The Salvation Army, 870 Red River Road, 807-767-7768
- The Salvation Army, 915 Memorial Avenue, 807-343-0411
- Diabetes Canada, 623-0887, or toll-free 1-800-505-5525

Also check the Yellow Pages under Second Hand Stores-some local stores will buy used toys in good condition.

Christmas Trees

The City of Thunder Bay Christmas Tree Collection program is offered for approximately 3 weeks after the holiday season. Call 807-625-2195 for this year's tree collection locations. Please remove all bags, tinsel and ornaments from your tree before taking it to your neighbourhood Collection site. Trees are collected and taken to the municipal composting site.

Cleaning Products

Items that are labeled toxic, corrosive or poisonous should be taken to the Hazardous Waste Depot at the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility. See "Hazardous Waste Depot" above in this Guide.

Clothing

- Diabetes Canada , 1[800) 505-5525 offers pick-up of donations as well as drop-off bins around town. Call 807-623-0887 for bin locations or visit declutterfordiabetes.ca
- The Salvation Army, 870 Red River Road, 807-767-7768
- The Salvation Army, 915 Memorial Avenue, 807-343-0411
- Super Thrift, 107 Johnson Avenue, 807-286-7888 [pickup can be arranged)
- Twice As Nice, 250 May Street N, 807-622-7575

Also check the Yellow Pages under Second Hand Shops-some local stores will buy used items in good condition or take them on consignment.

Coat Hangers (wire or plastic)

- The Salvation Army, 870 Red River Road, 807-767-7768
- The Salvation Army, 915 Memorial Avenue, 807-343-0411
- Twice As Nice, 250 May Street N, 807-622-7575

Compostables

Take to the Municipal Compost area at the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility, or look for the leaf symbol on the waste collection calendar for spring and fall Leaf and Yard waste curbside collection dates. Better yet, start composting at home in your own backyard.

- Call EcoSuperior to purchase your own City-subsidized backyard composter for \$45, Each composting unit now comes with a rodentresistant base included! 562 Red River Road, 807-624-2141.
- The tipping fee at the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility applies to dropping off compostable leaf and yard waste materials.

Computers & Electronics

The locations listed below offer recycling services at no charge for the following designated materials.

List of items:

Desktop computers, laptops, printers, keyboards, "mice", fax machines, modems, routers, monitors, scanners, copiers, televisions, typewriters, telephones, cell phones, answering machines, pagers, PDAs, cameras, radios, speakers, audio/video players, equalizers, amplifiers, receivers, tuners, turntables

Recycling at no charge:

- City of Thunder Bay E-Waste Depot, Solid Waste & Recycling Facility, 5405 Mapleward Road, 807-625-2195
- Pack Pros, 1615 Rosslyn Road, 807-344-8799 [will pick up from businesses and institutions]
- Staples, 767 Memorial Avenue, 807-343-2506 [TVs no larger than 32"]
- Best Buy, 767 Memorial Avenue, 807-346-1900
- PC Medic, 1319 E. Victoria Avenue, 807-626-9009 !computers but not electronics)
- Harbour Metals, 1100 Montreal Street, 807-577-0873
- Habitat for Humanity ReStore, 660 Squire St., 807-346-4884
- Also see "Cell Phones" earlier in this document

Donations:

- The Salvation Army, 870 Red River Road, 807-767-7768 [call first) Pick-Up Service: 1-800-757-4483 -call for more info
- The Salvation Army, 915 Memorial Avenue, 807-343-0411 [call first)
- Aco Services, 857 May Street N, 807-623-7807
- Habitat for Humanity ReStore, 660 Squier St., 807-345-5520

Also check yellowpages.ca under Second-Hand Store or Computers - some local businesses will buy used computers in working condition.

Concrete

Check local bulletin boards and want ads for residents or businesses seeking clean fill.

- All Trades Contracting, 404-1100 Memorial Ave., 807-626-2220

Craft Supplies

Check with your neighbourhood school or childcare for items they may be able to use.

Dehumidifiers

See “Appliances” earlier in this document

Electronic Waste (E-Waste)

See “Computers” earlier in this document

Egg Cartons

There are three common types of egg cartons: fibre [paper], plastic and styrofoam. Only the fibre cartons are recyclable, in your recycling cart or at the depots. Plastic and styrofoam egg cartons are not recyclable. You may wish to check with a local school or childcare to see if they could reuse them for crafts, or an egg seller at the local farmers' market.

Eyeglasses

Some local optical shops collect and ship useable eyeglasses for use in developing countries. These include:

- Ham's, 124 Centennial Square, 807-623-2020
- Hakim Optical, 1086 Memorial Avenue, 807-577-2020
- Hakim Optical, 605 Arthur Street W, 807-577-1000

Fine Paper Shredding

Many residents and businesses are concerned about identity theft and confidentiality when recycling paper. Shred your documents before placing them in your recycling cart. Personal shredders can be purchased at most stores that sell office supplies.

