

# Curbside Recycling

COMES TO AIRDRIE



On May 2, 2016, Airdrie City Council chose to proceed with curbside recycling in Airdrie.



**BY 2018, ALL PAPER AND CARDBOARD WILL BE BANNED FROM CITY OF CALGARY LANDFILLS**

[airdrie.ca](http://airdrie.ca)

## Why is Airdrie moving forward with curbside recycling?

### Increases to disposal costs and new landfill disposal bans

- The City of Calgary (where our garbage is landfilled) is increasing disposal costs and putting in place new bans on specific materials.
- By 2018, all paper and cardboard will be banned from the City of Calgary landfill; organics will be banned in 2019.
- Any garbage containing banned items (paper/cardboard/organics) will be charged at fees that could be two to four times higher than the basic rate.
- Disposal costs have already increased 72 per cent since 2009 and continue to rise.

### Curbside recycling increases participation

- Approximately 85 kg of blue box type recyclables are recycled per Airdrie household annually. In cities with curbside collection (such as Red Deer, Okotoks and St. Albert), the average diversion is up to 225 kg per household annually.

### Residents support curbside recycling

- The City reached out to over 6,000 residents in 2014/2015 with the majority supporting a curbside recycling program.
- Resident feedback on recycling was gathered through a number of public engagement initiatives, including: online/telephone surveys, open houses, and focus groups.

### Curbside recycling is common in other municipalities

- Curbside recycling is common in surrounding municipalities. Calgary implemented their curbside recycling program in 2009. Neighbouring communities of Cochrane, Chestermere, Crossfield, Red Deer, Didsbury and Innisfail, along with many communities in Northern Alberta, have mandated curbside recycling.

### Our commitment to the AirdrieONE Sustainability Plan

- In 2012, the City created the AirdrieONE Sustainability Plan. One of the goals in this plan focuses on waste management over the next five to ten years. Decreasing the amount of garbage Airdrie produces is a key factoring in attaining this goal and bettering our community.

## Why would the City choose to mandate this service if it is already available from private companies?

- In order to achieve our waste reduction goals, it is imperative that non-recyclers join the effort.
- Many residents currently do not visit the recycling depots nor do they subscribe to services with a private company.
- The City needs to provide every resident with a convenient way to divert the banned materials (cardboard, paper and organics) from the landfill.
- Residents have consistently told staff that they want a more convenient option.
- The City has also mandated that all multi-family units provide recycling services for their residents. This offers private recycling services an opportunity to stay in business.



Airdrie's recycling has the potential to go from **85kg to 225kg/household/annually**



CITY OF CALGARY DISPOSAL COSTS HAVE **INCREASED 72% SINCE 2009**