



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

November 8, 2023

Houston Recycling Service Transition Complete

Burns Lake, B.C. – The Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako’s Recycling Depot, which opened at the Houston and Area G (Houston/Granisle Rural) Transfer Station on Aitken Road on August 15, 2023, is accepting all materials in Recycle BC’s Residential Packaging and Paper Product Recycling Program. The Recycling Depot has the same hours of operation as the Transfer Station, which are Monday – Sunday, 10 am – 6 pm. All RDBN sites are closed on statutory holidays.

Accepted items include household residential recycling materials such as newsprint, cardboard, metal containers, plastic containers, spiral wound cans and paper packaging that held liquid when sold, such as coffee cups and soup cartons. It also includes non-deposit glass bottles and jars, plastic bags and plastic foam packaging, and other single use plastic materials. Find a full list of accepted materials at <https://recyclebc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Recycle-BC-Material-List-2023-English.pdf>

Residential packaging and paper products are no longer accepted at the Houston Bottle Depot, which offers recycling services for deposit containers through the Return-It program. A full list of items accepted at the Houston Bottle Depot can be found at <https://www.return-it.ca/locations/houston-bottle-depot/>.

The Residential Packaging and Paper Product Recycling Program is strictly for residentially generated items and has never accepted commercially generated cardboard or other packaging, which is in accordance with the Recycling Regulations with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change as part of extended producer responsibilities. Commercially generated cardboard is not accepted at any RDBN-operated Recycling Depot, as outlined in our operating contracts with Recycle BC.

Options for commercial cardboard recycling include third-party bin rentals which can then be hauled away for recycling. Collaboration between several small businesses can help decrease the cost per partner.

Some Frequently Asked Questions about Recycle BC’s program and other topics are attached to this press release to provide additional information.

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FAQ's

for RDBN Recycling Depots



The RDBN is proud to offer residential recycling at all of our Transfer Station Recycling Depots. This service is offered through the Recycle BC's Residential Packaging and Paper Product Recycling Program. Residents are able to drop off accepted material at the closest Recycling Depot location at no charge as part of the Recycle BC network of more than 200 depots.

To make recycling as easy as possible for our residents, we have prepared these Frequently Asked Questions for you. As always, when in doubt, let us help. You can reach staff at 1-800-320-3339 Monday-Friday from 8:30-4:30 with your recycling questions. Recycling Depot hours of operation are available on the RDBN website at www.rdbn.bc.ca

1

Where does our recycling go?

After your recycling is collected, it is sorted, processed, and compacted into bales. The bales are sold and sent to material remanufacturers to be recycled into something that can be used again!

2

Why can't I recycle the material from my business?

Recycle BC is a residential packaging and paper recycling program meant for use by community residents. We do not accept commercially generated material at our depots.

3

What are options for businesses to recycle cardboard since it can't be landfilled?

Currently the options are the same for all businesses across the RDBN. Businesses can rent recycling waste bins from local companies to haul the material away to be recycled. Small businesses can work together to share the cost of a bin rental fee.

4

Why do I have to sort my recycling?

Different materials have different recycling processes. Sorting your recycling ensures that as much material is recycled as possible. Contamination between different materials can cause the whole tote to be rejected and discarded.

5

How clean do my recyclables need to be?

Please empty containers and give them a quick rinse in leftover dish water before recycling them. This helps minimize contamination from food residue spoiling the recyclability of materials and reduces smells that can attract pests.

6

Why can't I recycle my used paper towels, napkins, and tissue paper?

Soiled or used paper towels, napkins, and tissue paper contaminate our recycling bins. We do not accept this kind of material at our depots for hygienic reasons.

7

What is contaminated cardboard?

Contaminated cardboard is cardboard that has large amounts of grease, oil, paint, or food residue on it. If the cardboard is no longer stiff due to rain, snow or other liquids, it is too wet to recycle. Please remove all contents from the cardboard. Small amounts of plastic, staples, and tape are okay.

8

What is "overwrap"?

Overwrap is the plastic packaging around things like flats of pop, diapers, paper towels, etc.