



## I Hope This Helps

I will attempt to answer a few of the most frequently asked questions. With the 2018 updating of waste handling regulations and the disruption to the recycling markets caused by the closing of Chinese outlets, there are some very visible changes at the facility. As always, if you have some other questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at (204)348-2125 or [manager@wrnwwaste.com](mailto:manager@wrnwwaste.com). At the writing of this newsletter, we are trying to avoid face-to-face contact as much as possible. Always remember that our staff works hard to make the facility as neat and tidy as any other waste handling facility in Manitoba. I would put up your facility against any others.

### 1) Why do we need to recycle?

This question has several answers. The answer that seems most obvious is that recycling takes the burden off our natural resources. It does for some but it also puts pressure on some others. On a local level, recycling takes a lot of pressure off our landfills. Over the 22 years we have been in existence, we have baled and sold 2,297,154 kilograms or \$1,541,746.00 of recycling.

Since 1999, we have excavated eight landfill cells. Each was approximately 7,800 cubic metres in size. Also in that time, we diverted 22,579 cubic metres of loose recycling or 5,652 cubic metres of baled from landfill.

I know this is just a lot of boring numbers. What it boils down to is that by recycling we have not only been able to make a sizable amount of revenue but have saved all the costs incurred by building another two to three landfill cells.

### 2) Why is there so much recycling in the landfill?

We do not really track how much recycling ends up in the landfill but there are two main reasons for this. The facility itself ends up throwing a large amount away. We do this because we do not have an outlet for these materials. Markets change and so do their requirements. Black and darker coloured plastics are not acceptable anymore. When two different materials are mated together in such a way that we cannot separate them, they are considered unacceptable. The markets are very fussy right now. Here is a good website where you can get a better idea of what is actually considered recyclable.

<http://simplyrecycling.ca>

The other reason is a simple one. There is a group of people who just do not see the value in recycling. The cost of having a person at the landfill to handhold this group does not make sense. Generally, this material is hidden in larger loads of household waste.

### 3) I pay my taxes, why do I have to pay to dump my building materials?

When the facility first opened, it was decided that all people, for the most part, produce roughly the same amount of household waste, so those costs would be shared through taxes. Construction and demolition waste is different in that not everyone produces the same amount. This type of waste, even if it is burnt, requires more resources to deal with than typical household waste does. When you see an increase in tipping fees, it is due to the increase in the costs of building and maintaining a landfill cell. Construction and demolition waste is the only waste that has an additional fee attached to it.