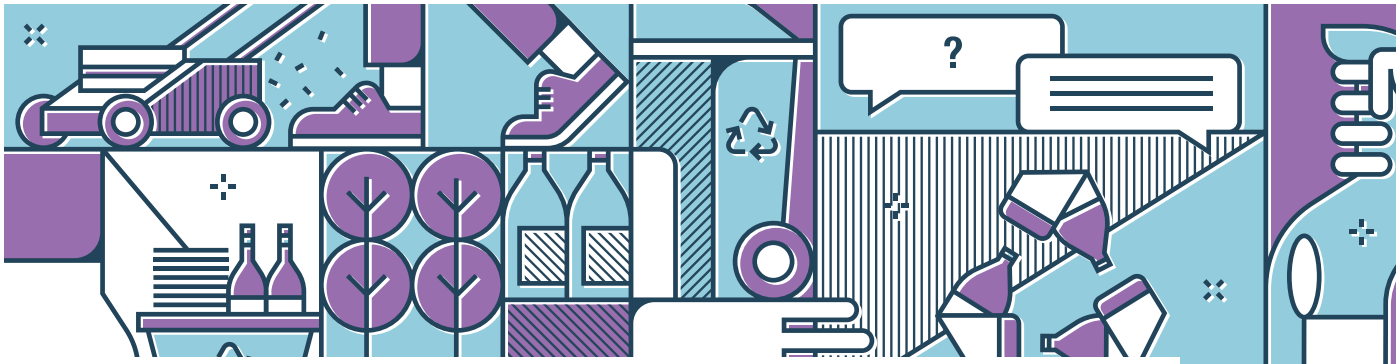


City of Edmonton **Waste Services**

Let's Keep Talking Future of Waste.

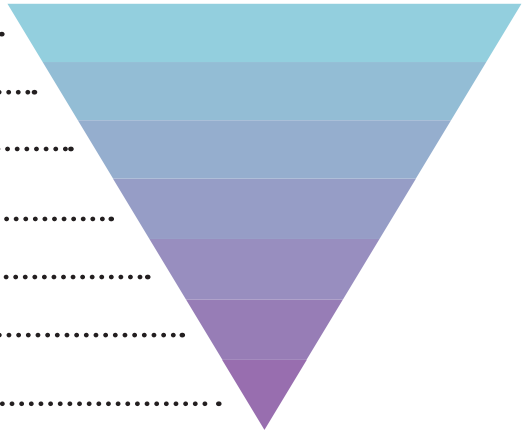
Zero Waste

What is Zero Waste?

Many cities like Calgary, Vancouver and San Francisco are adopting Zero Waste goals. When we talk about Zero Waste, we mean keeping the most amount of waste from landfill by using a mix of innovative sorting, recycling, processing, composting and other options. Maximum diversion will one day mean that no waste needs to go to landfill. Based on this, Edmonton is considering whether it should also adopt a Zero Waste goal.

This goal takes a comprehensive approach towards waste management.

source: zerowastecanada.ca, 2018



Rethink/Redesign

Reduce

Reuse

Recycle/Compost

Material Recovery

Residuals Management

Unacceptable
(Incineration and "waste-to-energy")

SHARE YOUR VOICE
SHAPE OUR CITY

Edmonton

Why is Edmonton Considering a Zero Waste Goal?

Edmonton is developing a new 25-year waste strategy that will focus on opportunities to reduce, reuse and recover waste. An increasing emphasis will be placed on WASTE REDUCTION and REUSE to keep as much waste as possible out of the landfill.

Many cities have created and adopted Zero Waste goals as part of their waste management plans.

Potentially adopting a Zero Waste goal would enable Edmonton to focus on reducing, repurposing, reusing and recycling items to minimize the amount of waste produced and the negative impacts on our natural resources and environment.

What We Heard in 2018

Edmontonians were moderately supportive of Edmonton adopting a Zero Waste goal.

What Proposed Programs and Policies may be Included Under a Zero Waste Goal?

- **Changes to single-use plastics.** Waste Services is considering proposed changes that would restrict or eliminate the use of single-use disposable plastics, such as straws and plastic bags.
- **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) policies and programs.** These provincial and federal policies put the responsibility for production and disposal of products onto companies that make or sell them. Such programs help reduce costs and responsibility of recycling and waste disposal for municipalities and residents.
- **Waste reduction and reuse programs.** Implementing food waste reduction programs, creating recovery and repair programs for waste items and maximizing the use of recycling facilities are all options that are being considered, and could reduce the amount of waste going into a landfill. These programs also provide opportunities for Waste Services to collaborate with not-for-profit organizations, industry and businesses to achieve higher waste diversion.
- **Diversion targets.** Edmonton's current goal is to divert 90 per cent of residential waste from landfill. If the City chooses to adopt a Zero Waste goal or strategy, diversion targets could change.

Have Your Say: February 10 – April 15, 2019

We are seeking input from Edmontonians about a proposed Zero Waste goal, as well as waste reduction and reuse programs and options the City should consider as part of future program and service changes.