

Orientation to Ontario

CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Don't litter! – All Ontarians must work together to keep Ontario's land and water clean. Littering is when you leave any kind of trash on the ground, either in the city or out in the country. Throwing trash in lakes and rivers is also littering.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Household Waste

Different municipalities manage household waste in different ways. Some local governments charge fees for garbage collection and provide special bins for garbage, recycling and organic waste. Garbage is waste that cannot be recycled or composted.

Most communities have **Blue Box programs** for recycling paper, glass, plastic, aluminum and other materials. Recycled items are used to manufacture new products.

Green Bin programs collect organic waste such as fruit and vegetable scraps, meat and coffee grounds separately from regular trash. The organic waste is converted to compost, which is used to improve the soil in parks and farmlands.

To get a Blue Box, or to find out if your area has a Green Bin program, contact your local municipality.

Visit the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing at mah.gov.on.ca or findlink.at/muniseroff

The Environmental Protection Act states that recycling is mandatory at residential buildings with six or more units. If you live in an apartment, ask your superintendent how you can recycle. Some communities may also have composting programs for apartment residents.

Harmful Substances

Dangerous materials should not be poured down the drain or added to regular garbage collection. The **Orange Drop** program allows you to safely dispose of household products that contain harmful substances such as paint, antifreeze and batteries.

- Visit makethedrop.ca to find a drop location near you.

Electronics

E-waste includes items like cameras, computers, monitors, telephones, and televisions that no one wants or needs. These items should be recycled at a special depot. When you buy electronic products in Ontario, you pay an environmental handling fee (EHF). This money is used to pay for the cost of recycling or refurbishing electronic products.

1-855-626-0002

<https://settlement.org/o2o>



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Visit recycleyourelectronics.ca to find an electronics recycling depot in your area.

ENERGY AND WATER CONSERVATION

Producing electricity has negative consequences for the environment. Conserving energy also saves you money.

To learn more about energy conservation, visit the Ministry of Energy at energy.gov.on.ca or findlink.at/savinenerg

Visit Natural Resources Canada's Office of Energy Efficiency at oee.nrcan.gc.ca

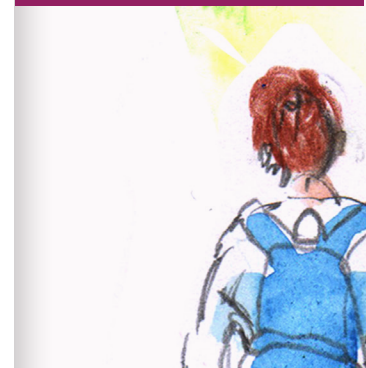
Safe, clean drinking water should not be wasted. Contact your local municipality for more information on water conservation. Visit the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing at mah.gov.on.ca or findlink.at/muniseroff

To learn more about Ontario's recycling programs, visit Stewardship Ontario at stewardshipontario.ca



DID YOU KNOW?

You can be fined up to \$1,000 for littering in Ontario. If you litter on the highway, the police may stop your car and give you a ticket.



IMPORTANT NOTE

- Do not litter
- Reduce, reuse, recycle
- Compost or use the Green Bin

