

## Recycling and Waste Diversion Options by Province

Recycling takes effort and support from your entire team. Finding options and programs for the many Waste Streams within the Restoration Industry during the Claims process is different for every region of Canada. Research on-line through basic Google search is an excellent starting point, however the best ideas come from your own staff who are engaged in sustainability.

**Forming your own Green Committee to help with locating and identifying Waste Diversion options in your own community is critical to the success of any recovery and recycling program.**

### Ontario

Recycling in Ontario is administered by County and Region. Each region has its own programs and regulations.

**EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) Programs in Ontario** - Each EPR program has a Stewardship Organization with their own website and a drop-off location finder. The Stewardship program for Ontario is administered by the **Resource Productivity & Recovery Authority (RPRA)**

<https://rpra.ca/programs/blue-box/stewardship-ontario-program/>

**Paint, Hazardous Waste, Lightbulbs, Smoke Alarms (Canada-Wide)- Productcare Recycling - [Recycle Paint, Light Bulbs, Smoke Alarms, HHW - Product Care Recycling](#)**  
**Used Electronics (Canada-Wide) – EPRA [EPRA | ARPE | Electronic Products Recycling Association](#) | [Association pour le recyclage des produits électroniques](#)**

### **Other Recycling Streams**

**Metal of all types (Canada-Wide)** – all metals carry cash value and are easy to recycle. Metal recyclers can be found in every region of Canada, and you should choose the closest to your operations.

**Wood** – Wood should have its own Bin whenever possible. Typically, Wood is 25% less costly to dispose of than Mixed Debris and can be diverted to facilities that use waste wood for Hog Fuel (as Waste-to-Energy) and in some cases, recovered and returned to the economy as new products.

**Drywall** – Drywall can be recovered for both the paper and the gypsum. A separate bin for any drywall is the most cost-effective method for recovering any drywall date-stamped after 1991, that does not contain Asbestos (must have analytical testing). New West Gypsum operates in BC, Alberta, and Ontario <https://www.nwgypsum.com/>

**Cardboard (Canada-Wide)** – Cardboard is a high-quality product that can be recycled into new cardboard again and again. Cardboard should never make it to the landfill, as it carries monetary value like other commodities. A 4-yard cardboard bin is the easiest method, but having a compactor and creating your own bales of cardboard will generate income by sending multiple bales to a recovery organization. <https://recovery.cascades.com/en>

**Clean Clothing, Household Goods** – should be donated to a Community Partner, such as Diabetes Canada. **Bin Location Finder**; - <https://declutter.diabetes.ca/donation-bin>

**Excess Building Materials, Furniture, Fixtures, Hardware** – should be donated to a Community Partner, such as **Habitat for Humanity and ReStore** – All donations help solve housing issues for low income and at-risk individuals and more importantly, keep useful materials out of the landfill. \*Habitat can pick-up from your location in most cases. Location Finder and Accepted List of Donatable Items; <https://habitat.ca/en>