

## Best Practices for Encouraging Proper Waste Disposal Behaviour

Proper elm disposal is a behaviour. The [Solid Waste Reduction and Diversion Plan](#) identified that behaviour is determined by many factors and a variety of tools are available to municipalities to encourage the behaviours needed for successful waste programs. These tools include:

- Partnerships and collaboration;
- Leading by example;
- Education and research, including community based social-marketing and building a waste brand;
- Enforcement;
- Economic incentives; and
- Triple bottom line approach.

The following information on encouraging proper waste disposal includes both a jurisdictional scan of what approaches other municipalities are taking to encourage the proper disposal of elm wood and what approaches the City of Saskatoon (City) is currently using to encourage proper disposal of other types of waste.

### Jurisdictional Scan on Approaches to Encouraging Proper Elm Wood Disposal

The following table shows the disposal sites, disposal costs charged, and the other approaches used to encourage proper elm disposal in other municipalities. It is important to note that with the exception of Regina, all other jurisdictions are regulated by different provincial governments, which may mean not all options are available in Saskatchewan. Changes to the City's operational practices in handling elm wood disposal requires approval by the provincial government.

Jurisdiction	Disposal Options	Disposal Cost (\$/weight)	Communications, Education and Programs
Lethbridge, Alberta	Landfill	\$115/tonne (general tipping fee)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Brochures,</li> <li>– DED website page,</li> <li>– Inspectors door-to-door to educate the public.</li> </ul>
Red Deer, Alberta	Residential garbage containers; Landfill	\$77.00 (general tipping fee)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Brochures</li> <li>– DED website page</li> <li>– Certified arborists provide outreach during Elm Week (July 23 week)</li> <li>– Social Media</li> <li>– Elm Signage throughout City next to some elm trees (large and small signs)</li> <li>– Parks direct line (STOP DED) on handouts, banners at campground entrances</li> <li>– Reach out to chamber of commerce and provide printed education</li> </ul>

Brandon, Manitoba	Resident – landfill  Private hauler, Landfill or on-site incineration	\$89.00/tonne (\$75.00 garbage, \$4.00 post closure levy fee, \$10.00 enviro surcharge).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– DED website page,</li> <li>– Social media,</li> <li>– Promoting provincial educational materials, signage along infected areas.</li> </ul>
Steinbach, Manitoba	Landfill	\$55.00/tonne (general tipping fees).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– DED website page,</li> <li>– Surveyors provide public education, promote provincial education,</li> <li>– Social media (Invasive Species Awareness Week (April)).</li> </ul>
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island	Landfill	No additional costs as the City is contracted to remove and bury trees at the landfill.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– DED Website page,</li> <li>– PDFs,</li> <li>– Social media,</li> <li>– Booths at festivals and events (Rooted in Art).</li> </ul>
SK, Regina	Landfill	\$85.00/tonne (general tipping fee) plus a special handling fee of \$50 - \$250 for bigger logs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– DED pamphlet,</li> <li>– DED Website page,</li> <li>– Signage at the landfill with photos,</li> <li>– Media interviews</li> <li>– Radio, television and print advertising: brochures, fridge magnets, tree ribbons,</li> <li>– Signage at all City entrances advising motorists to the danger of transporting elm firewood.</li> </ul>
Calgary, Alberta	Residential garbage container (small quantities)  Landfill	For loads under 250 kg, the minimum charge is \$25 per load. The rate for garbage (basic sanitary rate) is \$113 per tonne (1000 kg) (regular tipping fees)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Website,</li> <li>– Brochures</li> <li>– Partnership with Alberta Society to Prevent Dutch Elm Disease.</li> </ul>
Edmonton, Alberta	Residential garbage containers (1 inch or less)  Drop-off bins at Eco Centres (residential loads under half-ton truck)	Free- drop-off bins for residential branches and logs larger than 4 feet but less than a half-ton truck  Residential loads larger than a half-ton truck or commercial loads tipping fees apply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Website,</li> <li>– Bylaw for pruning ban,</li> <li>– Partnership with Alberta Society to Prevent Dutch Elm Disease.</li> </ul>

	Landfill for all other loads		
Winnipeg, Manitoba	Landfill	Residents can drop of elm waste for free, the landfill charges \$33 per tonne back to the City of Winnipeg.  Commercial tonnage rates are \$81 per tonne.	Free DED infected elm tree removal on residential property. DED inspection program runs from mid-June to mid-September.  Elm waste is brought to one of the two landfills, where it is ground up into wood chips once every two weeks. They then mix the wood chips with street sweepings and other materials to create fabricated soil that acts well as a growing medium.  Winnipeg disposes of between 8,000 and 10,000 tonnes of elm annually, of which 95% is infected with Dutch elm disease.

Encouraging Proper Waste Disposal at Drop-off Sites in Saskatoon

Saskatoon has numerous waste disposal and diversion programs in place designed to encourage proper disposal of waste that needs to be dropped off. These programs target materials identified as unsuitable for the landfill due to safety reasons or to facilitate waste diversion. An overview of the programs and funding models are outlined below.

*Diversion and Proper Disposal at the Landfill*

The City manages a waste diversion area at the Saskatoon Regional Waste Management Centre, providing the opportunity to recycle and properly dispose of a variety of items including mixed metals, propane tanks, vehicle batteries, and white goods or appliances. General tipping fees still apply to materials delivered to the diversion area of the landfill. In the case of fridges, freezers and air conditioners, there is an additional fee of \$20 each.

The EcoCentre, under contract with the Saskatchewan Association for Resource Recovery Corporation, is one of nearly 200 collection facilities across Saskatchewan for used engine oil, filters, containers, and used antifreeze. The City accepts these materials at no charge to residents.

In 2017, a program was implemented to divert bicycles from the landfill. The City partnered with a local, non-profit organization to collect bicycles delivered to the landfill and to re-use or refurbish them for use in the community. General tipping fees still apply.

*Household Hazardous Waste Events*

Household hazardous waste (HHW) is the discarded, unused, or leftover portion of household products containing chemicals that can cause illness or death to people,

plants, and animals. Common HHW products include aerosols, cleaning solvents, oils, paints, pesticides, and batteries. These, and many other types of hazardous materials, should not be put in garbage or recycling bins, dumped on the ground, or poured down the drain. The City provides monthly free drop-off events between April and November for Saskatoon residents to safely discard of HHW. This is a mill-rate funded program.

### *Compost Depots*

The City operates two compost depot locations for drop off of leaves, grass, sod, topsoil, garden refuse, pumpkins, and non-elm branches, stumps, and tree trimmings. Depots operate from mid-April to early November. The composting site is located at the Highway 7 West depot and a transfer station is located at the Highway 5 East depot. The compost depots are available to residents at no charge and to commercial haulers by permit. In 2021, the annual permit fee was \$150 per business vehicle. Bulk compost and mulch can be purchased at a rate of \$15/cubic yard. The compost depots are funded through permit fees, bulk sales, Multi-Material Stewardship Western Funding, and mill rate funding.

### *Recycling Depot*

There are three City-operated depots and two contractor operated depots at Material Recovery Facilities (Loraas and Cosmopolitan Industries) which accept the same materials as the curbside collection and multi-unit recycling programs in a single-stream with no sorting. The operations of the depots are funded by the recycling program utilities fees.