



presents

RECYCLING IN BC

A history



April 22, 1970

First Earth Day is celebrated.

1970

BC establishes the first deposit return program in North America.

1974

RCBC, Canada's first recycling council, is founded.



1990

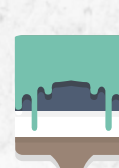
The per capita solid waste rate is 866kg per person.

1989

Cabinet calls for a 50% municipal solid waste reduction by 2000 by employing the 3R's.

1989

The Delta Recycling Society establishes the first blue box collection program in Western Canada.



1991

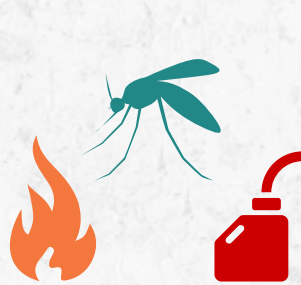
BC launches North America's first tire recycling program (FIRST).

1991

BC launches a voluntary recycling program for lead-acid batteries.

1994

BC introduces regulation for post-consumer paints.



2000

The Kootenay Boundary Regional District becomes the first to adopt Zero Waste as a goal.

1997

BC expands regulations for managing residual flammable liquids, pesticides, and gasoline.

1995

Solid waste management plans (SWMPs) are developed for all BC regional districts.



2003

BC Used Oil Management Association begins accepting used oil, oil filters, and oil containers.

2004

BC's Recycling Regulation based on EPR principles comes into effect.

2007

Encorp Pacific begins accepting end-of-life electronics.



2010

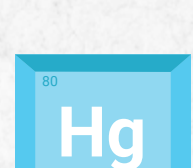
The LightRecycle program begins accepting light bulbs, fixtures, and ballasts

2010

The Call2Recycle program begins accepting all household batteries under 5kg.

2009

The Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association establishes a cell phone recycling program.



2010

The Switch the Stat program begins accepting mercury-containing thermostats.

2011

The ElectroRecycle program begins accepting end-of-life small appliances and power tools.

2011

BC Used Oil Management Association begins accepting used antifreeze and containers.



2014

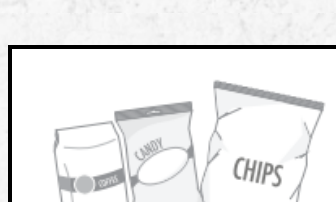
Multi-Material BC assumes management of recycling residential packaging & printed paper.

2012

The per capita solid waste rate is 570kg per person.

2012

The Outdoor Power Equipment Institute of Canada (OPEIC) begins accepting old outdoor power equipment.



2014

RCBC celebrates its 40th birthday!

2015

Metro Vancouver and The Capital Regional District begin disposal bans for food scraps.

2018

Recycle BC expands the residential packaging program to include other flexible plastics.



2019

Return-It launches a pilot program to collect old, unused or unloved clothing.

2019

The Major Appliances Recycling Roundtable (MARR) begins a collection program for large appliances.



2022

Dairy and dairy substitute beverages will be added to the container deposit program.

2021-2026

EV batteries, mattresses & single-use fuel canisters will be included in provincial recycling programs over the next 5 years.



Want learn more about recycling in BC? Visit www.rcbc.ca or call the RCBC Recycling Hotline Lower Mainland: (604)732-9253 Toll-Free: 1(800)667-4321

Sources

- Bottle Bill Resource Guide: <http://www.bottlebill.org/legislation/canada/britishcolumbia.htm>
- History- Earthwise Society: <http://www.earthwisesociety.bc.ca/about-us-3/history/>
- Guidance to Preparation of Solid Waste Management Plans: BC Ministry of Environment
- Municipal Solid Waste Disposal in B.C. (1990-2012). BC Ministry of Environment
- Regional District of Kootenay Boundary: <http://www.rdkb.com/Services/EnvironmentalServices/WasteManagement/Reduce/ZeroWaste.aspx>
- B.C. Product Stewardship Summary. <http://www.rcbc.ca/education/product-stewardship/table>
- Metro Vancouver Banned Materials: <http://goo.gl/EMp4TD>
- Capital Regional District Banned Items: <http://goo.gl/snEzLL>
- Recycle BC Flexible Plastics Packaging: <https://bit.ly/3nH7FWj>
- MARR 2019 Annual Report: <https://bit.ly/3EpYwYk>
- Return-It Textiles Pilot Program: <https://bit.ly/3zi9v27>
- BC MoECCS 5 Year EPR Plan: <https://bit.ly/3EmDutA>