

RCBC Recycling Fact Sheets

Who Would've Thought?

In 2005, BC disposed of 2,822,067 tonnes of garbage.¹ That's equivalent to about 806,304 fully grown male African elephants.



Five recycled 2-litre PET soft drink bottles make enough fiberfill for a man's ski jacket. It takes 35 to fill a sleeping bag and 36 to make a square yard of carpeting.²

Empty plastic oil bottles can be recycled into new containers like plastic flowerpots and patio furniture.⁴

In 2008, 81.5% of all aluminum beverage containers sold in BC were returned for recycling at local bottle depots. In the same year, only 35.4% of drink pouches were returned for recycling. Both containers have a 5 cent deposit. What gives?³



Over the last 15 years, the BC beverage container recycling program has collected enough containers to fill up BC Place Stadium from top to bottom, twice over. That's a total of 1,524 meters around and 122 meters high!³

On average, each British Columbian generates over 600 kg of waste annually. By diverting organics we could remove approximately 200 kg from the solid waste stream every year.⁶

The gold, silver and bronze medals awarded at the Vancouver 2010 Winter Games were made in part with metals recovered from e-waste such as computers, TV's and computer keyboards. Talk about trash to treasure!⁵

