



Now



Why it Matters:

- In nature, there is no such thing as “waste” – everything is recycled.
- Disposing of waste is very expensive and releases greenhouse gases.
- Creating new products from recycled materials can create local “green” jobs.
- Using waste as a resource can be good for our local economy while reducing the need for new resources.

Now:

Burnaby has a successful food-scrap collection and recycling program serving houses, townhouses and apartments.

Did you know?

- Burnaby diverts almost half of its waste by recycling and composting.
- Burnaby’s new Eco-Centre accepts a variety of materials for recycling including appliances, hard and soft plastics, metal, paints and household chemicals, and Styrofoam.
- The Waste-to-Energy facility, located in Burnaby since 1998, processes 25% of the region’s garbage and produces enough electricity to power 15,000 homes.

High Rise Recycling Champions

Seemingly “ordinary” citizens – residents and strata members of an older high-rise apartment building in Burnaby become recycling super-heroes who are now sought out to teach others the secrets of their success. They are a great example leading the way by doing.

Future



Goal

World-leading waste reduction, diversion and management.

Control: Medium level of City control and influence.



Actions by City:



C4.1 Expand and improve waste reduction, recycling and food scraps programs.

Suggested Actions:

- Continue to collaborate with Metro Vancouver and other partners to expand existing programs and explore new opportunities for using organic waste as resources, for example composting yard waste and food scraps.
- Continue to explore new opportunities to reduce waste, and recycle and re-use materials, including those actions listed in the Conserve section of the ESS.



Conduct a policy and program scan of practices elsewhere and opportunities to Burnaby for neighbourhood recycling drop-off.

C4.2 Encourage more re-use and recycling of building materials when a building is being torn down.

Suggested Actions:

- Review City opportunities and work with Metro Vancouver to consider policies to encourage or require re-use and recycling of materials resulting from demolition, land clearing and construction.

C4.3 Continue to demonstrate leadership in waste reduction, recycling and re-use in City facilities and operations.

Suggested Actions:

- Continue and expand City programs and partnerships to reduce food waste, such as the “food runners” pilot program.
- Work with partners in the community to encourage waste diversion, including the School District and community groups.

Actions by Others:



Reduce

- Improve and expand Extended Producer Responsibility programs to reduce waste at source and fund collection and recycling programs



Recycle

- Consider right-sizing solid waste collection and servicing fleet vehicles for greater efficiency
- Continue to support implementation on the current regional waste plan

Actions by You:

Want **more info** on how to **get started**? Please go to page 28 or www.burnaby.ca/ess+you