Residential/Business on-site or drop-off shredding of all paper documents can be arranged by contacting Enviroshred, 66 Twin City Crossroad, 807-473-5009.

Fire Extinguishers

Check the tag on your fire extinguisher to find out when it is due to be refilled and certified. If it is too old to be recertified, residents can take them to the City's Household Hazardous Waste Depot at 5405 Mapleward Rd.

Fixtures

See Building Materials earlier in this document.

Flooring/Carpeting

Left-over tiles in full boxes may be returned to your retailer in most cases. Older flooring or carpets that are clean and fit for re-use may be accepted at Habitat for Humanity ReStore, 660 Squier St. Note that some older sheet flooring may contain asbestos – consult a flooring expert before you remove such flooring as it could be hazardous.

Fluorescent Lights and Compact Fluorescent Bulbs (CFLs)

While fluorescent lights are the recommended energy-efficient choice for lighting, they do contain a small amount of mercury. A very toxic substance, mercury is the reason behind many of the fish consumption advisories in our region. Therefore, when fluorescent bulbs burn out, they should not be put in the regular garbage.

Residential

- Hazardous Waste Depot at the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility.

Commercial

- MGM Electric, 724 Macdonell Street, 807-345-7767 [PCB free ballasts are also accepted]. Call ahead for applicable fees. Small fee for handling.

Fuel Tanks

Cleaning

- GFL Environmental, 3589 Hwy. 11/17, Rosslyn, 807-939-1717 [outdoor tanks only]

Empty Tanks

- Harbour Metals, 1100 Montreal St, 807-577-0873
- Household Hazardous Waste Depot at the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility (jerry cans only)

Furniture

Place an ad in a local newspaper, newsletter or on a bulletin board.

Donation

- The Salvation Army, 870 Red River Rd, 807-767-7768
- The Salvation Army, 915 Memorial Ave, 807-343-0411
- Super Thrift, 107 Johnson Ave, 807-286-7888 (pickup can be arranged)
- Twice as Nice Thrift Store, 25 May St N, 807-622-7575

Resale

- Big Ed's Furniture and Consignment House Ltd, 60 Algoma St S, 807-344-3777

Gift Wrap/Greeting Cards

Gift wrap is not recyclable because of the high ink content used in the paper. To avoid waste, try wrapping gifts in reusable bags, fabric, kraft paper or newsprint. Greeting cards and gift wrap can be re-used in crafts or cut up to create gift tags.

Glass

Glass in the form of wine, beer and spirit containers purchased in Ontario can be returned to The Beer Store [or other designated Bulk Return Locations] for a full deposit refund. This

includes glass bottles, bag-in-box, Tetra Pak containers, plastic bottles [PET]. and aluminum and steel containers on which deposits have been charged.

Glass jars and bottles are accepted in the City of Thunder Bay recycling program under the blue lid of your recycling cart.

They can also make great storage containers for craft supplies and hardware.

Hearing Aids

- Thunder Bay Lions Club, Curtis Dudley -President, 807-472-8552

Humidifiers

See “Appliances” earlier in this document.

Insulation

Use leftovers to soundproof interior walls or for extra insulation in the attic. See also “Building Materials” earlier in this document.

Juice Boxes - Tetra Paks - Milk Cartons

Juice boxes, milk cartons and other similar containers should be placed under the blue lid of your recycling cart, or taken to a recycling depot.

Magazines/Catalogues/Junk Mail/Newspapers

Place these items under the grey lid of your recycling cart, or use the recycling depots at Front St, Mountdale Ave or at the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility.

Medicines & Pharmaceuticals

Flushing unused or expired medicines and prescription drugs down the toilet or drain is not a safe method of disposal, since the drugs pass through the waste water treatment plant and back into our water source. Putting them in the garbage is also not recommended. Take unused

or expired pharmaceuticals to your dispensing pharmacy for proper disposal. Phone first to ensure your pharmacy will accept the items for disposal. Expired non-prescription and prescription drugs may also be taken to the Hazardous Waste Depot at the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility. See also “Sharps/Needles” later in this document.

Mercury

Mercury is used in many household products. It is a potent neurotoxin and can cause serious health effects even in small amounts. Fish consumption advisories in our region are due to mercury that is present in fish. When mercury from household products is spilled, poured down the drain or thrown in the garbage, it can contaminate the environment. Contact EcoSuperior at 807-624-2140 if you have a mercury spill in your home. Never use a vacuum or broom to clean up spilled mercury-it can vaporize and be inhaled. Be aware of the following products that contain mercury, and dispose of them properly.

See also “Fluorescent Lights and Compact Fluorescent Bulbs” earlier in this document.

