

Product Life Cycle

What is Product Stewardship?

In British Columbia, Industry-led Product Stewardship is a government strategy that places the responsibility for life cycle management on the producer and consumers of a product, and not on the general taxpayer or local government.

This approach requires producers to collect and recycle left-over or used products as well as consider redesigning these products to make them less harmful and easier to recycle. It is the active role of product producers, retailers and consumers to participate in Product Stewardship programs to ensure the proper environmental management of end-of-life products.

How is Product Stewardship related to me?

Product stewardship provides consumers with the opportunity to recycle or safely dispose of left-over or expired products.

What programs are available in B.C.?

The following products have stewardship programs:



How can I find out more?

Check the Ministry of Environment's Product Stewardship website for a summary of all the stewardship programs available now – what products are included, how to find collection sites and depots, information on fees charged, the Industry Plan for managing the product, and a link to the stewardship program's website.

You can also find out what products are being evaluated for possible regulation in the future. Check it out at www.recycling.gov.bc.ca.

What can I do?

Buy products designed to be recyclable and that have less packaging.

Take back left-over or used products for recycling or safe disposal.

Find out where to recycle by calling the RCBC's hotline 1-800-667-4321 or 604-732-9253 in the lower mainland.

Check www.recycling.gov.bc.ca for current programs.

PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

**British Columbia
...too good to waste**



Ministry of Environment



**Share the responsibility...
recycle**

Contact us

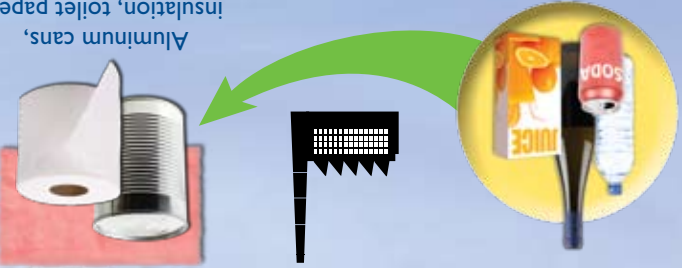
For recycling options and locations near you, questions and community-based recycling initiatives, please contact:

Recycling Council of British Columbia (RCBC)
HOTLINE: 1-800-667-4321
For B.C.'s Lower Mainland: 1-604-732-9253

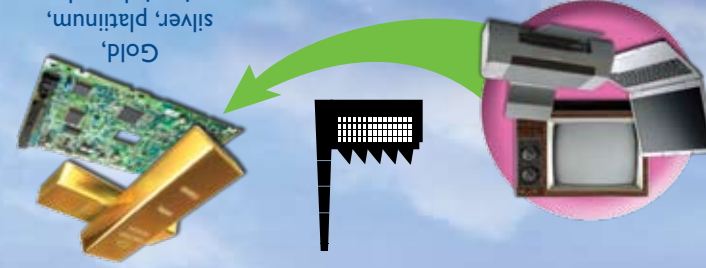
For information on government's policy and regulation visit www.recycling.gov.bc.ca or email envprodiv@victoria1.gov.bc.ca



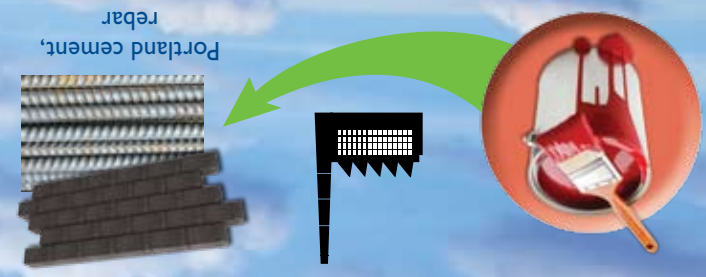
PRODUCT RECYCLED NEW



Aluminum cans, insulation, toilet paper



Gold, silver, platinum, circuit boards



Portland cement, rebar

By diverting products from the waste stream, you help reduce pressures on our landfills, conserve our scarce resources, and protect our environment. Landfills have limited space so diverting recyclable materials from landfills helps extend the life span of the landfill. Another benefit of recycling is diverting recyclables so that materials can be reused. We use less energy and resources in producing other products from recycled materials. Some of our common consumer products are corrosive, toxic, reactive or flammable, and if stored indefinitely, certain products may cause a serious fire, health or safety hazard. By returning left-over or expired products to the appropriate collection sites, these products are either recycled or disposed of safely.

What's the benefit of recycling products?