



take it, don't break it

Why has the City developed a pilot program for glass?

Much of the glass that gets collected and processed through our residential recycling programs gets broken during the process; this is a common challenge in single-stream recycling programs. The City has partnered with SARCAN to provide an alternative for residents that are concerned about glass being recycled. Saskatoon residents can take their household glass along with their beverage containers whenever they happen to be going to SARCAN.

What does SARCAN do with the glass?

The household glass, all beverage containers, electronics and paint that SARCAN receives are processed and recycled into new products. Clear glass can be made into reflective glass beads for road paint to light up the streets of Saskatoon and provincial highways. Coloured glass can be used to manufacture fiberglass insulation for home construction. Recycled glass can also be used as an aggregate material in road construction. All materials received by SARCAN are recycled within North America; nothing is shipped overseas or sent to landfills.

Is glass still being accepted in Multi-Unit Blue Bins and Single-Family Blue Carts?

Yes, glass is still being accepted in Blue Carts and Bins, as well as at the recycling depots. This pilot program has been established to give residents another option for their household glass where they can be assured that all of it will be recycled. While a large portion of the glass is accidentally broken during processing at the Loraas and Cosmo Materials Recovery Facility - they make every effort to recover as much as possible.

Is glass going to be removed from the Blue Carts?

There are currently no plans to remove glass from the single-stream recycling program. However, the recycling contract for the single-family program expires in December 2019, and a new service contract will be negotiated for 2020. The City will aim to include the current list of acceptable items for the program, however affordability will be part of the contract negotiations which may affect accepted materials.

What percentage of glass arrives at recycling depots intact via the Blue Cart?

An estimated 90% of glass is broken during recycling collection and processing. In addition, glass becomes contaminated by other residual materials as it makes its way through the sorting process. Around 10% of collected glass is unbroken and processed for recycling.

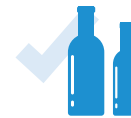
Can I recycle that?

What items you CAN recycle



FOOD CONTAINER JARS

Any jar really – jam, pickle, peanut, sauce, etc.



BEVERAGE GLASS BOTTLES

Wine, beer, and any other kind of drink bottle



FOOD GLASS BOTTLES

Olive oil, vinegar, steak sauce, dressing, etc.

What items are NOT accepted



HOUSEHOLD GLASSWARE

Pyrex, ceramic, drinking glasses and carboys/jugs from homemade wine/beer kits



CONSTRUCTION AND DECOR

Mirrors, windows, light bulbs, and glass home décor



BROKEN OR DIRTY GLASS

Glass must be free of food

Pack it up and bring it to SARCAN!



Towards 70%
SASKATOON'S WASTE DIVERSION PLAN

City of
Saskatoon

SARCAN
RECYCLING

Know before you go

Things to keep in mind

- » **Always clean** glass jars and bottles before taking them to SARCAN.
- » **Broken glass** is not accepted.
- » **No refund available for glass without a deposit** paid at the time of purchase.
- » **Remove caps.** They're still recyclable, but lids are made from different materials and must be recycled separately.

Recycling pro tip:

Make your trip multi-purposeful. Did you know that SARCAN also accepts paint and electronics?

For more information please visit sarcan.ca or saskatoon.ca/blue-cart-recycling



Aren't Loraas and Cosmo responsible for recycling glass?

Loraas and Cosmo are the service providers for the City's residential recycling programs (single-family and multi-unit respectively). Both are required to collect and process glass and will continue to do so while the pilot program with SARCAN is in place. The current service agreement with Loraas and Cosmo was negotiated on the premise that recovered glass would be used as a reuse material, such as reflective glass beads used in road paint, and other construction applications. Both contractors make every effort to recover and recycle as much of the glass as possible, but because of the type of recycling system the City uses (single-stream), much of the glass gets broken; this does not break any of their contractual obligations.

Is the price of collection going to decrease?

The recycling utility fee will not decrease because no changes to the acceptable materials, or material processing have been made. Currently, collection costs are the largest expense covered by your recycling utility fee (approximately 50%). Processing is about 25% and the other 25% is program administration. Global market changes have made it much more challenging for processors to sell the recyclable material, resulting in increased processing costs. Many municipalities have removed glass from their curbside programs and moved to depot options due to cost. Broken glass is hard on sorting equipment and adds to total program cost.

Why does it matter if glass gets broken?

It is a safety concern for employees to handle broken glass. Also, broken glass is challenging to collect for recycling because most pieces are too small to be captured by sorting equipment at the recycling facility.

Why can't pieces of broken glass be recycled?

Glass that arrives at a recycling facility already broken, or breaks during the sorting process, is not recoverable. Broken glass gets mixed in with other small pieces of contamination which makes sorting very difficult.

How can I learn more?

To learn more about recycling within Saskatoon, contact Loraas Recycle or Cosmo Industries to schedule a recycling tour.

- Loraas Recycle: 306-242-2300
- Cosmo Industries: 306-664-3158

To learn more about glass recycling or about SARCAN, contact SARCAN to schedule a tour:

- SARCAN Recycling: 306-975-7188



To avoid broken glass during collections, try the new pilot program. Find a SARCAN depot near you at sarcan.ca/hours_and_locations. Please note glass will still be accepted in residential blue bins

Towards 70%
SASKATOON'S WASTE DIVERSION PLAN

City of
Saskatoon

SARCAN
RECYCLING

RECYCLE

+ COMPOST

BEFORE TRASH