Mercury Thermometers

Choose a digital thermometer instead. Dispose of mercury thermometers at the Hazardous Waste Depot at the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility.

- Emco, 933 Tungsten St, 807-345-6543
- Ecco Supply, 1131 Central Ave, 807-346-4464

Thermostats

- Hazardous Waste Depot at the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility

Metals

- Dutchak Scrap Metal, 705 Hammond Ave, 807-346-4785
- Harbour Metals, 1100 Montreal St, 807-577-0873

Microwaves

See “Appliances” earlier in this document.

Milk Cartons

See “Juice Boxes” earlier in this document.

Musical Instruments

Contact your neighbourhood school or Lakehead University to see if there may be students interested in your unwanted instruments.

Instruments in good working condition may also be sold or donated.

- Music World Academy Ltd., 443 Simpson St, 807-623-8821
- Super Thrift, 107 Johnson Ave, 807-286-7888 (pickup can be arranged)

Oils

Cooking Oil

Cooking oil is not classified by the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility as hazardous waste, but it does pose problems for regular garbage collections because it can leak out of garbage trucks and cause road hazards. Therefore, cooking oil should not be put out for garbage collection. Residents are encouraged to save up their oil in a container and take it out to the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility for disposal.

- Recycle West, 43 Twin City Crossroad 807-699-6088
- Rothsay [204-233-7347 -Winnipeg) collects large quantities of cooking oil from businesses such as restaurants. The oil is recycled into such products as animal feed ingredients and bio-diesel fuel.

Home Heating Oil

- GFL Environmental, 3489 Hwy. 11/17, Rosslyn, 807-939-2994 (will pick-up old oil -possible fee)

Motor Oil, Used Oil Filters

Motor oil is a toxic substance and should never be disposed of down the drain or into a storm sewer. If you change vehicle oil yourself, the used oil should be put into a clean portable container and brought to the Hazardous Waste Depot at the Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility or dropped off at one of the following locations [five gallons max):

- GFL Environmental, 3489 Hwy. 11/17, Rosslyn, 807-939-2994 (call first)

Oil Tanks

See “Fuel Tanks” earlier in this document.

Paint (Latex & Oil Based)

Cans of used paint may be dropped off at the Hazardous Waste Depot at the City of Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility. They also operate a paint exchange where residents can pick up usable, partially full cans at no cost. The depot is open daily during regular Landfill hours. For more information, call the City of Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility Information Hotline, 807-623-5756.

When you have used up a can of paint, leave the lid off until it dries thoroughly, then take to the metal laydown area at the City of Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility.

Paint Removers/Solvents

These are toxic substances which should be clearly labelled and taken to the Hazardous Waste Depot at the City of Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility. Pass on partially used containers to a friend or neighbour to use.

Pallets/Skids

Some shipping/trucking companies may take them. Check yellowpages.ca.

Paper/Paper Products

Put these under the grey-lid of your recycling cart curbside or bring to your nearest recycling depot. See also “Fine Paper Shredding” earlier in this document.

Pens & Writing Instruments

Spent writing instrument recycling:

- Staples, 767 Memorial Ave, 807-343-2506

Pesticides & Fertilizers

These items can be hazardous to pets, wildlife and water supplies. Please dispose of them at the Hazardous Waste Depot at the City of Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility. For information on safer alternatives, contact EcoSuperior at 807-624-2140 or visit ecosuperior.org.

Pet Waste

Small quantities may be flushed down the toilet. Or, you may double bag cat/dog waste and place in another container such as a detergent box for curbside pick-up with your regular garbage.

Phone Books

Place under the grey lid of your recycling cart.

Phones

See “Computers and Electronics”, and “Cell Phones” earlier in this document.

Plastic Containers

Put these under the blue lid of your recycling cart or bring to the recycling depots. In Thunder Bay, plastic containers labelled as #1 through #7 can be recycled. Plastic bags and styrofoam plastics are not accepted. Recycled plastic is used to make carpet, clothing, sleeping bags, trash cans, fencing and many other products.

Plastic Shopping Bags

Disposable plastic bags are a significant litter source in our community. Re-use if you can, or carry cloth or reusable bags. Plastic bags are not accepted in the City's recycling program.

Printer Cartridges

Reuse

Some cartridges may be refilled - try the following:

- Lakehead Inkjet & Toner, 714 May St N, 807-623-9011
- Staples, 767 Memorial Ave, 807-343-2506

Recycling

- Lowerys, 540 Central Ave, 807-344-6666
- Staples, 767 Memorial Ave, 807-343-2506

Propane Tanks

One-Pound Tanks/Large Tanks

- Hazardous Waste Depot at The City of Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility

Large Tanks

- Big Pines Trailer Sales Ltd, 344 Cumberland St N, 807-345-9721

Pumpkins

EcoSuperior and the City's Solid Waste & Recycling Services Section offer The Great Pumpkin Smash Compost Collection. For one week after Halloween, pumpkins can be taken to collection bins located throughout the City to become compost. For more information on pumpkin compost collection locations call the City's Dispatch at 807-625-2195.

