



# TNRD Mixed Recycling Change

## Frequently Asked Questions

### When does this change take effect?

September 5, 2017

### Who will be affected by this change?

All residents of the TNRD outside of the City of Kamloops, including residents with curbside collection service. All residents of the TNRD who haul their own refuse and recycling directly to TNRD Eco Depots or Transfer Stations.

### What will no longer be allowed in my mixed recycling?

All plastic bags such as grocery bags, sandwich bags, bags for dry cleaning, bread bags, produce bags, dry bulk food bags, and garbage bags of any colour (including clear and blue tinted clear bags).

All soft plastic wrap or packaging including overwrap for mattresses, food wrap, and outer bags for items like tissues or paper towels.

### What about shredded paper? Can I bag that?

Yes. You can bag your shredded paper. This is the only exception where plastic bags will be allowed in your mixed recycling. Please ensure that only shredded paper is inside the bag.

### How will this affect my curbside collection service?

It won't. If your recycling is collected at curbside in a cart, you can put items into the cart loose instead of bagged. Please ensure that you do not put plastic bags or plastic wrap in your curbside recycling collection cart.

### Does this include the clear plastic "blue bag" as well?

Yes. You are still able to use the blue bags to bring your recycling to the Eco Depot or Transfer Station, but you will have to empty the contents of the bags in the mixed recycling bin or area.

### What will I do with my mixed recycling at the Transfer Station or Eco Depot?

Bring your mixed recycling to the Transfer Station or Eco Depot loose in a reusable box, tote, or recycling bin, or continue to bring it in a clear plastic bag. Once at the Transfer Station or Eco Depot, you will be instructed to empty the contents of your container or bag in the designated recycling area or bin.

You will then have the option of depositing your plastic bags or wrap in a separate bin so that they can be recycled. Please do not put any plastic bags or wrap in the mixed recycling area.

### Why is this change happening? Why can't things stay the same?

Communities across BC are becoming part of Recycle BC (formerly MMBC). With the prevalence of this program, many recycling facilities have been required to upgrade their sorting lines. Their new equipment cannot process plastic bags

when mixed in with other materials. In response to this, the TNRD has to change the mixed recycling program in order to divert plastic bags and plastic wrap. **These items can be recycled separately at TNRD Transfer Stations and Eco Depots- they just can't be included in your mixed recycling any longer.**

## So, what CAN go in the TNRD mixed recycling?

You can still include the following items in your TNRD mixed recycling:

- Pulp board and paper fibre products
- All printed paper
- Metal/tin containers
- Boxboard
- Cardboard
- Plastic containers #1-7

There are many other items that are recyclable at TNRD Transfer Stations and Eco Depots. Contact the TNRD for details on what can be accepted for recycling at the TNRD facility nearest you.

## What can I do with my plastic bags?

- Recycle them!
  - Recycle them separately from your mixed recycling at any TNRD Transfer Station or Eco Depot
  - Check with your grocery store to see if they have a “take back” program for plastic bags
  - Ask your local bottle depot if they recycle plastic bags
- Reuse them!
  - to clean up after your pets
  - as garbage bags in your smaller garbage cans or in your vehicle
  - to pad parcels for shipping
  - as grocery bags
- Reduce the amount of plastic bags you have by carrying reusable bags or totes instead

## Am I allowed to throw plastic bags and plastic wrap in my household garbage? Will I be penalized in some way?

Although there are many other options for your plastic bags, you are also able to include them in your household garbage.

For more information or clarification, please check the TNRD website at [tnrd.ca](http://tnrd.ca), contact the TNRD at 250 377 8673, or email [recyclenow@tnrd.ca](mailto:recyclenow@tnrd.ca).