

CREATIVE RECYCLING

SAVING THE WORLD ONE IDEA AT A TIME



Did you know: Recycling one stack of newspapers about 6 feet tall saves the life of one tree 35 feet tall.

What does “Closing the Loop” mean?

“Living systems have been around for a few billion years and will be around for many more. In the living world there is no landfill, instead materials flow. One species waste is another’s food, energy is provided by the sun, things grow then die, and nutrients return to the soil safely...and it blooms!

Yet as humans, we have adopted to a linear approach: we take, we make, and we dispose. A new phone comes out, so we ditch the old one. Our washing machine acts up, so we buy another. Each time we do this we are eating into a finite supply of resources and often producing toxic waste. It simply can’t work long term, so what can?” – **Ellen MacArthur Foundation**

Watch the full video by clicking the link under this image.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCRKvDyyHmI>



A variety of plastic containers recycled over a period of two months in a single household.

The 5 W’s of Recycling

PLANETGREENCYCLE.COM, JULY 2019.

Who?

Ask yourself who is impacted by your recycling decisions (or lack thereof). Despite even the best intentions, not all recycling ends up where you think, and it can have serious health and safety impacts.

What?

It is important to also know what kinds of materials can or cannot be recycled. Since it varies from city to city and province to province, start by looking up the recycling program in your municipality.

Why?

Recycle for the right reasons. Recycling is cool but don’t just do it for that reason. With recycling, it’s all about strength in numbers. Know your why and you’ll attract others

with the same motives. If you’re disingenuous that will come across. Be real.

Where?

It’s so important to know where your recyclable items will end up. Just because you place something in a blue bin doesn’t mean you’re in the clear. Look up the recycling program in your city and what they don’t accept, try to find a recycling plant or program that will.

When?

The best time to recycle is yesterday. Since we don’t have time machines, right now works too. It’s never a bad time to implement a new recycling program or practice. Just know your stuff going in and you’ll be on the right path.

Read more at:

<https://planetgreenrecycle.com/fundraising/>

IN THIS ISSUE

**FREDERICTON’S
CURRENT RECYCLING
SITUATION**

**OCEAN
POLLUTION: 11
FACTS THAT YOU
NEED TO KNOW**

**FIND A NEW
HOUSE FOR
YOU PLANTS!**

WORLD

OCEAN POLLUTION: 11 FACTS THAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL, 2020.

Oil spills aren't the big(gest) problem.

Headline-grabbing oil spills account for just 12 percent of the oil in our oceans. Three times as much oil is carried out to sea via runoff from our roads, rivers and drainpipes.

More plastic than fish.

Eight million metric tons: That's how much plastic we dump into the oceans each year. That's about 17.6 billion pounds — or the equivalent of nearly 57,000 blue whales — every single year. By 2050, ocean plastic will outweigh all of the ocean's fish.

5 garbage patches.

There's so much junk at sea, the debris has formed giant garbage patches. There are five of them around the world, and the largest — the Great Pacific Garbage Patch — includes an estimated 1.8 trillion pieces of trash and covers an area twice the size of Texas.

Plastic poses a double danger.

Ocean trash can be broken into smaller pieces — known as microplastic — by sun exposure and wave action, after which it can find its way into the food chain. When it eventually degrades (which takes 400 years for most plastic), the process releases chemicals that further contaminate the sea.

China & Indonesia top the trash tally.

More plastic in the ocean comes from China and Indonesia than anywhere else — together, they account for one-third of plastic pollution. In fact, 80 percent of plastic pollution comes from just 20 countries, including the United States. This accounts for imports and exports of plastic worldwide.

Pollution is in fashion (literally).

With each load of laundry, more than 700,000 synthetic microfibers are washed into our waterways. Unlike natural materials such as cotton or wool, these plasticized fibers do not break down. One study showed that synthetic microfibers make up as much as 85 percent of all beach trash.

Most ocean trash sits on the bottom.

As unsightly as ocean pollution is, what we can't see may be worse: 70 percent of ocean garbage actually sinks to the seafloor, meaning we're unlikely to ever be able to clean it up.

Even nutrients can become harmful.

When dumped at sea in large amounts, agricultural nutrients such as nitrogen can stimulate the explosive growth of algae. When the algae decompose, oxygen in the

surrounding waters is consumed, creating a vast dead zone that can result in mass die-offs of fish and other marine life.

The number of dead zones is growing.