Refrigerators

See "Appliances" earlier in this document.

Sharps/Needles

People who use needles regularly should contact their supplier/pharmacy for instructions on safe disposal of used sharps.

If you find a needle on your property or in the community, call a Superior Points volunteer -Rick: 807-621-7861, Lori: 807-621-7862, or Toll-free 1-888-294-6630 -for disposal information. Children should be told never to touch a needle, but to report its location to adults.

For the health and safety of your community and sanitation workers, used needles are not accepted in the garbage. For more information, contact the City's Dispatch at 807-625-2195.

Sporting Goods

Resale

- Diabetes Canada, 807-623-0887, or toll-free 1-800-505-5525
- Play it Again Sports, 920 Memorial Ave, 807-622-8282

Donations

- The Salvation Army, 870 Red River Rd, 807-767-7768
- The Salvation Army, 915 Memorial Ave, 807-343-0411
- Super Thrift, 107 Johnson Ave, 807-286-7888 [pick-up can be arranged]
- Twice As Nice, 250 May St N, 807-622-7575

Styrofoam

Pellets

- The UPS Store, 1100 Memorial Ave, 807-623-5520

Styrofoam Blocks/Rigid EPS Polystyrene

Clean styrofoam can be dropped off at Eco Carbon Foam, 94 Vibert Rd S (Rosslyn), 807-252-8481. Material must be uncontaminated by food or liquid residues. No meat trays, or used beverage cups.

Styrofoam is not accepted in the City recycling program. Add this material to your regular garbage for pick up.

Styrofoam cups, egg cartons

These items cannot be recycled and must be put out with your regular garbage. Look for alternatives: reusable mugs, fibre egg cartons.

Telephones

See “Computers and Electronics” earlier in this document.

Tetra Paks

Also see “Juice Boxes” earlier in this publication.

Place juice box containers under the blue lids of recycling cart, or take to one of the recycling depots. Tetra paks of wine or liquor purchased at the LCBO or the Beer Store are returnable to the Beer Store for a deposit.

Thermometers

See “Mercury” earlier in this document.

Tires

Ontario residents can take up to 10 tires per day for disposal, at no charge, to any registered collection site. Collection sites include the City of Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility (Landfill site), tire dealers, auto salvage yards and various automotive shops.

Toilets

Take old toilets to the landfill to be crushed. If white and in working order, toilets can also be taken to Habitat ReStore, 660 Squier St, 807-346-4884.

Trophies

- Harbour Metals, 1100 Montreal St., 807-577-0873 will accept steel trophies.

Wood

If you have used pallets, some trucking/shipping companies may accept them for reuse.

Yard Waste

Brush, branches, leaves, garden debris: Take to the municipal compost area at The City of Thunder Bay Solid Waste & Recycling Facility, or check your garbage calendar for spring and fall collection days.

Disclaimer

This guide was prepared as a resource tool to assist Thunder Bay residents in their efforts to reduce waste. It is not intended to as an endorsement to any specific business, company or group. Any operations, groups ecosuperior.org or individuals who wish to be listed in this directory can contact Infrastructure & Operations at 807-625-2195.

The latest version of the Guide will be available on the web at: thunderbay.ca/greenguide

Waste Reduction at Home the 6 R's Way

Use these tips and the amount of waste going out to the curb at your house will drop dramatically.

Rethink

- Reduce the amount of waste you bring home in the first place -consider buying in bulk to reduce packaging
- Pack lunches and other 'to go' meals in reusable containers
- Avoid 'disposable' products
- Bring your own mug instead of using disposable beverage cups
- Choose fresh, locally grown food and avoid pre-packaged grocery items

Refuse

- Buy only as much as you need
- Take your own reusable bags to the grocery store
- If you can buy a product in a recyclable container rather than a Styrofoam container (e.g. eggs] buy the one that comes in the recyclable container

Reduce

- Compost your kitchen waste and lawn and garden trimmings (about 30% of household waste can be composted]
- To reduce hazardous waste that requires special disposal, try to find non-toxic alternatives. When buying paints, stains or solvents, purchase smaller containers so you won't have leftovers, or share the product with a friend or neighbour.

Reuse

- Give away unwanted items
- Donate reusable items
- Purchase re-usable, rechargeable products instead of single-use items, e.g. a regular floor mop instead of one with disposable cloths
- Sell unwanted items at a yard sale or in a consignment store
- Explore second-hand choices before buying new

Repair

- Whenever possible, repair items instead of replacing them
- Maintain what you buy so it will last longer

Recycle

- Buy recycled products. Read labels for more information.

- Take advantage of the many recycling programs listed in this guide for household items, including e-waste