



TOWN OF COMOX

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NEWS RELEASE

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Expanded blue box program in Comox successful in early days

The first audit by Recycle BC of activity in the Town of Comox's expanded curbside recycling collection has shown that the majority of material being put into the blue boxes is acceptable.

Recycle BC's initial audit, conducted in December, showed that 2.8 per cent of material in the blue boxes was non-recyclable material, such as garbage, unacceptable packaging, electronics, and hard and soft cover books. This level is below Recycle BC's allowable contamination level of three per cent. The audit also showed that materials that are recyclable, but not allowed in the blue box, such as glass, Styrofoam, plastic bags and overwrap are still being put in the blue box by residents. That material must be taken to the Comox Return Centre on Anderton Road.

"It appears Town of Comox residents have largely "heard the word", and are being responsible recyclers in the blue box program, which underwent some changes late last year," said Mayor Paul Ives. "I'm convinced that as the program continues, the levels of unacceptable materials will go even lower. Way to go Team Comox!"

Two syringes were also found in the Recycle BC Audit. A "sharps container" can be obtained from any pharmacist, and returned to the pharmacy when full.

For a full overview of acceptable materials in the Town of Comox blue boxes and of materials accepted at the Return Centre, visit www.comox.ca, and click on "recycling" under the "Services" tab on the home page menu. This program applies to Town of Comox residents who receive curbside bi-weekly recycling collection on garbage pickup day, year-round. Unlimited quantities are allowed for recycling.

Recycle BC is a non-profit organization responsible for residential packaging and printed paper recycling throughout British Columbia. Recycle BC works in partnership with more than 180 collection and post-collection partners, including local governments, First Nations, non-profits and private companies. Recycle BC ensures materials are collected from households and depots, sorted and responsibly recycled.

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