In 2004, scientists counted 146 hypoxic zones (areas of such low oxygen concentration that animal life suffocates and dies) in the world's oceans. By 2008, that number jumped to 405. In 2017, in the Gulf of Mexico, oceanographers detected a dead zone nearly the size of New Jersey — the largest dead zone ever measured.

The oceans are losing mussel mass.

One effect of greenhouse emissions is increased ocean acidification, which makes it more difficult for bivalves such as mussels, clams and oysters to form shells, decreasing their likelihood of survival, upsetting the food chain and impacting the multibillion-dollar shellfish industry.

We're making a racket down there.

Noise pollution generated by shipping and military activity can cause cellular damage to a class of invertebrates that includes jellyfish and anemones. These animals are a vital food source for tuna, sharks, sea turtles and other creatures.

Read more at:

<https://www.conservation.org/stories/ocean-pollution-11-facts-you-need-to-know>



This amazing sculpture was made entirely from recycled material found in the beaches of Roatan, Honduras.

CREATIVE RECYCLING IDEAS

Find a New House for Your Plants!



This quick and easy to make project will keep you busy on a Sunday afternoon. Plus, it's a great way of getting the younger ones to recycle and connect with nature too!

This is what you will need:

- Recycled plastic bottles (the more you have the better it gets!)
- Vegetable, fruit or herb seeds
- Large scissors
- Soil
- Permanent marker

Follow these steps:

- 1) After washing your recycled plastic bottle, draw a line with your permanent marker to mark where you want to cut the bottle.
- 2) Using your large scissors, carefully cut the bottle following the line you drew.
- 3) Poke holes at the base of your bottle.
- 4) Fill the bottom half of the bottle with soil, make sure you pack it down.
- 5) Use your finger to poke a hole in the soil about one inch deep.
- 6) Carefully place 2 or 3 seeds (depending on their size) in the hole and cover them with more soil.
- 7) Place your bottle bottoms next to a window and watch your seeds grow within 10 days.
- 8) Don't forget to water your plants when the topsoil becomes dry.

What happens next with the top part of each bottle is up to you. Let's see how creative your recycling can get!

LOCAL NEWS

Fredericton Region Solid Waste has suspended Recycling Starting April 6

CITY OF FREDERICTON, 2020.

The City of Fredericton MEMO (Municipal Emergency Measures Operations) is actively monitoring the COVID-19 (coronavirus) situation and taking appropriate actions to protect the public and staff while continuing to deliver essential services.

We are following the advice and recommendations of the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of New Brunswick and the Public Health Agency of Canada. To find out more, see the links below:

- [What is the City doing?](#)
- [List of grocery stores open and special hours](#)
- [What can you do?](#)
- [How can you stay informed about the City's response?](#)

FRSW Changes Residential Recycling Operations

Fredericton Region Solid Waste will be making changes to its residential blue and grey box recycling operations due to the global Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

During the disruption, residents are asked to continue using their blue and grey boxes on designated weeks to alleviate an overabundance of garbage collection which will continue to be collected on regular pickup days. The recycle items, however, will not be sorted and will be landfilled. General manager Brett McCrea said the program is not sustainable under present conditions.

The suspension will include the City of Fredericton's blue/grey box program and three depots (Willie O'Ree Place, Brookside Mall and Rookwood Drive), the village of New Maryland's curbside blue and grey box program, the Town of Oromocto's depots (1000 Waasis Rd., 1198 Onondaga Dr., and 2 Gateway Dr.) and all Local Service Districts. Rural collection was suspended earlier in March by FER0.

There is an opportunity to focus on reducing and reusing as much as possible during this interruption.

For more information please visit:
<https://frswc.ca/2020/03/31/frsw-suspends-all-residential-recycling-operations-depots/> & <http://www.fredericton.ca/en/safety-services/emergency-preparedness/coronavirus>

Creative Recycling Ideas for Earth Day 2020

WE ARE TEACHERS, 2019.

Earth Day is coming! How do you plan to celebrate? Buying brand-new craft supplies to celebrate and learn about Earth Day would seem squarely out of sync with the recycle-reuse-renew lessons we are teaching our kids, right? Don't worry. We've got you covered. Let's raid your recycling bins for supplies and then try one of these eco-savvy Earth Day crafts that is sure to excite kids of all ages.

Join millions of people all over the world on **Wednesday, April 22** to demonstrate your gratitude towards our planet and support environmental conservation!



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For more creative ideas, please visit:

- <https://www.weareteachers.com/earth-day-crafts-classroom-activities/>
- <https://handsonaswegrow.com/recycle/>
- <https://youtu.be/fHrRdx0W-Vc>