

FACT SHEET

Changes to Residential Recycling Programs



Effective **January 1, 2020**, the City of Saskatoon will be making some changes to the residential recycling programs, including the **curbside** and **multi-unit** programs as well as the City's four **recycling depots**.

Why?

A demand for higher quality material and a decrease in commodity values means recycling programs are not benefiting as much from the sale of their materials, resulting in lower revenues to offset processing costs.

With higher quality standards for cardboard, mixed paper, and high-value plastics, black plastics and polycoat are frequently being viewed as a contaminant in bails of quality material. Both of these previously accepted items are being removed to help mitigate the risk of not being able to market the remaining recyclable materials.

Utility Rates

In response to global recycling market conditions and to maintain the current levels of service, rate increases will be implemented pending City Council approval. While rates will be increasing for residents, we are still anticipated to be lower than some of our neighbouring municipalities.

Curbside Residential Recycling (Blue Cart):

After a competitive RFP and negotiation process, the City and **Loraas Recycle** have finalized a new eight-year agreement that will continue the partnership through 2027. The program will continue to offer bi-weekly collection year-round on the same collection routes and days in 2020.



2020
\$7.38

per household
per month

2021
\$7.47

per household
per month

Multi-Unit Residential Recycling (Blue Bin):

The City's agreement with **Cosmopolitan Industries** will continue through 2023:



2020
\$3.71

per household
per month

2021
\$3.86

per household
per month

The City will be removing **black plastics** and **polycoat** from the list of acceptable items for all residential recycling programs and City recycling depots:



Black Plastics

takeout containers, coffee cup lids

Black plastic is a lower-value material and is difficult to recycle due to its pigment.



Paper Coffee Cups

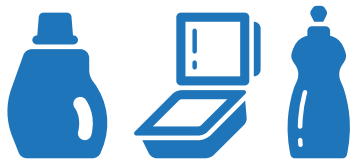
These often contain a protective barrier called **polycoat**, making them more difficult to recycle.

These materials make up **only 2% of the recycling stream**, but are viewed as contaminants in other clean recyclables like cardboard, paper, and high-value plastics.

2%

Acceptable Items

The following items will still be accepted under the new program:



Plastic Containers #1-7

Excluding Black Plastic and Styrofoam

Only material that contained non-hazardous products.



Household Glass jars and bottles

Still accepted, although residents are encouraged to take household glass to SARCAN to ensure it does not break during collection and processing.



Cardboard flattened, clean boxes



Beverage Containers milk and drink cartons



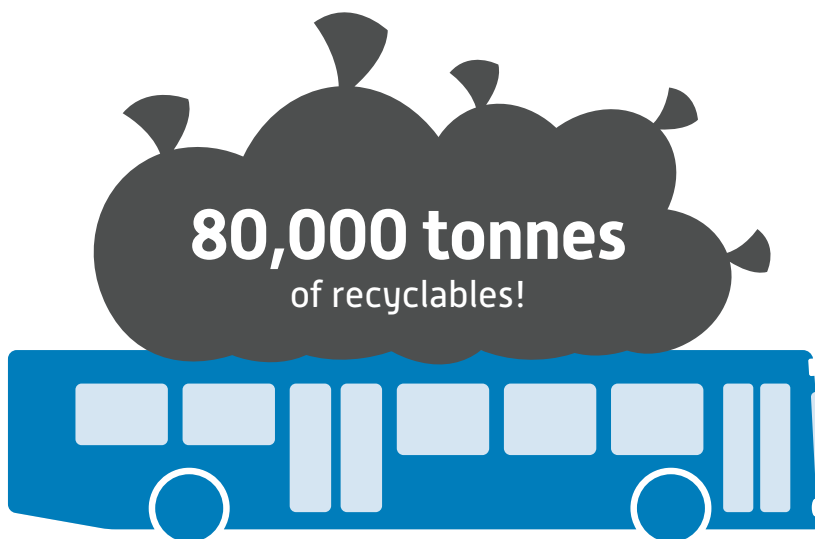
Aluminum & Tin foil, cans, pie plates



Mixed Paper newsprint, magazines, printer paper, envelopes

Recycling Success!

Thanks to our residents and recycling partners, we are making great strides in our recycling efforts. From 2012–2018, City recycling programs have diverted approximately 80,000 tonnes of residential recycling from the landfill, equal to 5,700 city buses. The City, Loraas Recycle, and Cosmopolitan Industries are committed to maintaining the success of our residential recycling programs and working with industry partners to ensure the marketability of our recyclable material.



That's as much as **5,700** city buses!